

WHO NEEDS COMPASSION?

moms everywhere



Devotionals: Poverty



PRAY TO START

Thank God for all of the wonderful things He has given you: for the food you eat, for clean water, for your house and for the people who care for you.

What does being poor mean? Do you think of yourself as poor? Can you describe what the life of someone who is poor might be like?

WHAT IS POVERTY?

At Compassion we work hard to make sure the children in our care are free from poverty.

Many people immediately think about poverty in terms of how much money you have. But if we want to free children from poverty, is giving them enough money to buy food, have clean water, shelter and clothing enough?

Compassion doesn't think so. We do, of course, work to free children from poverty by making sure they have everything they need to grow and be healthy, such as food and medicine. We also free children from the poverty that stops them from having opportunities and hope of a better life. But more than anything else, we want to introduce them to Jesus, so that they will know how precious and loved they are. We want them to be free to be the very best that God made them to be.

WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, so that you through His poverty might become rich.

2 Corinthians 8:9, NIV

A THOUGHT

The King of the heavens, our God who threw the stars into space, was born in a dirty, dark stable for us. He came from all richness and become poor for us here on earth, so that He could save us from our sin.

Because Jesus died for our sins and has saved us, He has made us richer than we could ever hope to be. We don't necessarily have lots of money, but we are rich in a way that can never be taken away from us. We will be with God forever, safe in His love and surrounded by all good things. In this way we are spiritually rich. It has no connection to how much money we have.

This is why, as well as helping children who are poor to have enough food to eat, it's so important we tell them about Jesus' love for them.

WHY NOT...

Cut out the paper person from the next page and color it in to look like you. Cut out the clothes — the rags first. You can color these and add a bit of artistic mud and dirt if you like. Perhaps you have some dirty, dull, frayed fabrics around the house you could stick on to make a collage. Dress your paper person in them. This represents our sin. It's dirty and horrible and makes us poor inside. We are spiritually poor without Jesus.

Now cut out the robe. Color this in as if it's made of the most beautiful material you can imagine, in bright, expensive colors. If you have some colorful fabric, sequins or beads, you could stick them on. Dress your paper person in the robe. This is how Jesus changes you if you trust in Him. He became poor so that you could be spiritually rich!

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Devotionals: Poverty (continued)



Put your robed paper people in a place that you will look at each day. When you see them you can remember how rich you are because of Jesus.

PRAYER

Thank God that He sent Jesus to take away your sin and make you new and rich in Him. Ask God to help your sponsored child to know Him and love Him, so that they can be rich in Him.

Poverty Activity

