Kids2Kids Current Affairs Project
Syrian Refugees

Question?
How would you feel if you couldn't safely live at home anymore?

How would you feel if you couldn't safely live in the USA because people were being mean to you and hurting you or your family?

What other country would be a place you could live?

But think about it a little further...

What if...
The people who were hurting your family are really mean and angry. They are not letting you live in your home, you are not getting food, you can’t go to school or see your friends, and there is even a chance that someone you love may die. Everyone is hungry, scared, and not sure how to get to a place that is safe without getting hurt.
A long time ago there was someone who hurt those who loved Jesus. His name was Paul. On a trip to Damascus, God helped him change and become a loving person. We pray those on the same roads today will find God's love.

**SYRIA**

Syria is a country where there are lots of children and families that are being hurt because of war. Many people are trying to leave their homes and even trying to leave the country.

**FYI**

There are lots of countries where children and their families are not safe because of things like war, violence, or natural disasters. These families are trying to go somewhere else where they can be safe, but it is not easy.

- Sometimes a family cannot find a safe country or a new home.
- Sometimes it costs too much for a family to travel.
- Sometimes a family has to split up because it costs too much to stay together.
- Sometimes a family has to split up because it is more dangerous to try and leave together.

**Hard and Scary**
9 MILLION
people need food, water, shelter & clothes

9,000,000
(3x the people in Chicago!)

Where have some of the refugees gone?

Syrian Refugee
Children

TURKEY
294,304 children

LEBANON
385,007 children

NORTH AFRICA
7,629 children

EGYPT
56,154 children

IRAK
77,125 children

SYRIA

DAMASCUS

JORDAN
291,238 children

As of 31 October 2013

KEY STATS

NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO NEED HELP NOW

9.3 M

NUMBER OF REFUGEES TO DATE:

2,900,000

191,300

PEOPLE KILLED TO DATE

AT LEAST

8,800

CHILDREN KILLED
Here is what YOU (a kid!) can do to make a difference in the lives of these children and for their stories to make a difference in your life....

1. **PRAY**
   ...on your own
   ...with friends
   ...with adults
   ...with your church

Prayer
Dear God, help those people who have had to leave their homes. May you help them find new homes that are safe and loving places with good people, like me. In Jesus Name, Amen.

Write your own PRAYER: ______________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

2. **Read and Learn**

Children’s stories are a great way to understand what it means to be a REFUGEE. Check out your local library and look online. Make sure to share the stories with your family, church, and friends.

- **Azzi in Between**
  By Sarah Garland

- **The Whispering Cloth**
  By Peggi Shea and Anita Riggio

- **Four Feet, Two Sandals**
  By Karen Lynn Williams
WELCOME!

You, your church, and family can help those who are moving in lots of ways! Check out our partner organizations for the most up-to-date needs:

- Disciples Refugee & Immigration Ministries: www.discipleshomemissions.org/syrian-refugee-resources
- Week of Compassion: www.weekofcompassion.org/syria
- Global Ministries: www.globalministries.org/syria
- Church World Service: www.cwsglobal.org/helprefugees

MAKE REFUGEE WELCOME KITS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BEDDING KITS</th>
<th>BATH KITS</th>
<th>SCHOOL KITS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 pillows</td>
<td>2 bath towels</td>
<td>1 backpack, 2 notebooks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 pillow cases</td>
<td>2 hand towels</td>
<td>100 sheets paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 queen (other) sheet set</td>
<td>2 wash cloths</td>
<td>2 bottles glue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 quilt/bedspread</td>
<td>6 bars soap</td>
<td>2 packages crayons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 toothbrushes &amp; toothpaste</td>
<td>2 pair scissors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4 pencils, 4 pens</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

(Note: School kit items should be new. Bedding & bath towels may be gently used. Items above are appreciated as a part of suggested “kits” OR in bulk quantities.)

RIM is a ministry of Disciples Home Missions.

Send Welcome Kits to your closest CWS affiliate office if you are within 50 miles (www.cwsglobal.org/our-work/refugee-services/irp-affiliates.html) or use the web to research who is welcoming refugees in your area.

MAKE A FRIEND!

When becoming a friend to a child who has had to leave their home, remember that this person has been through something really hard. Older kids can watch a video to learn about some kids who have had to move because they were refugees: www.youtube.com/watch?v=2N3ndNyU2k
Know Everyone’s Basic Human Rights

Read the flyer on the right. Talk with your parents or adults at church about these rights.

- How have you experienced these rights?
- Have you ever had these rights taken away?
- Do you know others whose rights have been taken away?
- What do you think you can do to help that?
5 See the **BIG** PICTURE!

There are **REFUGEES**, everywhere.

The countries on this map are just a few of the places where wars and hatred have caused people to need to move. There are even people in our own country who have had to leave their homes because they were in danger.

Refugee children are kids just like you. They have families, friends, and loved ones. They have hopes and dreams of how they want their lives to be.

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**Talk About It**

How does it make you feel to know there are so many children who are not being treated nice?

How can we find ways to be nice in our own country?
Family Learning

How to Talk to Children about Syria:
www.pbs.org/newshour/rundown/how-to-talk-to-your-kids-about-syria

Resources for Families and Older Elementary Kids to learn about REFUGEES:
http://learningtogive.org/lessons/unit189/lesson4.html

Cheat Sheet on Syrian Conflict:
www.pbs.org/newshour/rundown/your-cheat-sheet-to-the-syrian-conflict

Children in Syria:

The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Family & Children's Ministries: www.docfamiliesandchildren.org
Refugee & Immigration Ministries:
www.discipleshomemissions.org/refugee-immigration-ministries
Week of Compassion: www.weekofcompassion.org/syria
Global Ministries: www.globalministries.org/syria

FUNDRAISE!!!

You can contribute to the work Disciples are already doing by sending money that you fundraise to Week of Compassion.

Mail donations to:
Week of Compassion
PO Box 1986
Indianapolis, IN 46206

100% of your gifts designated “Syria Humanitarian Crisis” will directly go to help Syrian refugees and those who are internally displaced in the Middle East and in Europe. Learn more about how Week of Compassion helps Syrian refugees and other people in crisis at www.weekofcompassion.org/syria

For fundraising ideas go here:
www.better-fundraising-ideas.com/fundraising-ideas-for-kids.html
Or make up your own!