

10/10/21

COMPASSION INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY

CARING FOR THOSE IN EXTREME POVERTY HERE, NEAR AND FAR.

A LOOK AT THE NUMBERS

(COMPASSION.COM)

- More than 736 million people **worldwide** live below the **poverty line** — measured by the World Bank as earning less than \$1.90 per day (**\$693.50 per year**).
- United States poverty threshold, for a family of four – earning just over **\$26,000 per year**.
- Poverty **rose globally in 2020 and 2021 by 150 million people** — the first increase in the global poverty rate in 20 years.
- The global COVID-19 pandemic is expected to set back poverty reduction progress in 70 developing countries by three to 10 years.
- Child poverty accounts for half of the world's poor with **1 out of 5 children experiencing extreme poverty**.
- Roughly **84%** of people experiencing **extreme poverty live in sub-Saharan Africa or South Asia**.
- Worldwide, the poverty rate is **three times higher in rural areas** than in urban cities.
- **One out of every 27 children will die before reaching the age of 5**, mostly from malnutrition and other preventable causes due to extreme poverty.

The righteous care about justice for the poor, but the wicked have no such concern.

Proverbs 29:7 (NIV)

If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has not pity on him, how can the love of God be in him.

1 John 3:17 (NIV)

If you help the poor, you are lending to the Lord – and He will repay you!

Proverbs 19:17 (NLT)

Keep the Conversation going...

Small Group Discussion Questions

1. For Heaven's sake – what on Earth are you doing? Have each person share.
2. For Heaven's sake – what on Earth would you like to be doing? How can you get involved? Who do you need to contact?
3. If you're a sponsor, take the time to write your child a letter today. The Compassion app is a great tool for this.
4. Read Matthew 25:31-46 and discuss.

³¹ "But when the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit upon his glorious throne. ³² All the nations will be gathered in his presence, and he will separate the people as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³ He will place the sheep at his right hand and the goats at his left.

³⁴ "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the creation of the world. ³⁵ For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home. ³⁶ I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me.'

³⁷ "Then these righteous ones will reply, 'Lord, when did we ever see you hungry and feed you? Or thirsty and give you something to drink? ³⁸ Or a stranger and show you hospitality? Or naked and give you clothing? ³⁹ When did we ever see you sick or in prison and visit you?'

⁴⁰ "And the King will say, 'I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!'

⁴¹ "Then the King will turn to those on the left and say, 'Away with you, you cursed ones, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his demons. ⁴² For I was hungry, and you didn't feed me. I was thirsty, and you didn't give me a drink. ⁴³ I was a stranger, and you didn't invite me into your home. I was naked, and you didn't give me clothing. I was sick and in prison, and you didn't visit me.'

⁴⁴ "Then they will reply, 'Lord, when did we ever see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and not help you?'

⁴⁵ "And he will answer, 'I tell you the truth, when you refused to help the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were refusing to help me.'

⁴⁶ "And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous will go into eternal life."