



COMPASSION SUNDAY: IT BEGINS WITH A CHILD...



NOTES

PRESENTATION: WITHOUT VIDEO

Introduction

Hi, my name is [name]. Today, we are participating in a national event called Compassion Sunday.

This is about children living in poverty around the world...and what we as a church family can do to intervene in their lives.

About Children in Poverty

It's a tragic fact that about one third of the world's children live in extreme poverty today. I want you to pause for a moment with me and picture what that means for one child.

They are hungry most of the time, they suffer from poor health, they receive little or no education. They are neglected, abused, and all too often are exposed to violence. Many have come to believe that their lives have no value, no hope, and no future.

Worst of all, many of these children have never heard that God loves them.

But the good news is that although we cannot change the whole world, we can change the world for at least some of these children.

Through the ministry of Compassion International, each of us has the opportunity to come alongside one particular child in need and help to change the course of that child's entire future.

Your Experience as a Sponsor

I've been involved as a sponsor of a child whose name is [name]. This has blessed my life in a number of ways [expound if you want to]. And I know it has made a huge difference for my sponsored child.

> SUGGESTION: [Show a photo of your child.]

Biblical Thoughts

For me, sponsoring a child has helped me respond to the many scriptures that teach us to reach out and care for the poor. For example, in Matthew 25:40, Jesus tells us "I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me." [Or share a verse from the list on page 7 or one of your own favorites.]

Explain How Sponsorship Works

Today, I want to invite you to join me in sponsoring a child living in great need. The thing I love about Compassion's sponsorship program is that each child is helped through a local church. The child you sponsor will receive health services, educational assistance, supplemental food — and most importantly, will learn about Jesus.

You have the opportunity to choose one specific boy or girl today — and begin a personal ministry to that child. You can exchange letters and prayers. The child you help will cherish the thought that you actually care for him, value him and want him to succeed.

The cost is \$38 a month. After the service, I will be at a table [give location] where you can sign up to sponsor a child — and you can take your sponsorship packet home with you today. [Hold up a sample child packet.]

Closing Thought

As a church family, God can use us to bring lasting change into the lives of children who otherwise may never know Jesus and are headed for a lifetime of suffering and hardship.

Thank you, and please be sure to stop by the table after the service.