

His Plans for You?

→ BY LORIE BARNES

Start Exploring!

Compassion Explorers are always asking questions and searching for answers. They find them in God's Map for Life, the Bible!

Read or listen to Psalm 139:1-16. Put YOUR name in every place where you read the words "I" or "me" in the Bible verse. Now, read or listen to Psalm 139:1-16 again and this time use the name of your sponsored child or another child's name instead of your name.

What did you learn about God's love for you and all kids from this Bible verse? How do we know that we are special to God?

Now read the Bible verse below, then answer this question: What was God's first plan and best idea for every kid?

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.'"

— Jeremiah 29:11

This is God's first and best idea for every child. But many poor kids can't go to school, or get medicine or enough food. Many of these kids get help through Compassion. But compassionate kids know that God wants them to help all kids in need. It's easier than you think.

You don't have to travel out of the country to find kids in need. How can you help someone who might need to have a friend to play with or talk to?



PRAYER

Dear Jesus,

Thank You for giving me hope and a future. I pray for kids who need to know Your love today and need to discover You, Jesus, as their Savior and Lord. I pray for those kids who are hungry or sick or don't have clean water. And I pray for [name of someone you know] here in my country who needs Your love, too.

In Jesus' name,
Amen.

At Home



Make greeting cards to take to children in hospitals.



Put a penny, dime or quarter into a jar every time you go to the refrigerator then donate the money to give food to the poor.



Collect books and toys to donate to organizations that need them.

Have a toy garage sale to raise money for kids who don't have toys.



Help Change

the

World

RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE!

At Church

→ BY LORIE BARNES AND AMBER VAN SCHOONEVELD

Collect markers, stickers and construction paper, or soap, toothbrushes and other supplies, and make kits to send on mission trips for children.



In Your Neighborhood



Collect gently used tennis shoes and find a running shoe store in your community that could help send those shoes to poor areas around the world.



Help out an elderly neighbor with yard work this summer.

Put on a skit for your church group about mosquito nets and ask them to donate to help fight malaria in Africa.

Volunteer to read to younger children in Sunday school or at Vacation Bible School.



Have a lemonade stand. Beside your lemonade, have two pitchers — one with muddy water and one with clean water. Tell people you're raising money to give kids clean water.