BRING THEM HOME

2013 Helping Hands for Kids
Targeted Giving Project
Helping Hands for Kids is a ministry of the Church of God of Prophecy.

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WHAT IS HELPING HANDS FOR KIDS?

HH4K is an international missions education program that gives kids an opportunity to be involved in “helping kids around the world know Jesus” through prayer and giving.

For more information about HH4K visit us online at children.cogop.org or contact us at:

Children’s Ministries
P O Box 2910
Cleveland, TN 37320-2910
Phone: 423-559-5328
Email: cgpkids@cogop.org

WHAT IS ONE CHILD FUND?

One Child Fund is the ministry that allows churches and individual donors to support the Church of God of Prophecy’s orphanage ministry in select nations. Orphans and needy children are cared for in a variety of environments including church-sponsored orphanages, members’ homes, and non-church owned facilities.

For more information about OCF: OneChild@cogop.org
HOW KIDS CAN HELP

2013 Project: Rwanda – Bring Them Home
Helping Hands for Kids Partners with One Child Fund to Bring Them Home

“Home is the nicest word there is.”
Laura Ingles Wilder

The Rwanda Orphanage ministry was established after the horrific genocide in 1994 that left one million people dead and 100,000 children orphaned. Today, HIV/AIDS, natural death, and other diseases are the reasons children are orphaned in Rwanda.

When the construction of the orphanage complex in Kigali, Rwanda, is completed, the orphanage will be home for 200 children. Currently, 80 orphans who are presently being cared for in the homes of Church of God of Prophecy members are waiting to move in. They are anxious to have a home of their own. Although rooms for these 80 children are near completion, they lack furnishings.

You can help! It will cost approximately $300 to provide a bed, bedding, desk, chair and personal storage for each child.

What will you buy?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bed</td>
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<td>Pillow and sheets</td>
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PROMOTE THE GIVING PROJECT

Promotional Steps

• Meet with your senior pastor and mission board or committee to share the vision of this year’s project, “Bring Them Home.” Ask for permission to promote this project to the local church in the bulletin and through announcements to the congregation.

• Ask members to begin praying for the children of your congregation who will be participating in this project and for the children in Rwanda who will be blessed by their giving.

• Involve the congregation in giving activities to provide funds for “Bring Them Home.”

• Give a report of the success of your giving to the congregation and send a copy to Children’s Ministry, PO Box 2910, Cleveland, TN 37320-2910 or email to cgpkids@cogop.org.
Promotional Ideas

Sample Bulletin Announcement

Include the following announcement in your church bulletin:

BRING THEM HOME

The Rwanda orphanage ministry was established after the horrific genocide in 1994. When the construction of the orphanage complex in Kigali, Rwanda, is completed, the orphanage will be home for 200 children. Currently, 80 orphans who are presently being cared for in the homes of Church of God of Prophecy members are waiting to move to the orphanage. Although rooms for these 80 children are near completion, they lack furnishings.

YOU CAN HELP!

It will cost approximately $300 per child to provide:

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Promotion Display

- Model Home. Construct a house from cardboard boxes or purchase one on line or at your local hobby store. Display in a prominent place as a vivid visual reminder of the project.
- Fill the house with pictures or models of the items needed for each child's area.
- Place price tags on the items. For example: use a picture, miniature model, or small box for a bed with a price tag of $100 attached.
- Donation/Prayer Cards. Place the donation/prayer cards near the display and let each child take one home as a reminder to bring in their donations in the weeks to come and to pray for the Rwanda orphanage. (These could be placed in a mailbox near the house with a note on the mailbox that says “Outgoing Mail. Take One.”)
- Poster. Place by the model home to explain the project to your kids and congregation.

Note: The Donation/Prayer Cards and Poster along with additional promotional materials are available on the children's ministry website, children.cogop.org.
RWANDA MISSION CLASS

Outline:
Activity Stations
  Geography
  Social Studies
  Language
  History
  Culture
Creative Bible Lesson
Prayer Time for Children of Rwanda
Snack Time
Games

ACTIVITY STATIONS
As children arrive encourage them to visit the activity stations to learn about Rwanda.

Geography Station
Where is Rwanda? (Elementary Activity)
Have a world map or globe for the children to use as you give clues about where Rwanda is. Sample clues:
  • Located on the continent of Africa.
  • In central Africa.
  • Shares a border with Uganda, Congo, Burundi, and Tanzania.

Where is Rwanda? (Preschool Activity)
Give children a map of Africa with Rwanda highlighted or provide crayons and allow them to color the country of Rwanda. (Download map from children.cogop.org)

Social Studies Station
Did You Know?
Post facts about Rwanda around the room. Give each child a worksheet to complete as he reads each of the facts. (Downloaded worksheet from children.cogop.org)

Facts about Rwanda
• Rwanda is the second smallest country in Africa.
• More than 11 million people living in this tiny country.
• Nearly one-half of Rwanda’s people are children.
• The capital of Rwanda is Kigali.
• Rwandans speak at least one of these three languages--Kinyarwanda, French, or English.
• Almost the entire population identifies themselves as Christian.
• 670 different kinds of birds live in Rwanda.
• The endangered mountain gorilla makes his home in Rwanda’s three national parks.
Facts about the Church of God of Prophecy in Rwanda

- The national overseer of the Church of God of Prophecy in Rwanda is Redias Nkundabera. He and his wife Therese live in Kigali, the capital city.
- There are 29 COGOP churches in Rwanda with more than 2,948 members (2010 stats).
- The orphanage in Rwanda was started after the 1994 genocide.
- 80 children are currently cared for by members until the orphanage building is completed and furnished.
- Approximately 400 children, including our orphans, attend the COGOP school located near the orphanage.
- During their holidays from school, the children visit local churches for ministry training and outreach.

Language Station

Kinyarwanda—the Official Language

Below are simple phrases in the Kinyarwanda, the national language for Rwanda.

- Mwaramutse. (Good morning.)
- Bite? (How are you?)
- Muraho. (Hello.)
- Witwande? (What’s your name?)
- Nitwa ... (My name is ...)
- Murakoze. (Thank you.)

Say it in French

French is also widely spoken in Rwanda. Below are simple phrases in French.

- Louer le Seigneur. (Praise the Lord.)
- Dieu est bon. (God is good.)
- Souriez, Dieu vous aime. (Smile, God loves you.)

Divide the children into two groups. Let one group practice Kinyarwanda greetings and the other group practice French phrases. Record the children and play the recordings to let the children hear themselves.

History Station

Preparation: Record this brief story for the children to listen to or create a storybook of the narrative and a few pictures for the children to read.
Three tribes of people live in the nation of Rwanda—the Twa, who live in the forest; the Tutsis who favor cattle ranching and seem to have greater wealth; and the Hutus who are farmers and are seen as a lower class.

There have often been conflicts between the Tutsis and the Hutus but the worst conflict that ever happened was 20 years ago. It began on April 6, 1994 when the plane carrying the Hutu President of Rwanda was shot down. Immediately Hutus began attacking their Tutsi neighbors. For 100 days the killing continued. When it finally stopped in July more than 500,000 people had been killed. But more importantly, an entire generation of children was impacted. 600,000 boys and girls were orphaned, without mother or father. 60,000 of these children became the heads of their households, caring for younger brothers and sisters.

When the conflict began our national overseer and his brother were students at the university in Kigali. When the fighting reached the university Redias and his brother ran to the gates. There at the gates they were separated. Redias never saw his brother again. He was killed in the massacre.

Many children and youth had the same stories to tell of losing mothers, fathers, brothers and sisters. Every year, on April 26, the nation of Rwanda mourns the terrible killings and prays for peace in their nation.

Culture Station
Preparation: Provide a cardboard box with lid (oatmeal boxes) for every child. Also have construction paper or contact paper for them to cover their boxes. Provide markers and stickers to decorate the boxes.

The children of Rwanda love to sing and dance. They like to sing old folk songs that have been sung for hundreds of years. But they also like to sing Christian songs and modern songs as well. When the children sing they are accompanied by an “orchestra of drums.” There aren’t just one or two drums but nine drums and each drum has a particular part to play in providing the musical beat.

You can create a drum by covering one of the boxes with paper, decorating it, and sealing the lid. Then join the “orchestra” and create a rhythm for your favorite song.

CREATIVE BIBLE LESSON
The Story of the Good Samaritan
The Point: We can help our neighbors.
Scripture Connect: Luke 10:30-37

Supplies: pencils, prepared poster, paper, safety scissors (several pairs), Bible, tape

The Basics for Leaders

It’s a straightforward question. So why didn’t Jesus just answer it?

He did . . . but the man asking the question tried to wiggle out of doing what Jesus told him to do. The “loving God” part was fine. This man clearly cared about loving God. But the “taking care of neighbors” stuff? That was a problem.

The man wanted to know who Jesus considered as neighbors. And the answer clearly wasn’t what the man wanted to hear: a neighbor is someone who needs your help.
It's still not a popular answer, but there it is. According to Jesus, your neighbor is anyone who needs you . . . and we can help our neighbors!

You'll help kids wrestle with that message today as you share this story—also known as a parable of the Good Samaritan.

**Opening Activity – Option 1**

**HOWZITGOIN’**

Time: about 5 minutes, depending on attendance  
Supplies: pencils, prepared poster

Before kids arrive, draw a line on a poster. Place a 1 on the left end of the line, a 10 on the right, and 5 in the middle. As kids arrive, ask them to pencil in their initials on the line.

Say: *If this past week was so awful you wish you’d slept through it, place your initials by the 1. If it was a great week you wish you could repeat, put your initials by the 10. Place your initials anywhere on the line that shows how you feel about this past week—except exactly on the 5. That’s because there’s no such thing as a week that’s exactly half good and half bad!*  

After kids have signed in, give them 30 seconds each to explain why they placed their initials where they did. Be sure to include your own initials and explain your placement on the line. Kids will begin to express themselves more over time—and hearing their stories will help you adapt this lesson to make it relevant to your kids’ lives.

**Opening Activity – Option 2**

**Paper People**

Time: about 5 minutes, depending on attendance  
Supplies: 1 sheet of paper and 1 pencil per child, safety scissors (several pairs)  
Note: since you will be using these paper dolls in the Cool Bible Story activity, be sure to have each child prepare one.

Ask children to cut out paper people that resemble the illustration. Encourage creativity—it’s OK if the paper people don’t all look the same.

Allow time for kids to race and cut out their paper figures. If you have mostly younger kids, consider cutting out paper figures before this activity or trace the figures onto paper and let kids cut them out.

Say: *On your paper person, draw things that would make that person different from you. For example, it might be the person’s skin color, shape of his or her eyes, hair style or clothes. Or perhaps it’s the person’s age or attitude or even tattoos or gang signs. Draw anything that might cause you to think of the person as different from you. (Make certain that kids draw on only one side of their paper figures.)*

Allow time to finish drawing. Then ask children to introduce their paper people and explain what makes their people different or maybe even scary. If you’ve created a paper person (please do!), introduce yours as well.
Gather up the scissors, paper scraps, and the paper people. Set the paper people aside for the Cool Bible Story activity. Ask children to circle up and discuss:

- What are things that might make someone seem very different or even scary?
- How often do you see someone like the person you drew?
- That person you drew is your neighbor. True or false?

Say: When we think neighbor we think of people who live near us or are just like us. The people in Jesus’ audience didn’t like the Samaritans—who were different from them in many ways—and they didn’t want to live with the Samaritans. But Jesus had a different meaning for the word neighbor. Let’s explore a story Jesus told that had a very important meaning: our neighbor is anyone who needs us . . . and we can help our neighbors!

Cool Bible Story

**Paper Puppets**

*Time: about 15 minutes*

*Supplies: Bible, tape, paper people from Opening Activity-Option 2*

Gather children in a circle. Place in the center of the circle the paper people you made earlier. Ask each child to reclaim his or her paper person. Hold the tape beside you.

Say: Jesus told a story about someone whom Jewish people usually hated: a Samaritan man. To Jewish people, Samaritans were different and maybe even a bit scary. The side of your paper person that has a drawing on it will be the Samaritan man. Ask children to turn their paper people over and look at the blank sides.

Say: Your blank paper person is the other person in this story: a Jewish man walking on a road, out in the country. Our story begins with the Jewish man, so look at the blank side of your paper person. As I read the story Jesus told, please act out the story using your paper people. I’ll make some suggestions, but you can add your own actions too.

Read aloud Luke 1:30-37. Suggestions for actions are indicated below.

- Verse 30: Crumple the paper figures. Add several small tears and then toss the paper people out of reach, back into the center of the circle.
- Verse 31: Turn your heads to the left to avoid seeing the paper people.
- Verse 32: Turn your heads to the right to avoid seeing the paper people.
- Verse 33: Retrieve the paper people and smooth them out; hold them so the Samaritan side is facing up.
- Verse 34: Use tape to repair any tears.
- Verse 35: Ask kids to pretend to empty their pockets and give a couple of coins to you.

After the story, applaud your actors. Then ask kids to sit and discuss:

- Tell about a time you helped someone. What did you do to help?
- Why are we sometimes slow to help others?
- What can we learn from Jesus’ story about the Samaritan?

Say: There are so many people we can help, including our family members, friends, neighbors and even others at church. If someone needs help and we’re there, that person is our neighbor—and we can help him or her!

PRAYER TIME FOR CHILDREN OF RWANDA

The offerings that the children in your local children’s ministry give will help provide furnishing for the orphans’ personal areas at the Rwanda orphanage, but the most important way to help is to pray for the children at the orphanage.

Set up prayer stations. Make a poster for each station with objects to help children remember to pray for the following:

Say: Even though we may never meet the children at the Rwanda orphanage, they are part of our church family and they are our “neighbors.” The offerings that we give will help to furnish the orphan’s personal areas at the orphanage, but the most important way to help is to pray for the children at the orphanage.

The Health of Rwanda’s Children
Many Rwandan children are sick with childhood diseases that could be prevented if there was good medical care. Encourage the children to pray that the sick children of Rwanda will receive the medical care they need and that God would restore their health.

Hunger of Rwanda’s Children
Almost half of Rwanda’s children don’t have enough to eat. Because of this their growth is stunted. Encourage the children to pray that there will be no more food shortages in the nation and that the children will not fear being without food.

Protection of Rwanda’s Children
Poverty, disease, and violence have left many children unprotected. The children suffer neglect and abuse from parents, other family members, and people in the community. Encourage the children to pray that God would protect every child from abuse and that parents would treat their children with love and respect.

Salvation of Rwanda’s Children
Rwanda is a Christian nation but even in a Christian nation every child must experience God’s love and care. Encourage the children to pray for every child in Rwanda to receive Christ as their Savior from sin and experience His love and care.

Give children a prayer card to take home to remind them to pray for Rwanda.

SNACK TIME

What do the children of Rwanda eat?

Rwandans eat bananas, legumes (beans and peas), sweet potatoes, maize (corn), and sorghum. They especially love to eat potatoes and their favorite way to eat them is French fried. Children usually eat porridge for breakfast.

Sorghum Porridge

Ingredients:
5 cups water
5 tablespoons sugar
1 cup sorghum flour*
1 cup milk
Put four cups of water into a saucepan. Put the sorghum flour in a bowl mixed with one cup of cold water. Stir until the flour and water are mixed. Pour the mixture in boiled water and stir immediately so it will not become lumpy. Continue to stir until it boils again. Let boil 15 minutes. Put in sugar and milk. Serves six.

*Look for sorghum flour at your local health food store

Hands on Activity: Let children help prepare sorghum porridge and serve at snack time. A simpler snack could be bananas or French fries.

**GAMES**

Soccer (called football) is Rwanda’s most popular sport. Basketball and volleyball are also becoming increasingly popular.

Hands on Activity: Let the children choose which of these sports that like best to play. Then, enjoy playing the game together.

**RESOURCES**

Downloads:
You can download these following items on children.cogop.org
- Helping Hands for Kids logo
- Bring Them Home logo
- Poster, 8 ½ x 11
- Flyers to use in church bulletin
- Donation/prayer card
- Rwanda Mission Class worksheets
- Preschool map of Rwanda
- Did You Know? worksheet
- Howzitgoin’ Poster
- Paper People Pattern
- Share with Us Form

**SHARE WITH US!**

Children’s Ministers, please share a brief report of activities the children participated in, how the giving project impacted the children and the local church, and any other information that would be of interest.

Name of Local church: _______________________________________________________________
Name of contact person: ______________________________________________________________
Position in church: _________________________________________________________________
Address: __________________________________________________________________________
City: _____________________________________________________________________________
State: ___________________________ Zip: ___________________________ Email: ___________________________
Number of children who participated: __________________________________________________
Amount of offering raised and sent with this report: _______________________________________
Report: _____________________________________________________________________________
Donate online at:
children.cogop.org

Or mail your donation to:
Children’s Ministries • PO Box 2910 • Cleveland, TN 37320

(423) 559 - 5328 • cgpkids@cogop.org