

TITLE	“What Can We Do?”
SUBTITLE	Praying for Children and Families in Difficult Situations
AUDIENCE	Parents, children’s ministry workers
OBJECTIVE	To give parents and children’s workers practical tools for helping their children pray for children and families in difficult situations.
DESCRIPTION (including additional resources)	With the turbulent situations in so many parts of the world, our children may wonder what they can do. _____ guides us through simple ways to help our children pray for children and families who are in crisis or challenging situations. Adapted with permission from Weave's online journal (weavefamily.org). If you would like to translate this video into another language, the video script can be found on www.1for50Today.net. To access other resources to help you reach, disciple and empower your children, go to www.1for50.net.

The daily news is filled with reports of difficulties and challenges happening all over the world: military uprisings, hurricanes, typhoons, earthquakes, floods, drought, unstable economies, terrorism The list could go on and on.

Families, including children, who are caught in these situations face fear, despair, and often great loss. As Christians, how do we help our children respond when they hear about children and families in difficult situations? Our children may wonder, “Where is God when these bad things happen?”

First, we must remind our children that God is not surprised by recent events, nor has He given up on the people going through these crises.

Hello everyone. My name is _____ and I’m part of the global 1for50 movement. We desire to equip people like you to reach, disciple and empower the next generation.

God desires that we be people of hope, a hope that is grounded in his truth, because we already know the end of God’s story. Even though the world looks very messed up right now, we can look forward to a future day when God will restore hearts.

Ezekiel 36:26 says, “I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.” We can look forward to a day when God will cause the nations to walk in peace, as it says in Zechariah 9:10: “I will take away the chariots from Ephraim and the warhorses from Jerusalem, and the battle bow will be broken. He will proclaim peace to the nations. His rule will extend from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth.” God can work through current events to turn the hearts of families to him.

Praying for children and families going through difficult situations is a practical and powerful way you can bless them. Why not gather together with your children and intercede on behalf of hurting families? You can even use objects to help your children focus on the needs of children as they pray.

Use a map to locate the country in crisis for which you are praying. You can even lay your hands on the country. Pray for peace in that nation. In some difficult situations, children and families are fleeing the chaos. Pray that surrounding countries will open their doors to refugee children and families.

Children and families in difficult situations often lack the basic necessities like food, water, and a home. Pray for provision of food, water, and safe places to rest for children and families who have been displaced from their homes and in need of a better place to live.

Many children and families in difficult situations deal with sickness and cannot always access medical care. Pray for their health and that healthcare systems providing treatment will be available to them.

In some countries, families who believe in Jesus are persecuted by the government or by family members. Pray that God will give believers strength and wisdom as they trust Him during uncertain times.

Many children and families going through difficult circumstances do not know Jesus. Pray that as they face an uncertain future, they will seek God with their whole heart and find Jesus. When our children hear about events happening in other parts of the world, they want to help. Let’s unleash the power of the Spirit through their prayers for children and families in difficult situations.

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