



MOHI – Parent Guide

We are so excited that your family is interested in sponsoring a child through MOHI! If you decide to sponsor a child, take some time to talk with your kids about the child you are sponsoring and why you are sponsoring them. Not sure how to start the conversation? Check out this guide below for tips, questions, and prompts to guide your family.

Child Sponsorship

While sponsorship includes components like education, good food, and medical care, it's not only about financial support or physical needs. When you sponsor a child, you're also giving them the opportunity to hear about Jesus. In His ministry, Jesus often met both the physical and spiritual needs of people. Look at these passages, and consider talking with your child about how they demonstrate caring for both the physical and spiritual. While we might not be able to perform miracles, we can follow Jesus's model of caring for the people around us.

PHYSICAL	SPIRITUAL
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jesus fed the 5,000• Jesus healed a blind man• Jesus healed a paralyzed man	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jesus said, "I am the Bread of Life" (Matthew 14:13-21, John 6:25-40)• Jesus helped the man see Him as Savior (John 9)• Jesus forgave the man's sins (Mark 2:1-12)

Teens (Grades 7-12)

One of the biggest questions your teen is asking is, “What difference can I make?” Your student wants to know how they can make significant contributions to the world.

Encouraging and empowering your teen to sponsor a child will help them find answers to that big question as they live out their Kingdom purpose and help meet the physical needs of a child. Help them process this experience by asking:

- What is drawing you towards wanting to sponsor a child in Kenya? Why do you think God invites us to serve others in this way?
- How might sponsoring a child and joining their support system make a positive difference in their life and help them learn about Jesus?
- What are some creative ways you can earn money to help pay for the sponsorship? How can I help you accomplish this financial goal?
- How might learning about Kenyan culture and traditions help you better know how to pray for the child you are sponsoring?

Elementary (Grades 1-6)

Your elementary child is asking questions about how their actions can impact those around them. While they might not vocalize it, they are already trying to figure out how they can make a difference in the world. Sponsoring a child allows them to increase their worldview to those outside of their community and learn how they can be a part of introducing another child to the Gospel by meeting their physical needs. Invite them into the conversation about the child you are sponsoring by asking:

- What do you know about Kenya? How is it different from where we live? How is it the same?
- Look at the bio of the child you are sponsoring. How is this child different from you? How are they the same?
- Why do you think it’s important to help this child go to school, eat good meals, and receive medical care? How does this help them learn about God and His love for them?
- Do you have any ideas how we can remember to talk about and pray for the child we are sponsoring? How often should we send him/her letters?
- Let’s pray for the child we are sponsoring right now! What should we pray for?

Preschool (Ages 3 – Kindergarten):

By introducing your preschooler to the child you're sponsoring, you are setting the foundation of the importance of making a difference. Take some time to talk with your child about who your sponsored child is, that God made them, and God knows their name. Here are some points to start the conversation:

- Look at the bio of the child you are sponsoring. Point out facts for your child like his/her name, age, and things they enjoy. Point out any similarities between your child and your sponsored child. This is another child, just like them!
- Teach your child that the child you're sponsoring lives in Kenya. You could even pull up a map for your child to see how far away Kenya is from where you live. Explain that you might not get to meet the child that you're sponsoring because he/she lives far away, but you will get to send him/her letters.
- Explain that God made the child you're sponsoring. He knows their name and loves them very much. Just like God made your child and loves them very much too! God created all of us and loves us.
- Teach your child that because God loves your sponsored child so much, you get to love them too. One of the ways we show God's love to others is by meeting their needs for things like school and food.
- Include your child in the process of writing letters and praying for your sponsored child. Put their picture where your child can see it and talk about the child you're sponsoring often.

Having a dignified conversation about child sponsorship:

The child you are sponsoring through MOHI, as well their family and friends, are all created in the image of God, just like you and your family! You are now a member of their support community. Just like your child needs people investing in them as they grow, learn and develop, so does your sponsored child! You are another person praying for and encouraging them, it just happens to be from hundreds of miles away. What an exciting privilege for us to be a part of!