

Before the Story:

Say: Karen serves in Northern Africa, helping migrants and refugees. (Show photo). Migrants are people who come from other places in Africa to find a place to live that is safer than where they come from. Karen and her church help people when they come to find food, a place to live, and a place to work.

Share the Story:

Meet Karen

Hi, my name is Karen and I am 33 years old. I used to teach music in an elementary school. One day when I was praying, I realized that God had other plans for me. I went back to school to learn more about God and I started working in a church. I knew I wanted to help people who came from lots of different countries and who needed friends.

Today I live and work in Northern Africa. I'm a pastor in our church here, but my main work won't be preaching every Sunday. Instead, I'll be taking care of people who have moved to our country from lots of other places all over Africa. These people are often very poor and have trouble finding food, housing, clothes, or even medical care. Our church tries to take care of them by giving them as much as we can, teaching them how to find jobs, helping them enroll in school, and becoming their new friends.

Almost all of the people our church serves speak French because they come from other countries in Africa that also speak French. My church also uses the French language and French is one of the main languages of the country where I live. So, I will be spending two years focusing on learning the French language and a native language called Darija. I am busy every day learning the language and working with the migrants and refugees who come to my church. The biggest thing I have learned is that people everywhere are more alike than they are different. God loves us all and we are all welcome in God's kingdom.

After the Story:

1. **Ask:** Where does Karen live? What languages does she study?
2. **Say:** Karen works to help people who have left their homes and moved to a new place. She helps them with food, housing, a job, and the language.
3. **Pray:** Thank you, God, for Karen and the work she is doing to help people who are in need. Be with her and her church as they share God's love and welcome people to their church and community.



Learning Activity:

Bread for Breakfast

Items needed: croissants; Nutella (omit if you have any nut allergies); jam; plastic knives; paper plates; napkins

1. Set out a croissant for each child on a plate, set out the plastic knives and napkins and the jam and Nutella.
2. Say: Karen is on a Northern African adventure, working with people who move to her city. For breakfast, the people where she lives eat bread and they especially like to eat croissants with nut butter, chocolate, or jam. Karen enjoys eating croissants for breakfast. We are going to taste croissants and fill them with jam or Nutella.
3. Say a prayer, thanking God for providing good food for us to eat. Pray for Karen and all the people she helps in Northern Africa.

Meet the Field Personnel:



Karen is a CBF field personnel appointed to pastoral ministry in Northern Africa. (Karen's last name and exact location are withheld for safety reasons.) She helps migrants and refugees find a better life and a more promising future.