

## Before the Story:

**Say:** Karen is a pastor in her church and her main work is taking care of people who have moved to Northern Africa from lots of other places all over Africa. (Show photo.) Today our story is about two brothers who cross the border into Northern Africa. Some of the children who cross the border do not have their parents with them. Karen's church houses and cares for the children. The children attend classes and learn basic education skills. They also have fun playing soccer and other games.

## Share the Story:

### God's Kingdom is for All Children

Antoine said to his brother Philippe, "Walk faster, we are almost at the border crossing and I want to cross before it gets dark." The two brothers had left their home and the rest of their family in Cameroon and traveled many, many miles to Northern Africa.

They reached the border and crossed over into a new country. Now they needed to find a place to stay and some food. Someone in their group told them about a church that might help them. Philippe said, "Antoine, I am very hungry and thirsty and tired. Do you think the people at the church will welcome us?"

The boys arrived at the church and knocked on the door. A kind lady named Karen answered the door. She was helping with the program that day. Karen could tell that the boys were very tired and hungry, so she welcomed them in. "Please come in and I will get you some tea and some food and you can tell me your story," she said. "Thank you!" the boys cried with much relief. Karen told them that they are loved by God and always welcome in this place. "God's kingdom is for all children," she said.

Antoine and Philippe said to Karen, "Thank you for welcoming us to this place and for telling us that God loves us. We needed to hear that!" "You are welcome," said Karen. "Now I will show you your bunk beds so you can sleep. Tomorrow is our day to go to the park and play soccer." Antoine and Philippe were happy to hear that they could play soccer with new friends in a safe and welcoming place.

## After the Story:

1. **Ask:** How were Antoine and Philippe welcomed when they got to the church?
2. **Say:** Karen works with a church to help people in need and welcome them after they cross the border into her country. How do you think our church and our family could help welcome people who are new in our community?
3. **Pray:** Thank you, God, for the work of Karen and her church as they minister at the border of Northern Africa.



## Learning Activity:

### Learn about the Sahara Desert

Link: Sahara Desert video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L7XrabWYHSg>

1. **Say:** In the story, we heard about two brothers who traveled through the Sahara Desert into Northern Africa. They were looking for a better, safer place to live.
2. Watch the Sahara Desert video and discuss the sights and sounds of the desert.
3. Use the Bible thought, Everything God made is beautiful (Eccles. 3:11).
4. Pray for all the people who travel through the hot desert to find a better place to live.

## 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.