



Equipping...

with Every
Good Thing

■ CHILDREN'S RESOURCES



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Children's Prayer for Dianne and Shane McNary

LOVING GOD,

Thank you for people who help us learn. Thank you for the people in our lives who help us find ways to use the talents that you have given us. We pray for Dianne and Shane McNary, who are beginning a new work in the United States. We pray for Denisa, Ingrid and Pastor Marek, who are working to help the Roma people in Slovakia. We are thankful for all the ways that the McNarys helped Denisa, Ingrid and Pastor Marek. And we are thankful that there are people in Slovakia to continue to help the Roma people. Thank you for people who aren't afraid to help the Roma people. Thank you for people who want to share God's love with them instead of being mean to them. Help us to always share your love with others, even if our friends ignore them. We love you, Lord. It's in Jesus' name we pray, Amen.



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Children's Prayer for Matt and Michelle Norman

LOVING GOD,

Thank you for people like Matt and Michelle Norman. Thank you for how hard they work to share your love. Thank you for Nelson, who partners with them to help his congregation minister to their neighbors. Thank you for Eli, who works with them to help moms with their children who come from other places. Friendships with other moms helps them to build confidence and get what they need to be able to raise their children. Thank you for David and Pati, who show others your love through friendship with them.

We are grateful for friendship, Lord, and we love our friends who help us so much. Thank you for all the good things you give us. Help us to share those good things with others.

We love you, Lord. It's in Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

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Children's Prayer for Rick and Lita Sample

LOVING GOD,

Thank you for Rick and Lita Sample, who work so hard to make sure Karen refugees in San Francisco are well cared for. Please help Pastor Kyaw Soe as he leads the Karen church. Inspire him and help him pay attention to your leading. Please help Zar as she teaches Sunday school. Help her to find new ways to share your great love. Thank you for people who work hard to share your love. There are many who would simply ignore the Karen refugees. Thank you for sending Rick and Lita Sample to help. Please help them to continue to have all that they need. Help us to use our time and talents to share your great love with others. Help us to be more like Lita and Rick Sample, who stepped out on faith and trusted you to equip them. We love you, Lord. It's in Jesus' name we pray, Amen.



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Children's Sermon

about Dianne and Shane McNary's ministry
in Slovakia

Item needed: A Children's Bible storybook

Say: Good morning, everyone! I'm so glad to see you here today.

Show a children's Bible storybook and **say:** When we read the Bible in worship, we may read it from a screen or in our bulletin or in a certain Bible (whatever it is your congregation does).

The Bible that we read from is a Bible that's more for teenagers and adults. There are lots of words in our Bibles that you may not understand. So, in order to help you better understand the Bible, there are people who took the stories from the Bible and created children's Bibles. These Bibles tell the stories in ways that are easier for children to understand.

(Read a story from your children's Bible storybook. Depending on time, you may choose to read the whole thing or just a portion.)

Say: Around the world, children are learning the stories of the Bible in their own languages. But not everyone has a children's Bible in their language. And it can be hard for them to understand the stories from an adult Bible.

Ingrid, a woman who grew up in Slovakia, is Roma. Many times people don't like the Roma people or trust them. Ingrid wanted to help Roma children who are growing up in Slovakia. She wanted to go to university so that she could find ways to help them, but she didn't have enough money. CBF field personnel in Slovakia helped Ingrid by giving her a scholarship. Now, Ingrid is using her education to share God's love with others. She helped create a children's Bible in the Roma language so that all Roma children could learn about God's love in their own language.

Say: God helps us have the skills we need in order to do what God wants us to do. God may not want you to create a Bible in a different language, but there are things that God wants you to do. I hope you will keep listening for God and asking God what God wants you to do. And trust that God will help you have what you need in order to do what God wants you to do. And that is great news! Let's pray:

Loving God,

Thank you for helping us have what we need in order to do what you want us to do. Please help the Roma people in Slovakia learn more about how much you love them. Please help people like Ingrid who are helping the Roma people. We love you, Lord. It's in Jesus' name we pray, Amen.



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Children's Sermon

about Matt and Michelle Norman's ministry in Barcelona, Spain

Good morning, everyone! Our friends are great, aren't they? They are people we like to spend time with and play with. They are people who help us and encourage us when we are sad. They are people whom we can count on to be there for us. *(Talk about a time when a friend helped you or you helped a friend.)*

In Hebrews 13, the Bible tells us that God equips us with every good thing. That means that God gives us what we need so that we are able to do what God has planned for us. One of the things that God gives us is friends! Friends help us know what is the right thing to do. Friends help us keep going when we want to give up. Friends cheer us on. Friends are some of the good things that God has given us.

Matt and Michelle Norman are CBF field personnel in Barcelona, Spain. There they focus on sharing God's love through friendship. They help equip churches by listening to them and brainstorming with them. They help churches find new ways to reach people in their community. They participate in community groups where they spend time with others, get to know them, listen to them and share meals with them. Through these groups, they become friends with new people. And the Normans help them see how God is working in their lives.

We don't have to go around the world to share God's love with others. We can share God's love with our friends right here in our community! We can remind our friends that God is with them and that they never have to be alone. When a friend is afraid, we can remind them that God is there. When a friend is going through a hard time, we can tell them how God has helped us get through hard things, and that God will help them too. When we spend time with others, we can help them see God's love.

God equips us with every good thing. God gives us talents and things that we love. And God also gives us friends. Our friends can help us and we can help our friends. This week, I hope you will pray for Matt and Michelle Norman and their friends in Spain. Pray that they will find new ways to share God's love with everyone they meet. Let's pray:

Loving God,

Thank you for equipping us with every good thing. Thank you for giving us the things we need so that we can do what you have planned for us. Help us to listen to you. Thank you for our friends. Help us to find ways to share your love with them. Be with Matt and Michelle Norman as they share your love with others. We love you, Lord. It's in Jesus' name we pray, Amen.



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Children's Sermon

about Rick and Lita Sample's ministry
in the San Francisco Bay Area

Good morning, everyone! Bienvenue (pronounced: "be in ven oo")! Do you know what that means? It means "welcome" in French. It can be hard to talk to others when we don't speak the same language. We don't understand what they are saying, and they can't understand us. But God sends people to help us understand. God helps us have what we need so that we can help others.

Rick and Lita Sample are CBF field personnel. They are in the San Francisco Bay Area where they work with refugees—specifically a group called the Karen people. The Samples don't speak the same language, but they have found ways to help the Karen. God sent them a pastor from Myanmar to be the pastor of the Karen Church. The people wanted to worship in their own language, just like we worship in ours. And this pastor helped them do that.

Even though Rick and Lita Sample may not speak the same language as the Karen people, they find ways to help them. The pastor of the Karen Church there speaks English, enabling him to let the Samples know what the people need. The Samples share their time and talents to help make sure these refugees have everything they need. They help the pastor to be equipped to lead the people, and they offer activities for the people so that they can see God's love at work.

In Hebrews, the Bible tells us that God equips us with every good thing. God gives us what we need so that we can do what God wants us to do. God wanted the Samples to help refugees in San Francisco. So, God sent a pastor to speak to the people and to tell the Samples what the people needed.

God gives us what we need too. God has a purpose for each and every person here. God has given you talents, things that you are good at. And one day, God will show you what God wants you to do. And when that day comes, I hope that you, like the Samples, will say yes. Let's pray:

Loving God,

Thank you for equipping us with every good thing. Please help the Samples as they work with the Karen people. Please show us what you want us to do with the talents you have given us. We love you, Lord. It's in Jesus' name we pray, Amen.