

Seminar Copy

The Need of Ministry to Children in Crisis

*“Pure and lasting religion in the sight of God our Father means that **we must care for orphans . . . in their troubles . . .**” (James 1:27 nlt).*

Introduction: What is the 4/14 window? _____

A. The need of ministry to children in crisis

1. Children are a *receptive* people group

People tend to be receptive when their lives are _____. Children in crisis respond to love and compassionate care from God’s people.

2. Children are an *unwanted* people group

- a) At least _____ underprivileged children worldwide are believed to live (at least part of the time) on the streets. These are referred to as **street children**.
- b) There are at least **18 million street children** in _____ and 40 million _____ in Latin America.
- c) There are 163 million orphans worldwide.

3. Children are a *suffering* people group

- a) **25,000** children under five die every day from _____ and _____.
- b) 1,500,000 children are currently infected with _____.
- c) Over 500,000 children go blind every year, mostly as a result of Vitamin A deficiency.
- d) There is an estimated **13 million AIDS orphans in Africa** (south of the Sahara).

4. Children are an *exploited* people group

- a) It is estimated that 200 million children are currently involved in abusive child labor.
- b) At least _____ children currently suffer from the oppression of forced prostitution and another one million children join this industry every year.
- c) The lives of many children are filled with pain. In India's silk industry girls as young as 5 are to be found working 7 am to 9 pm as bonded laborers.

B. Why should evangelicals care about ministry to children? There are several reasons we as evangelicals should act:

1. God's Mandate

Increasing numbers of children surely present significant ministry opportunities and challenges. *"Whoever receives one child like this in My name receives Me; and whoever receives Me does not receive Me, but Him who sent Me"* (Mark 9:37, nasb)

*"Pure and lasting religion in the sight of God our Father means that **we must care for orphans . . . in their troubles . . .**"* (James 1:27 NLT).

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:19-20, nasb)

The Great Commission includes the children of the world!

2. The number of children in the world is reason enough to make us concerned.

- a) There are **100 million street children** worldwide.
- b) There are **163 million orphans** worldwide.
- c) _____ of the world's population is under age 15.
- d) 78% of these children are being raised in _____ .
- e) **1.8 billion children** are at risk worldwide.

3. Ministry to children today effects tomorrow

What if we would have reached the 4/14 window just 10 years ago?

- a) Those "unreached" children would now be 14 to 24 years of age.
- b) Many would be in local churches.
- c) Economies, of course, would have improved for the families and countries.

4. Children can be gateways to their people.

Ministries to children help solidify and unite families and churches and provide a strong foundation for church growth and outreach.

next page ...

C. Seven basic requirements for becoming a worker among children in crisis?

1. Be evangelistic with full faith in Christ and His Word (the Bible)
2. Motivation to reach children with the **gospel** and compassionate care
3. Have a home church and be involved
4. Servant spirit
5. Team spirit
6. Responsible
7. Experience and knowledge of evangelism and discipleship

D. Nine Opportunities for evangelism, discipleship, and development of children worldwide:

1. Children in crisis workers/missionaries
2. Teachers and Teacher trainers
3. Camp coordinators
4. Street children workers
5. Vocational teachers
6. Health care workers
7. Orphanage workers
8. Day Care Center workers
9. Advocates for needy children

E. Effective ways to reach children in crisis

1. _____ among the poor
2. Day Care Ministry Centers
3. Ministry _____
4. Street Ministry Centers (Drop-in Centers)
5. _____
6. _____ for children in crisis
7. Long-term care of children (homes for orphans, foster care, and adoption)
8. Evangelism (Christmas) parties

F. Let's review a few statistics:

1. There are at least **100 million children** worldwide who are believed to live at least part of the time on the streets.
2. South of the Sahara **13 million children** under 15 have been orphaned by AIDS.
3. There are **163 million orphans** worldwide.
4. **Twenty-five thousand children** under five die every day from preventable diseases and malnutrition.
5. At least **10 million children** currently suffer the oppression of forced prostitution.

*“Pure and lasting religion in the sight of God our Father means that **we must care for orphans . . . in their troubles . . .**” (James 1:27 nlt).*

Recommended Agencies Working with Children in Crisis

Child Evangelism Fellowship

CANADA

PO Box 165 - Stn. Main
Winnipeg MB R3C 2G9
Phone: 204-943-2774
Fax: 204-943-9967
Email: cefofcanada@compuserve.com

USA

PO Box 348
Warrenton MO 63383
Phone: 636-456-4321
Fax: 636-456-5000
Email: overseas@cefinc.org
Web: www.cefinc.org

Compassion

CANADA

PO Box 5591
London ON N6A 5G8
Phone: 519-668-0224
Fax: 519-685-1107
Email: Gompcanada@capc.cLorg
Web: www.compassion.ca

USA

PO Box 7000
Colorado Springs CO 80933
Phone: 719-594-9900
Fax: 719-594-6271
Email: Clinfo@ci.us.org
Web: www.compassion.com

Make Way Partners

PO Box 459
Chelsea, AL 35043
Ph: 205-240-8597
Web: makewaypartners.org

SIM International

CANADA

10 Huntingdale Boulevard
Scarborough ON M1W 2S5
Phone: 416-497-2424
Fax: 416-497-2444
Email: postmaster@sim.ca
Web: www.sim.org

USA

PO Box 7900
Charlotte NC 28241-7900
Phone: 704-588-4300
Fax: 704-587-1518
Email: postmaster@sim.org
Web: www.sim.org/usa/index.html

Doug Nichols

Global Missions Advocate/Mobilizer
Serving with Commission To Every Nation (CTEN)
200 Mt Park Blvd SW, Unit A-103
Issaquah, WA 98027-3647
Email: nichols.doug@gmail.com

Updated October 2015