

YOUR GIFT TO COMPASSION WILL CHANGE CHILDREN'S LIVES

LET YOUR
COMPASSION
LIVE ON

RELEASING
CHILDREN
FROM
POVERTY

IN JESUS' NAME


Releasing children from poverty
Compassion
in Jesus' name



Gifts in Will

It's hard to imagine a world without extreme poverty.
But we believe it's a realistic goal.

Great progress has been made in the past 20 years: 15,000 less children are dying every day, but there's more to do. Compassion is working on the frontline of these changes and we've seen children rise from some of the most difficult circumstances to become doctors, teachers and pastors – to change the future for their families and their communities.

Together we can make this a reality for thousands more. Many of our supporters, after remembering their family and friends, choose to take up this challenge by leaving a gift in their Will to support Compassion's work.



"I can't think of a better organisation to support in my Will because I know my gift will change the lives of children."

Heather Tate



“You have been a refuge
for the poor, a refuge
for the needy in their
distress, a shelter from
the storm and a shade
from the heat.”

Isaiah 25:4 (NIV)

A gift of sight

With her son making little physical progress compared to his siblings, Elizabeth began to worry. At seven months old, Kevin was struggling to see his mother's hand or recognise the stuffed doll in front of him.

Frantic and frustrated, Elizabeth convinced her husband to seek the intervention of a witchdoctor, just as her family had done before. In exchange for seven goats they believed the misfortunes would be removed. Yet Kevin's condition didn't improve.

Elizabeth considered returning to the witchdoctor and selling their last remaining possession, the small piece of land where their house stood. She changed her mind when word came of a Child Survival Programme at the local church.

Months after their enrolment in the programme, and weeks after a successful eye operation funded by Compassion, Elizabeth's joy overflowed as she sat in their house and Kevin's tiny fingers grabbed her nose.

"We are grateful to God, because He has blessed us with more than we could have imagined. We almost lost everything to the witchdoctor who prophesied doom to our family. We didn't find healing or peace in our hearts. But now, we've found a new way."



The first years of a child's life are vital to their development. Through our Child Survival Programme we can reach the most vulnerable children even before they've been born. By providing for the medical needs of pregnant women and ensuring that when their babies arrive they're given all they need to develop, children are given the best possible start to life. A gift to Compassion allows children to not only survive but thrive.

“The building of the classrooms has helped us considerably as a family, including the grandchildren, knowing that our mum’s life will help so many children over the coming years.”

Anna Williams
and Louise Smith



A gift of hope

Every day, Dandi would travel to Klewer, the largest textile market in Solo, Indonesia. He would fight his way through the crowds of tradesmen, and stand for hours in the scorching heat asking for money to help his family survive.

A local pastor saw Dandi in the market one day and was stirred with compassion. No eight-year-old should be begging on the streets. "I knew I wanted to break the cycle of poverty in this family by taking care of the children in the church," Pastor Rudi explains.

Rudi asked to meet Warni, Dandi's mother. It took time to earn her trust. She was understandably suspicious of somebody offering to help

provide for her children. But Rudi didn't give up. He kept going back to visit this gentle but determined lady with a stoic look in her eyes. Warni eventually agreed to bring her boys to the local church. They were both registered in the programme and found sponsors.

Dandi now spends his days at school and in the safety of the project walls. His life is unrecognisable from a few months ago.



Compassion's main goal is to release children from poverty in Jesus' name. We link children from desperately poor backgrounds with a loving local church and a caring sponsor. There are many children who do not currently have sponsors. A gift to Compassion allows us to make sure they are cared for until they are sponsored.





A gift of the future

It only took minutes for their possessions to be destroyed. The avalanche of mud crushed everything in its path as it roared down the valley.

The Endara family lost everything and were taken in by friends; the five of them moved into a room used to store flour. The situation was made even more challenging as Juan Jose, the father and husband of the family, is blind and disabled.

It's at times like this that the church rallies together. A month after the landslide the family was lent a house and their oldest child was enrolled in Compassion's sponsorship programme.

Fast forward three years and the Endara family live in a new home they could never have dreamt of previously. Each daughter has their own room, and there's even a living room. The house was built and furnished using RESPOND funds and is in stark contrast to the flour store.

Veronica Endara, mother of the family, testifies, "Compassion, for us, was God's hand. It's an instrument that God put in place to bless us, way before we thought of it."



The needs of children in developing countries are vast and complex. Our RESPOND ministry complements the work of our Child Survival and Child Sponsorship programmes by working to remove a lack of community resources and meeting individual emergencies when they happen. A gift to Compassion allows us to bring safe water to rural communities in India, provide educational scholarships in Haiti or fund life-saving surgery in Uganda.



A legacy grown from modest beginnings

The legacy of Compassion started over 60 years ago with one man, Everett Swanson. In 1952, while walking through war-torn Seoul, he saw local workers picking up the bodies of abandoned children who had died in the streets overnight.

Sharing his experience with a friend, Everett was challenged with the words, "You have seen the tremendous needs and unparalleled opportunities of this land. What are you going to do about it?"

The day he returned to the United States, someone gave him \$50 designated "for Korea". When he arrived at his home, a \$1,000 cheque earmarked "for the need of Korea" was waiting for him.

Everett later wrote, "This was conclusive proof to me that God was in it."

And so Compassion began. From supporting one orphanage in Korea to developing a one-to-one sponsorship programme, Compassion now serves more than 1.7 million children in 26 countries. From one man and one profound experience, Compassion was born.



Leaving a gift

If, like many of our supporters, you would like to leave a gift to Compassion in your Will, you'll be helping the next Endara family recover from a disaster. More children like Dandi will be given hope and babies like Kevin will receive the help they need.

A gift to Compassion will be used where the need is greatest, so children won't have to wait for help. Two percent of an estate, for example, will make a tangible difference to the lives of many children.

A Will is one of the most important documents you'll ever write. We recommend consulting a solicitor when you write one or make amendments to an existing Will. It will ensure that your savings and possessions go to the people and causes you care about.

For more information, or to let us know you've included a gift in your Will to Compassion, contact us on 01932 836490 or at giftsinwill@compassionuk.org. You can also find further details at www.compassionuk.org/giftsinwill

“Learn to do right; seek justice.
Defend the oppressed.
Take up the cause of the fatherless;
plead the case of the widow.”

Isaiah 1:17 (NIV)

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