



SUGGESTED PRESENTATION

NOTES

Here's a suggested outline to help you put your presentation together. You can use it as it is or as a framework for your own talk. Remember, what's most important is that you speak from your heart. It's your passion that will really inspire people to respond.

INTRODUCTION

For those who don't know me my name is **[name]**. It's great to be here today and thank you for giving me the time to speak about a subject that's so close to my heart.

Now, Jesus says in Matthew 19:14, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

OUTLINE THE PROBLEM

It's a beautiful verse that shows the special place Jesus had in his heart for children, but every time I read it I think of all those millions of children out there who live in abject poverty, struggling to get some of the basic things that we take for granted like food, healthcare and education.

The thing about poverty is that it not only makes life a physical struggle it also steals hope. As children are abused, neglected, forgotten and looked down on, they come to believe the lie that their lives don't matter to anyone, not even God.

INTRODUCE YOUR SPONSORED CHILD

Before I go any further, I want to introduce you to someone very special. [Hold up the photograph of your sponsored child.] This is [name of child] a boy/girl that I sponsor in [country]. [Share a little bit about the child, their age, and the conditions where they live.]

CHRISTIAN RESPONSIBILITY

It's easy to get overwhelmed by the extent of poverty when you consider that children like **[name of child]** account for nearly half of all people living in extreme poverty, but as Christians we have a responsibility to look after the poor and specifically to care for children, like Jesus would.

Through Compassion child sponsorship I have found a way to respond. I might not be able to change the world, but I can change the world for one child.

Today is Compassion Sunday and churches across the country are speaking out on behalf of the world's poorest children. I am so excited that our church is taking part this year because I know the transformation that can take place when we reach out to children in need with God's love.





SHOW THE VIDEO	NOTES
I think this film will show you what I mean.	
[If you can't show the film share Jane's [pronounced 'Jar-nay'] story below]	
I'd like to take a few moments to share with you the story of one young man. Jane' Alam Sheikh grew up in Kolkata, India. He lived in a slum community where around 10,000 people shared just one tap and two toilets.	
The family were squatters in an abandoned house and had less than three metres squared to live in. It's no surprise that malaria, diarrhoea and dengue fever were all common and Jane' grew up surrounded by starvation, death, violence and alcoholism.	
Neither of his parents had been to school and his dad did odd labouring jobs to try and support his family. Jane' struggled to imagine a world outside the pain and hopelessness he saw every day.	
However, at the age of four, his father heard about a local church that was giving education and other support to children from slum communities. So Jane' was taken along and registered as a Compassion-sponsored child.	
That marked the start of a transformation. Jane' became the first person in his slum community of 10,000 people to go to school. In addition to education, he was fed, clothed, got health checks and even things like soap and toothpaste. However, what Jane' describes as the greatest gift was being introduced to God and realising that in the midst of such suffering, God had a plan for his life.	
Jane' worked hard and after completing his schooling he went on to earn a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration, finishing second out of 1,500 students at the University of Kolkata.	
He was then selected to complete a Masters in International Business from the University of Manchester in the UK. Alongside supporting his family and sponsoring Sankritha through Compassion, Jane' has set up a micro-finance programme to help the community he grew up in.	
Jane' is living proof that the cycle of poverty can be broken and the reason why I love the work of Compassion so much.	
YOUR EXPERIENCE AS A SPONSOR —	
Now, I've been sponsoring [your child[ren]'s name] through Compassion for [number] years.	
[Name of child] takes part in project activities at [his/her] local church under the care of loving Christian staff who know each child personally and ensure they have access to healthcare, education, food, clothing and social support.	

Most important of all, [name of child] has the opportunity to learn about Jesus and

see his love demonstrated through the actions of staff and sponsors.





NOTES

I love the fact that as a sponsor I don't simply send money. I can help encourage and support [name of child] by writing letters, sharing prayers and sending birthday and Christmas gifts.

[Share something that's really special about sponsorship to you]

- Share your personal thoughts/feelings. How has this blessed you? What have you learnt?
- How has it impacted your family? Are your kids involved? Has it changed your outlook on life?
- · Show a picture your child has drawn for you.
- · What are your hopes/dreams for the child you sponsor?

BIBLICAL THOUGHTS

Sponsoring a child has helped me to put my faith into action and care for children in need, like I know Christ would have.

• Share a favourite verse or scripture reading. See suggestions on page 7.

Today, I inviting you to take up the challenge to become a sponsor and release a child from poverty in Jesus' name.

This is a great ministry opportunity for young people, older people, single people, families with kids—virtually all of us can enjoy sharing our faith and helping a child who is so very vulnerable—all in the name of Jesus.

CALL TO ACTION AND CLOSING THOUGHT

[Hold up a couple of child profiles/show them on the PowerPoint.] Before I go, I just want to introduce you to a couple of children who need your help today. I have [name of child] from [country] and [name of child] from [country]. It would be wonderful if at the end of today's service these children could have the love and support of a sponsor like you.

If you feel that God is calling you to help a child in need then I'd be delighted to speak to you after the service.

I'll be at a table in **[give location]** where you can choose a specific child and begin your sponsorship experience today.

[Share any final thoughts as God leads you.]

Thank you and please come and see me by the table after the service.

SPEAKING TIPS

- Speak from the heart, your passion will inspire people
- Practice makes perfect, so rehearse out loud
- Make sure you're comfortable with any equipment you'll be using
- > Pray and remember God is in control