What if…

The people who are hurting your family are really mean and angry. They are not letting you live in your home, you are not getting food, you can’t go to school or see your friends, and there is even a chance that someone you love may die. Everyone is hungry, scared, and not sure how to get to a place that is safe without getting hurt.

Question?

How would you feel if you weren’t allowed to live at home anymore?

How would you feel if you weren’t allowed to live in the USA because people were being mean to you and hurting you?

What other country would be a place you could live?

But think about it a little further…

When children or families have to move from their home country to another country because people are trying to hurt them, they are called. . .

REFUGEES

Kids2Kids Current Affairs Project
Syrian Refugees
A long time ago there was someone who hurt those who loved Jesus. On a trip to Damascus God helped him change and become a loving person. May we hope those on the same roads today find God’s love.

**FYI**

There are lots of countries where children and their families are not safe. These families are trying to go somewhere else where they can be safe, but it is not easy.

- Sometimes a family cannot find a safe country or a new home.
- Sometimes it cost too much for a family to travel.
- Sometimes a family has to divide because it costs too much to stay together.
- Sometimes a family has to divide because it is more dangerous to try and leave together.

**SYRIA**

Syria is a country where there are lots of children and families that are being hurt because of war. Many people are trying to leave the country.
9 MILLION people need to leave Syria

9,000,000 (3x the people in Chicago!)

Where are they going to live?

Syrian Refugee Children

TURKEY 294,304 children
LEBANON 385,007 children
NORTH AFRICA 7,629 children
EGYPT 56,154 children
JORDAN 291,238 children
IRAQ 77,125 children
Here is what YOU (a kid!) can do to make a difference in the lives of these children and for their stories to make a difference in your life...  

1. PRAY
   ...on your own
   ...with friends
   ...with adults
   ...with your church

Prayer
Dear God, help those people who have to leave their homes. May you help them find new homes that are safe and loving places with good people, like me. In Jesus Name, Amen.

Write your own PRAYER: ________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

Read and Learn
Children’s stories are a great way to understand what it means to be a REFUGEE. Check out your local library and look online. Make sure to share the stories with your family, church, and friends.

Azzi in Between
By Sarah Garland

The Whispering Cloth
By Peggi Shea and Anita Riggio

Four Feet, Two Sandals
By Karen Lynn Williams
WELCOME!

You, your church, and family can help those who are moving in lots of ways! Check out our partner organizations for the most up-to-date needs:

Disciples Refugee & Immigration Ministries: www.discipleshomemissions.org/syrian-refugee-resources

Week of Compassion: www.weekofcompassion.org/syria

Church World Service: www.cwsglobal.org/helprorefugees

MAKE REFUGEE WELCOME KITS

Send Welcome Kits to your closest CWS affiliate office if you are within 50 miles (www.cwsglobal.org/our-work/refugee-services/irp-affiliates.html) or use the web to research who is welcoming refugees in your area.

MAKE A FRIEND!

When becoming a friend to a child who has had to leave their home, remember that this person has been through something really hard.

Older kids can watch a video to learn about some kids who have had to move because they were refugees: www.youtube.com/watch?v=2N3ndNyU2k
4 KNOW EVERYONE’S BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS

Read the flyer on the right. Talk with your parents or adults at church about these rights.

- How have you experienced these rights?
- Have you ever had these rights taken away?
- Do you know others whose rights have been taken away?
- What do you think you can do to help that?
See the **BIG** PICTURE!

There are **REFUGEES**, everywhere.

There are even people in our own country who have had to leave because others were hurting them.

Those places listed above are just a few of the places where wars and hatred have caused people to need to move to a new place.

**Talk about It**

How does it make you feel to know there are so many children who are not being treated nice?

How can we find ways to be nice in our own country?
Family Learning

How to Talk to Children about Syria:
www.pbs.org/newshour/rundown/how-to-talk-to-your-kids-about-syria

Resources for Families and Older Elementary Kids to learn about REFUGEES:
http://learningtogive.org/lessons/unit189/lesson4.html

Cheat Sheet on Syrian Conflict:
www.pbs.org/newshour/rundown/your-cheat-sheet-to-the-syrian-conflict

Children in Syria:

FUNDRAISE!!!

You can contribute to the work Disciples are already doing by sending money that you fundraise to Week of Compassion.

Mail donations to:

Week of Compassion
PO Box 1986
Indianapolis, IN 46206

100% of your gifts designated “Syria Humanitarian Crisis” will directly go to help Syrian refugees and those who are internally displaced in the Middle East and in Europe. Learn more about how Week of Compassion helps Syrian refugees and other people in crisis at www.weekofcompassion.org/syria

For fundraising ideas go here:
www.better-fundraising-ideas.com/fundraising-ideas-for-kids.html
Or make up your own!

The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Family & Children’s Ministries: www.docfamiliesandchildren.org
Refugee & Immigration Ministries:
www.discipleshomemissions.org/refugee-immigration-ministries
Week of Compassion: www.weekofcompassion.org/syria
Global Ministries: www.globalministries.org