



COMPASSION

explorer

LITTLE LEADERS

BIG CHANGE

HELLO, BOLD LEADERS!

In this issue, we're celebrating kid leaders. Good leaders stand up for what is right. They inspire others to follow their example. Turn the pages to meet kids around the world who show leadership by helping care for their families and neighbors!



GIGGLE

See photo captions written by kids like you.

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DISCOVER myWORLD

When it comes to food, these kids are leaders!

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Make a potato soup that kids in Ecuador love.

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See how Samuel, 12, raised money to sponsor a child.

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Who was the best leader who ever lived?

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GIGGLE

Remember this picture from the Winter 2022 Compassion Explorer Magazine? It shows a kid in Ethiopia playing with an empty box of cooking oil. Here are some of your great captions! Find more at explorer.compassion.com/explorers.

Five, four, three ... WAIT!
Let me get my helmet on ...
two, one, BLAST OFF!
Avery, 9
California, Md.

These are all the rage now!
Akari, 10
Baton Rouge, La.

I'm thinking inside-the-box while having outside-of-the-box ideas.
Clara, 11
Lithonia, Ga.

Ha ha, I am a sweet monster.
ROAR!!
Naomi, 8
Marcellus, N.Y.

We're playing hide-and-seek. Do you think this is a good hiding spot?
Molly and Anna, 10
Glen Burnie, Md.

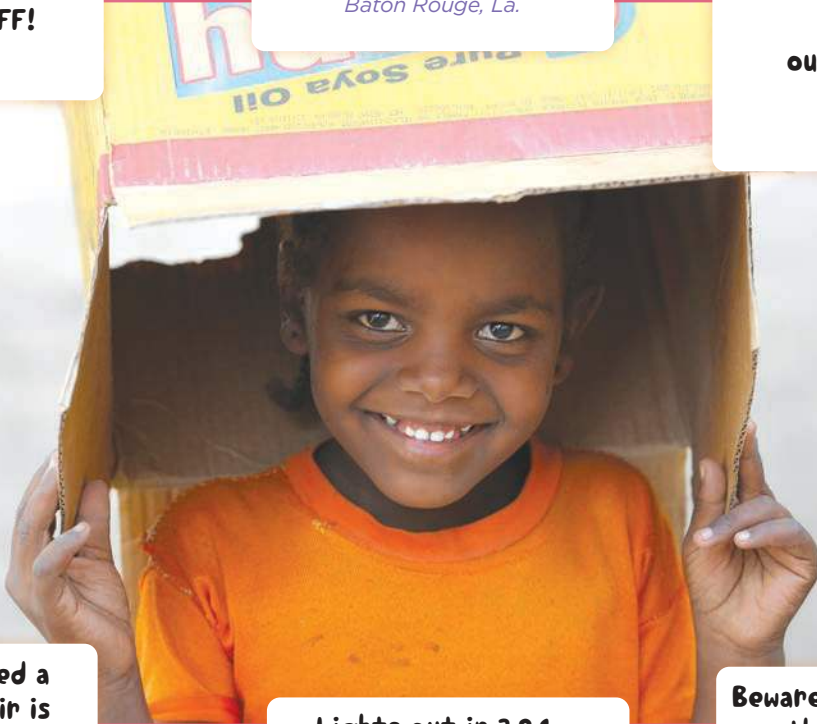
Yeah, I might need a bath soon. My hair is getting oily!
Sarah, 11
Savannah, Ga.

Lights out in 3,2,1 ...
JJ, 8
Spring Hill, Tenn.

Beware all the evil knights that challenge me!
Micah, 12
Kutztown, Pa.

What store can I buy these nice umbrellas at?
Anna, 8
Colorado Springs, Colo.

Should I make myself a robot?
Melody, 8
Houston, Texas



Check out the next Giggle photo on the back cover!

WHAT'S FOR DINNER?

Do you make meals or buy food at the store with your parents? Kids all over the world help their families just like you do — in lots of important ways! Sometimes it can be hard to buy food where they live, so **here's how these kid leaders make sure their families have enough to eat!**



NICOLE'S PIG FARM EL SALVADOR

This is 9-year-old Nicole (pictured left) and her sister Mabel. Their family raises pigs and sells them to pay for food and other needs, like school costs. (Where they live in El Salvador, families often have to pay a fee for kids to go to school.) Their dad had to sell all their pigs because they didn't have enough money. **Thankfully, someone donated to Nicole's Compassion center to help her family buy more pigs.** Now, Nicole helps care for 16!



She is happy to help since she knows the pigs are the reason her family has food every day. Nicole likes to think about what she wants to be when she grows up, because she knows the pigs will keep her in school. She can study long enough to get a good job someday. If she has kids, they won't be hungry. **All because of pigs!**

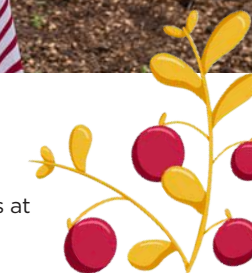


HOSIANA'S HARVEST TANZANIA

Hosiana has big dreams. **At age 11, she already wants to be a teacher!** A few years ago, Hosiana was just worried about what she would eat for dinner. Her grandmother was selling vegetables from her garden to buy food for Hosiana, since she needed other food besides just what they grew. But there still wasn't enough money.



Then Hosiana's Compassion center gave her grandmother another garden! Hosiana helped her grandmother plant seeds and water them. Soon, the vegetables grew big enough to harvest and sell. With the extra money they are now earning, Hosiana has enough to eat. She can keep going to classes at school. **One day she will teach a class of her own!**



ALONGKORN HELPS OUT THAILAND



Ten-year-old Alongkorn wakes up when it gets light. He has eggs to collect! He helps his family make money selling eggs from ducks on their farm. Alongkorn knows how important his job is. Before Compassion gave his family supplies and training for their farm, he often wondered if he would have food the next day. Now, the family grows lots of food, and **Alongkorn's ducks lay eggs to eat and sell.** He has enough to share with children at his Compassion center!



CHICKENS FOR VALENTINA MEXICO

Valentina is 6 years old, and she lives in Mexico. Listen as she tells you about a gift from Compassion that changed her life!



“Do you want to know something cool about my family? We own a chicken farm. It’s true!” Valentina says. Her Compassion center gave the family cute, fluffy chicks so they could start a chicken farm. “I still remember the day when we received the first 50 little chicks,” she says. Her mom learned about caring for chickens from an expert at the Compassion center. **Valentina helped give food and water to the chickens before she went to school each day. Soon, her family had 700 chickens!** Valentina always has enough food because her family can eat the chickens or sell their eggs for money.

GILBERT CARES FOR GOD’S WORLD KENYA

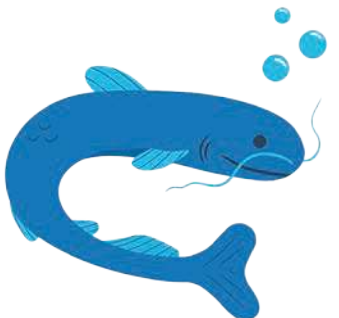
10-year-old Gilbert lives in Kenya, where many families farm to have something to eat every day. But the land around Gilbert’s home hadn’t been taken care of, so his family wasn’t able to grow enough food. His Compassion center started a program to plant trees, which makes the ground better for growing things. More trees keep good soil from being washed away by rain, so **Gilbert decided to begin watering baby trees to help.**



He knows that more trees mean that his family will have more food. “My teacher kept telling us that it is because of trees that we have a nice climate and clean air. I liked this very much. **I am happy to be taking care of God’s creation,”** he says.

MARISYA’S BIG CATCH INDONESIA

In Indonesia, where Marisya lives, catfish is a tasty food to eat for dinner. But 10-year-old Marisya knows that’s not the only thing catfish are good for! She and her brother Dika are sponsored through Compassion, and their center helped them start a catfish farm.



Now, Marisya works hard with Dika feeding and caring for the catfish. She knows the money they make will provide food for her family. When Marisya grows up, she will have enough money to go to school. **Selling catfish is a lot more fun for Marisya than just eating them!**



EMILIANA BAKES A DIFFERENCE ECUADOR

Emiliana lives in a village high up in the mountains of Ecuador. People from her village often have a hard time making enough money to buy food every day. They are too far away from big cities with lots of jobs. **But 10-year-old Emiliana is not going to let that stop her!** She will be able to provide for her family when she grows up because she wants to be a baker. **Emiliana’s Compassion center just started a class to teach kids how to bake.** When she gets older, Emiliana can use what she learns in the class to make bread to sell. With the money she’ll be able to earn, she can buy other foods (like fruit and meat), clothes and other things she needs!



CLARISSE’S SPECIAL BANK ACCOUNT

BURKINA FASO

Twelve-year-old Clarisse’s family lives in a village in Burkina Faso, where most people raise animals and grow food on farms. One day, Clarisse received a gift from her sponsors, Nathan and Kristin. With the gift, Clarisse and her family decided to buy two sheep. **Now she has 12 sheep and two lambs!**



Clarisse’s dad calls them her “bank account.” **A bank account is where someone can keep money until they need to use it.** If Clarisse needs to buy more food for herself, a new dress or medicine if she gets sick, she can sell one of her sheep. **Clarisse wants to be a hairstylist when she gets older. With her special bank account, she can!**



PIYESTON THE CHEF

SRI LANKA

Piyeston, age 14, loved cooking with his mom. He looked forward to creating meals for his family. But in Sri Lanka, many families like Piyeston’s don’t have food every night. Thankfully, Piyeston’s Compassion program taught him and his friends about jobs they can do when they grow up. He realized that he could be paid to make meals for other people by becoming a chef! **Piyeston decided that he would be a chef when he is old enough so he can feed his own family too.** He started learning how to cook like a chef. Soon, he could be making fancy meals at restaurants!

Cook

Locro de Papa



In the mountains of Ecuador, it can get really cold — and that’s why this soup is so popular. What’s better than a hot bowl of soup on a cold night?

Want to know another fun thing about soups like this one? You can add whatever vegetables you love! Parents in Ecuador who don’t have a lot of money for groceries use whatever vegetables they’ve grown in their garden or bought from the market so their kids feel full and happy!



Locro de Papa Recipe

Serves 6 to 8

Ingredients

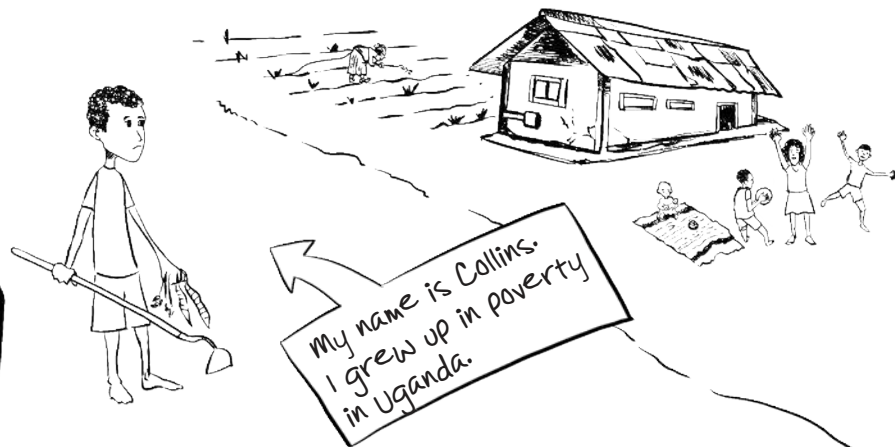
- Olive oil
- 1 yellow onion, diced
- 1½ lbs. potatoes, diced (about 4 medium potatoes)
- ¼ tsp. salt (plus more to taste)
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 tsp. dried oregano
- Pinch dried chili flakes (optional)
- 4 c. chicken or vegetable stock
- 2 c. frozen corn
- 1 c. fresh or frozen peas
- 6 oz. (1 well-rounded cup) queso fresco or cubed mozzarella
- 1 c. whole milk
- Pepper

Instructions

1. Warm a teaspoon or two of olive oil in a large, heavy pot (at least 5 quarts) over medium-high heat.
2. Add the onion and cook until just starting to turn golden brown, 5 to 8 minutes. Add the potatoes and ¼ tsp. salt, and cook until the edges of the potatoes are beginning to soften, about 5 minutes.
3. Push the potatoes to the side of the pan, clearing a space in the middle. Add the garlic, oregano and chili flakes to the middle of the pan. Cook until you can smell the garlic, about 30 seconds, then stir everything together with the onions and potatoes.
4. Add the stock to the pan and bring to a boil. Reduce heat to medium-low and simmer the soup until the potatoes are soft, 10 to 15 minutes.
5. Add the corn, peas, cheese and milk to the soup. Bring back to a simmer (just a few bubbles, not a rolling boil) and cook until the corn and peas are cooked through, about 5 minutes. Taste and add salt and pepper as needed.

Read

Fighting hunger with SCIENCE!

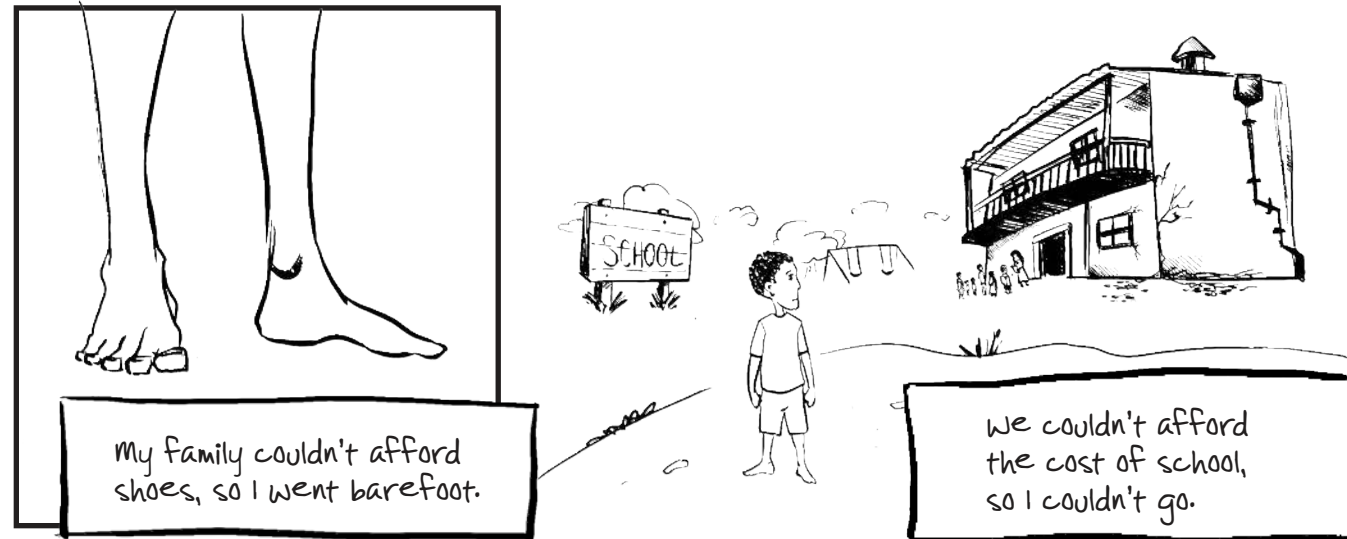


My name is Collins.
I grew up in poverty
in Uganda.

Thank God, I could
finally go to school!
I got school supplies.



I ate meat and rice at
my Compassion center.

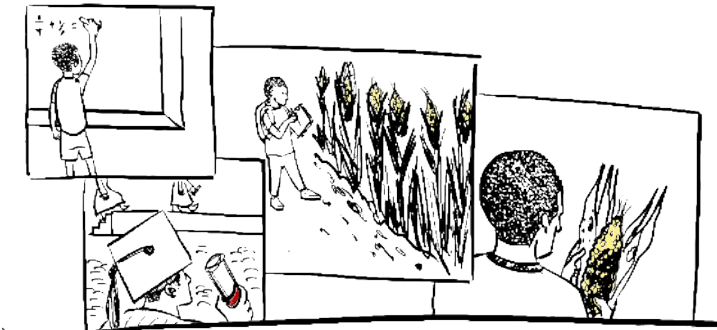


My family couldn't afford
shoes, so I went barefoot.

We couldn't afford
the cost of school,
so I couldn't go.

My sponsor wrote to me and shared Bible
verses, like Proverbs 3:5-6.

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and
lean not on your own understanding; in all
your ways submit to him, and he will make
your paths straight."



I worked so hard in school that I got to go to
college, and Compassion helped pay for it! I studied
agriculture, the science of farming, because I
wanted to solve some of the problems that caused
our hunger — like plant diseases and pests.



My mom was a farmer. Sometimes our food
crops would get diseases or be eaten by
bugs. So we went hungry a lot.

Then a pastor registered me in the
Compassion program. I was sponsored by
a woman in California.



Now I'm a scientist. I'm
studying ways to help
farmers like my mom.

I don't want anyone
to have to be
hungry like
my family was.



That's why I
fight hunger
with science!



Craft

SHADOW PLAY



Have you ever used your hands and a flashlight to make shadow puppets on a wall? Shadow play, also called shadow puppetry, is an ancient tradition. It has long been used for storytelling and entertainment in Southeast Asian countries like Thailand and Indonesia. What a great way to have some fun, especially if you're a kid who can't afford a lot of toys — using your hands and telling a story doesn't cost a thing!

Make shadow puppets and a theater to perform a story for family and friends.

- For the theater:
1. Adult help needed. Cut off the back side of an empty cardboard box.
 2. Cut a square out of the front of the box.
 3. Decorate the box with Asia-inspired patterns.
 4. Tape or glue a sheet of tissue paper or wax paper behind the front side of the box.



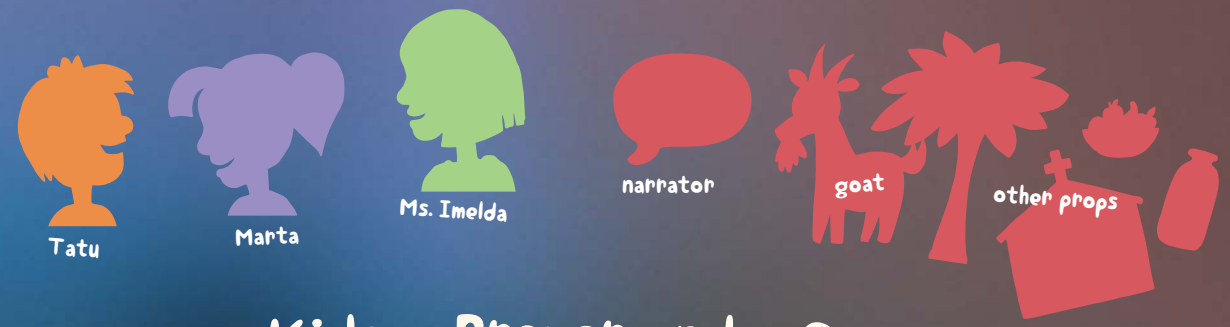
For the puppets:

1. Adult help needed. Print out our shadow puppets online and cut them out. Or draw your own shapes on a piece of thick paper or thin cardboard and cut them out.
2. Glue or tape the puppet to a wooden ice pop stick.

Print out puppets at explorer.compassion.com/shadow-puppet-theater

Performing a shadow play is a fun way to practice a skill that many leaders have: speaking in front of other people. Gather your family or friends in a room and turn down the lights. Set your puppet theater on a table and shine a desktop lamp through from behind. By yourself or with a sibling or parent, put on your play! Move your shadow puppets through the back of the box as you act out the script (or write your own). Try different voices for different characters!

Characters in this play



Two Kids, a Prayer and a Goat

Narrator: Thank you for coming to the Shadow Puppet Theater! Please enjoy this performance of “Two Kids, a Prayer and a Goat.”

Once upon a time in Indonesia lived a brother and sister named Tatu and Marta. They were lying down on their sleeping mat at home one night.

Tatu: “Marta, I’m hungry again. It’s hard to pay attention in school when we don’t get enough food to eat.”

Marta: “I’m sorry, Tatu. I feel hungry too. But I know we can trust God! God is good all the time, even when we are hungry. Let’s say a prayer to thank him for all he does for us and ask for help.”

Tatu: “Thank you, God, for this sleeping mat and blanket. I know you are good all the time.”

Marta: “Thank you, Father, for our family and church. We go to bed hungry many nights. As you know, our family’s crops aren’t growing much, and we can’t afford the food at the market. Will you please help fill our tummies? We want to grow up big and strong.”

Tatu: “We trust you and love you. In Jesus’ name we pray, amen.”

Narrator: That weekend, Tatu walked Marta down a dirt road toward the church where they went for Compassion activities. The sun was high in the sky. As they got closer to the church, they saw their teacher, Ms. Imelda, running toward them.

Ms. Imelda: Hi, kids! I have great news for you today!

Tatu and Marta: What is it? What is it?

Ms. Imelda: Your sponsor sent some extra money as a family gift. We used it to buy two goats and some vegetable seeds for your family. This is so important!

Marta: Great! But ... what’s so important about goats?

Ms. Imelda: These goats will give your family milk to drink and fertilizer to help your food crops grow. And soon you might have even more goats to sell for money!

Tatu: This is the answer to our prayers!

Marta: Hooray! Praise Jesus! Oh, look! Here come the goats now!

Narrator: Two months later, Tatu and Marta were playing in their yard. Their bellies were full of milk and porridge from their Compassion center. Then they noticed something: A new sprout growing up from the ground.

It wasn’t long before they had new vegetables and fruits to eat. God had answered their prayers, and they no longer went to bed hungry!

The end! Thank you for coming to this performance by the Shadow Puppet Theater!



It's Cup Time!

Samuel kept thinking about the picture of the boy from Rwanda. The card from Compassion said that his name was Shafi and that he needed a sponsor. Samuel's family already sponsored a kid, so Samuel understood how important sponsorship could be.

The idea that Shafi might be hungry was something Samuel couldn't stop thinking about. So, he decided he would become Shafi's sponsor. There was only one problem. Samuel was in the fourth grade and didn't have \$38 a month for sponsorship. That's when he started thinking about something else: **How could he make money to sponsor Shafi?**

For a while, Samuel struggled to think of something he could do. Then one day, Samuel was visiting family and noticed something unique on a shelf: a teacup. **"I immediately thought, 'I am going to**

sell customized mugs to earn money for Shafi!" says Samuel.

Samuel and his mom purchased several plain white mugs and got to work. He drew designs on the mugs with permanent marker and then baked them in a high-heat oven. "When I went to school, I literally asked everyone in my grade if they wanted to buy a cup," says Samuel. That's when he got his first big order. **His teacher asked to buy eight mugs!**

Samuel remembers, "Each day, I would come home and be like, 'Mom! I need more cups to design!'" **His business, called Cup Time, was taking off, and he was raising the money he needed for Shafi!** When Samuel finally raised enough money to pay for five months of sponsorship, his mom agreed to let Samuel officially sponsor Shafi.



Samuel, now 12, has enjoyed writing Shafi and learning more about him over the past two years. **"It's very fun, and I love getting letters back from him."**

Samuel is still raising money to sponsor Shafi each month by continuing to be creative and doing odd jobs for his dad. And each month, Samuel sends \$38 to Compassion to help provide Shafi with all that he needs. **"One time, Shafi told me he bought a goat with the money I sent,"** exclaimed Samuel. "I really feel like I did something great!"

"If one kid is noticed, it impacts the world!"

— Samuel



The Bible is filled with stories of great leaders.

Noah showed leadership by building an ark after God told him there would be a flood that would wipe out all life on earth. **Noah saved God's creation by leading his family and two of every creature on earth to safety on the ark (Genesis 6-9).**

Moses' sister Miriam was also a great leader and a prophet, a person who speaks for God. **First, she helped save her baby brother's life by convincing Pharaoh's daughter to let Moses stay with his mother to be nursed (Exodus 1:22-2:4).** Later, Miriam helped her brothers lead the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt toward the Promised Land in Canaan, playing songs of worship on her tambourine and leading other women in dances of praise.

And who can forget about the amazing leaders Joshua, who led the Israelites in the battle of Jericho, and David, who stood up to the giant Goliath?

But here's the thing: These leaders in the Bible still made mistakes. That's because everyone is a sinner. **They became better leaders by admitting their mistakes and learning from them.**

The only leader in the Bible who didn't make mistakes was Jesus. He was God's Son and did not sin. Jesus was a wise, loving leader who spoke the truth about God even though it ended up killing him. While he was on earth, Jesus led 12 disciples, or followers, who learned from him. He inspired many other people who followed what he preached. Not everyone liked what he was saying. **Jesus was such a brave leader that he didn't stop sharing the truth about God and heaven even when religious leaders and the Roman government said they would kill him.** He never stopped being a leader, even after being killed on the cross.

The good news is, Jesus didn't stay dead! After his resurrection, he sent out his disciples to tell the world about him and what had happened. **And he is still with us today, helping us to lead others with love and kindness.**

READ

Matthew 14:15-21

Notice how Jesus showed leadership when the crowds were hungry.

ACT

You can be a brave, kind leader by helping find sponsors for kids in poverty. With an adult, go to compassionsunday.com to learn how.

PRAY

- Ask God to show you ways to be a leader at school or church.
- Pray for Jesus to give you courage to speak up if you see something wrong happening.



GIGGLE

Submit your caption at:

explorer.compassion.com/giggles

How cute are 2-year-old Emely, left, and 3-year-old Madison? They are graduating from Compassion's Survival initiative, which helps babies in poverty and the grown-ups who care for them. They will now join the Child Sponsorship Program and start going to a Compassion center at their church in El Salvador!

SPEAK-UP KIDS

Go to the all-new section of Compassion Explorer Magazine online to find activities, stories and fun ideas for using your voice and raising money to help others!

EXPLORER.COMPASSION.COM/SPEAK-UP

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About the Cover

These kids in Uganda are leading one of their family's cows on a rope. You may or may not lead an animal around, but in what ways are you a leader in your life?

