



## A pilgrimage of prayer and reflection through the REAL. LIFE. Exhibit

### How to use this prayer and reflection guide

Throughout the REAL. LIFE. Exhibit, you will find the symbol of the Cross with the reaching hands, indicating where God is reaching out to touch a needy world.



Match the number on the pages of this guide with the number on the symbols in the exhibit.

Read the related Bible passage.

Take time to reflect on the prayer or question.

Review the following sample pages from the booklet used in the REAL. LIFE. Exhibit.

### What does the symbol of the Cross with the hands mean?

The Cross reminds us of Christ's death, His ultimate expression of love for us. The reaching hands remind us of the many New Testament accounts where Christ reached out His hands in compassion to heal or restore or encourage.

Today, we are Christ's hands, touching a needy world in His name, demonstrating His love to people affected by disaster, conflict, and poverty.

1

### Refugees in Congo

(See "Crisis in Congo" panel)

*"Reach down from heaven and rescue me; rescue me from the power of my enemies."*

*(Psalm 144:7, NLT)*

- Lord, have mercy on the Congolese, whose lives and health have been threatened by fierce rebel conflict. Be close to them. Reach down Your hands to rescue and comfort them.



*Lord, how can I be Your hands in this situation?*

## 4

### Tsunami story wall

(See wall with children's drawings and stories.)

*"You have been a refuge for the poor . . . a shelter from the storm."* (Isaiah 25:4, NIV)

- Read the stories related to the children's drawings. Choose one, and pray for that child and his or her family. Ask God to be their refuge in the storm.



*What if my home and family were destroyed by a disaster? Where would I place my trust?*

## 7

### Refugees

(See "How We Help Refugees" panel on black wall.)

*"Let your compassion quickly meet our needs, for we are on the brink of despair. Help us, O God of our salvation!"* (Psalm 79:8, NLT)

- Refugees all over the world flee violence and oppression. They huddle in camps to find safety. In their hearts, they experience trauma and despair.



*Pray for Christ's love to be present in refugee camps through the compassion of His people, who provide medical care, comfort, and hope.*

## 5

### Uganda

(Stand in front of wall of people waiting for care.)

*"You, O Lord, are a tower of refuge to the needy in distress. You are a . . . shelter from the heat. For the oppressive acts of ruthless people are like a storm beating against a wall."*  
(Isaiah 25:4, NLT)

- Look into the eyes of one of the people standing in line for medical care. Imagine what his or her life is like in the camp.



*What words of comfort would I speak to this person? What would Jesus say to this person?*

## 8

### HIV and AIDS

(See story of woman inside hut.)

*"I'm wasting away to nothing.... I'm half-consumed already by terminal illness.... I'm nothing but skin and bones. Yet you, God, are sovereign still, always and ever sovereign."*  
(Psalm 102:3-13, MSG)

- The people of Isabella's church demonstrate Christ's love to her and others who are suffering from AIDS. They come to her home and reach out their hands to help her.



*Where is God calling me to reach out and demonstrate His love?*