

# Explore It

## FOR LEADERS



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### GLOBAL CHANGE

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 **Matthew 25:34-35; Leviticus 19:33-34**

Use this session to look specifically at a global issue of injustice. If children feel overwhelmed by the scale of such global issues, we can remember that helping just one person is valuable. Remember the Scripture from the first session when Jesus said, 'Whatever you do for the least important person, you are doing for me.'

This session explores the issue of refugees; however, you may wish to adapt the session to explore other global issues or local ones.

Each child will need:

→ Pens/pencils and paper

You will need:

→ To organise a time to share the song with the church – see Sing It section

→ Research how your church and local area are responding to the needs of refugees and how your group can get involved – see Action It section

## Start It

Play the *Beano* Superhero quiz together.

**Screenshare:** 'Know your Robin from your Wanda? Superhero Quiz'

<https://www.beano.com/posts/the-ultimate-superhero-quiz>

**Ask:** Why do you think people love Superheroes so much?

**Ask:** Not all superheroes wear capes. Can you think of any everyday superheroes at your church or in your community who stand up against injustice? Share their story with the rest of the group.

## Sing It

🗣️ **Say:** In these sessions we have listened to three songs based around Micah 6:8. For our last session we get to choose which song we will sing together.

Hold a vote and sing the group's favourite song together. Look for an opportunity for the group to share the song with the rest of your church, either in person or by filming it.

'Micah 6:8' by Wayner Finstad (2 mins 3 secs)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vdhHosAOma4>

'Micah 6:8' by Slugs and Bugs (3 mins 39 secs)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VH9VbRY\\_1n4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VH9VbRY_1n4)

'Micah 6:8 Veggie Tales' by New Life Church (2 mins 48 secs)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ayQUBo0FGTs>

# Tell It

🗨️ **Say:** There are lots of people in the world facing challenging situations. For different reasons they are forced to leave their homes and find another country to live, where they can feel safe. Sometimes they are welcomed and looked after, and at other times they are not treated fairly. People who flee their home to find safety in another country are called refugees. Jesus cares deeply about everyone and this includes people who come to our country to find safety.

**Screenshare:** Matthew 2:13-15 (ICB)

**'After they left, an angel of the Lord came to Joseph in a dream. The angel said, "Get up! Take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Herod will start looking for the child to kill him. Stay in Egypt until I tell you to return."**

**'So Joseph got up and left for Egypt during the night with the child and his mother. Joseph stayed in Egypt until Herod died. This was to make clear the full meaning of what the Lord had said through the prophet. The Lord said, "I called my son out of Egypt."**

**Ask:**

- ➔ Why did Mary and Joseph take Jesus to Egypt?
- ➔ Do you think that Jesus could be described as a refugee? Explain your answer.

## Video

**Screenshare:** *Jesus as a refugee*, Paula Gooder, by Bible Society (1 min 35 secs)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G-ecrwR4IRA>

**Ask:** How does knowing Jesus was a refugee change the way we see refugees in our community today?

🗨️ **Say:** In our first session we created a group picture showing all the different ways we can live like Jesus.

Read Matthew 25:34-45 (ICB)

**Then the King will say to the good people on his right, 'Come. My Father has given you his blessing. Come and receive the kingdom God has prepared for you since the world was made. I was hungry, and you gave me food. I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink. I was alone and away from home, and you invited me into your house. I was without clothes, and you gave me something to wear. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me.'**

**Then the good people will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and give you food? When did we see you thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you alone and away from home and invite you into our house? When did we see you without clothes and give you something to wear? When did we see you sick or in prison and care for you?'**

**Then the King will answer, 'I tell you the truth. Anything you did for any of my people here, you also did for me.'**

**Then the King will say to those on his left, 'Go away from me. God has said that you will be punished. Go into the fire that burns forever. That fire was prepared for the devil and his helpers. I was hungry, and you gave me nothing to eat. I was thirsty, and you gave me nothing to drink. I was alone and away from home, and you did not invite me into your house. I was without clothes, and you gave me nothing to wear. I was sick and in prison, and you did not care for me.'**

**Then those people will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty? When did we see you alone and away from home? Or when did we see you without clothes or sick or in prison? When did we see these things and not help you?'**

**Then the King will answer, 'I tell you the truth. Anything you refused to do for any of my people here, you refused to do for me.'**

— (Matthew 25:34-35 ICB)

🗨️ **Say:** When we stand up against injustice and make sure everyone is treated fairly, then it is like we are doing it for Jesus.

**Ask:** After reading the words of Jesus, how do you think he would like us to treat refugees that come to our country?

## Action It

Provide the children with an opportunity to respond to everything they have discovered about the 'Seeking justice and reconciliation' mission priority. The aim is for the children to get involved with an event, project or fundraiser to support those facing injustice. Your corps/ church may already be involved in projects or have links with local community groups and, if this is the case, the children could get involved.

Alternatively, you could use some of the resources below to discuss ways that the children could support child refugees in their school or local area. This activity has been left purposefully open-ended so that the ideas can come from the children or link directly into your local context.

### Additional resources

Salvation Army Ukraine crisis

<https://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/ukraine-crisis-appeal>

How we are helping in Ukraine

<https://www.salvationist.org.uk/resources/how-we-are-helping-ukraine>

Newsround - Information about the Ukraine war and refugees

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround#more-stories-2>

*The Salvation Army prepares to welcome refugee family* by The Salvation Army UK and Ireland Territory

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_PfvWwH3VS4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_PfvWwH3VS4)

*Kids, refugees, questions: What is it like to have no home?* by The Guardian

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ctCaKH-2Wm8&t=96s>

## Pray It

🗨️ **Say:** Today we have heard some stories about people facing challenging situations. It's understandable that some of these stories may have made you feel worried or sad. Remember that there is often something we can do to help and make things better for people facing injustice.

🗨️ **Say:** We need the courage of Esther, to stand up, speak out and be brave at the right moment. We can also follow the words of the prophet Micah reminding us to do what is right to other people, love being kind to others, and live humbly.

🗨️ **Say:** Remember that God has every single one of us safely in his hands.

### Video

Bring the session to a close singing the song 'He's got the whole world in his hands' and then pray with the group.

**Screenshare:** 'He's got the whole world in his hands' by CJ and Friends (1 min 54 secs)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=srRB1ss\\_SVc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=srRB1ss_SVc)

## Explore It

Remember to send home the Explore It (For Me) and Explore It (Together) ideas for children and families.