

Activities for children and young people



God is faithful in times of suffering (Isaiah 40:1-11)

It has been a hard year for many of us. Perhaps you have suffered this year through disruption to your education, not being able to meet up with friends, illness, or even losing loved ones. Around the world children and young people have suffered much, especially Christians in lands where they face persecution. On top of being often hungry, thirsty and sick, they are persecuted just for being Christians. Isaiah, speaking as God’s mouthpiece, knew we all need comfort in hard times (v.2). But there are great promises that can help us pray for and support young people. God is in control and will eventually sort things out and no mountain is too high for Him (v.4). His word lasts forever and can be a source of comfort in troubled times (v. 8). And He always carries them close to His heart as a good shepherd (v.11).



Raise awareness through social media... and food.gives

Sharing our Facebook page with your family and friends on social media is a brilliant way to help suffering Christians. And ask them to do the same. Our Facebook page is www.facebook.com/BarnabasFund. On Facebook, you will find the SCAAW post pinned to the top of our page. Please like our page and share the SCAAW post with your friends and family – ask them to do the same.

This year, a great practical step you can take is to be involved with food.gives. See page 8. You, your family or youth group can make a huge difference in sending food to poor Christians in different parts of the world.



Prayer challenge – what happened next?

Many young people in the Bible stood up for God’s truth when the going got rough and saw Him rule “with a mighty arm” (v.10) but also with gentleness (v.11). Read on from the verses in brackets below to see how God used these four young people. Then turn your thoughts into prayer: ask Him how you can respond in situations you face today and in helping the suffering Church worldwide.

Gideon felt powerless when faced with brutal invaders but... (Judges 6:12)

Ruth lost her husband when very young but ... (Ruth 1:16)

David was despised as the youngest and weakest but... (1 Samuel 17:26)

Esther faced death in confronting a cruel king but... (Esther 4:12)

You can use the *Barnabas Prayer Diary* – enclosed in this magazine and available online www.barnabasfund.org/prayer-diary – to guide you or your youth group as you pray.



Find the country

Can you find the names of four countries below where Barnabas Fund helps Christians who are suffering? The first letter of the answer is also a letter of the country. (For example, for Country 1, the second letter is **L** from the answer to the second clue, **Love**. For Country 3, the seventh letter is **I** from the answer to the seventh clue, **Isaiah**).

1		L						
2								
3						I		
4								

What Jesus was under after Judas betrayed him.

It is even greater than faith and hope. **Love**

All people are like this, says Isaiah.

1 She is an Old Testament book and a queen.

Paul wrote a famous letter to them.

Barnabas supports Christians in this land of many islands.

They went about proclaiming the Word of God.

What some Christians suffer for their faith.

A Christian is meant to be an ... for Christ.

Pick one of two countries in Central Asia!

2 A short name of an Asian country.

He suffered for his faith. The very first martyr.

The ... of Babel. Many languages spoken here.

The continent where the church started.

A very mountainous country next to India.

He led God’s people out of Egypt.

A number: ... faith, ... Lord, ... baptism.

Either of two prophets at the end of the Old Testament!

The world’s first Christian nation.

3 She was the mother of Jesus.

He was nicknamed “son of encouragement”.

Speaking through **Isaiah** God said, “Comfort my people.”

Birds sent to feed God’s people in Exodus.

An ... church has to meet in secret.

He had to face 450 prophets of Baal.

He built a very big boat.

God is a God of ..., not confusion.

The last book of the Bible.

Paul wrote to him a couple of times.

4 God carries his lambs close to his ...

May Your ... come, Your will be done.

A very short book of the Old Testament.

The ... shall live by faith.

A country in east Africa. Choose one of two!

He survived the furnace. Either name will do!