



2020

# FAMILIES FOR FAMILIES

...

QUARTER THREE



[WWW.CAREFORAIDS.ORG](http://WWW.CAREFORAIDS.ORG)

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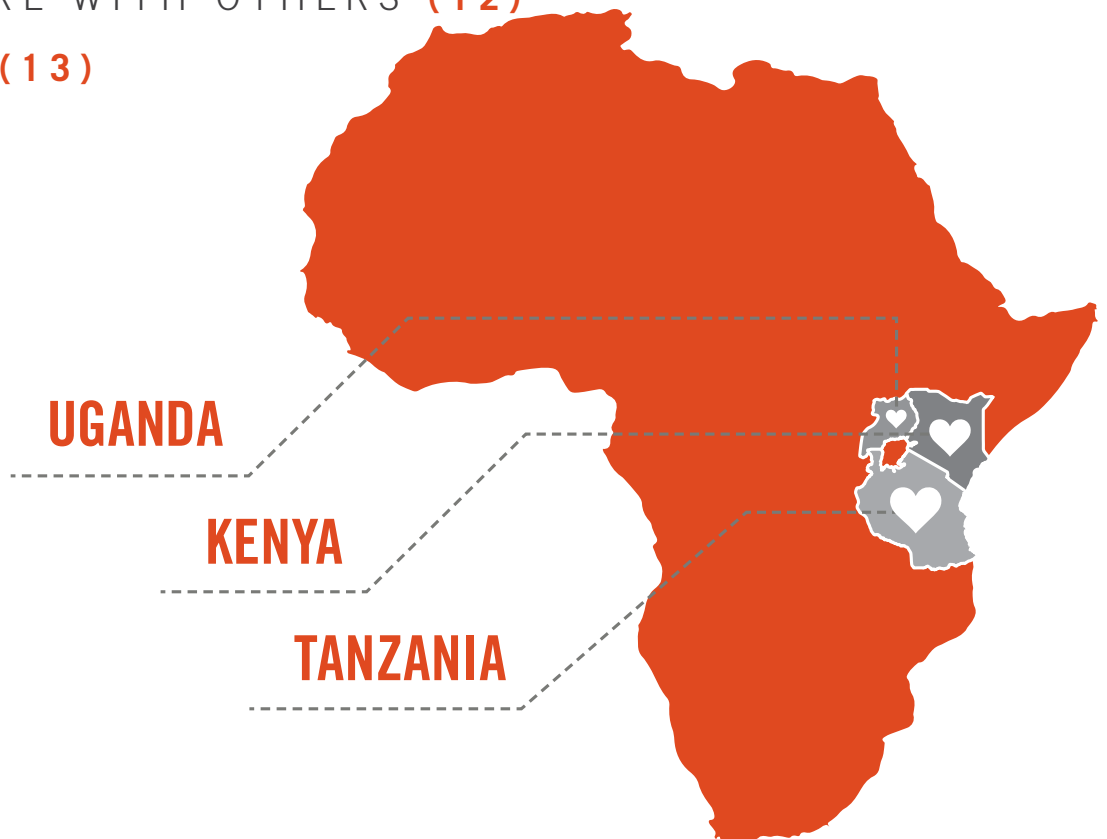
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# WELCOME!



We are so glad you have joined us! We are a group of parents who desire to live out our faith and to love Jesus and others while teaching our children to do the same. We have created this toolbox to come alongside you and make serving other families easy for you! Each quarter, we have a virtue and memory verse we focus on, an East African family we get to know better, and a service-related project to raise awareness for CARE for AIDS and support families living with HIV/AIDS. Most of all, we want to make

it easy for you to create conversations around service, generosity, compassion, caring for others, and this exciting journey of faith! Each quarter, a new Families for Families newsletter will be released on the CARE for AIDS website with suggested activities, conversation starters, discussion questions, and more! We look forward to embarking on this journey with you and your family!



# WHAT IS CARE FOR AIDS?



For those of you who are new to Families for Families, watch this video to learn more about CARE for AIDS.

[CLICK HERE TO PLAY VIDEO](#)

**MISSION & VISION**



Want to watch a great video of a family who has been through the program? Check this one out as a family!



[CLICK HERE TO PLAY VIDEO](#)

**THE KARANJA FAMILY**



# HOW TO TALK TO YOUR KIDS ABOUT HIV/AIDS



## PRESCHOOL SUGGESTION

People with AIDS are sick, sometimes very sick, and we want to help them feel better!

## ELEMENTARY SUGGESTION

HIV/AIDS is a disease that makes your body too weak to fight off other diseases. Think of it like a cold. If you get a cold, your body is weak and tired and cannot protect itself against other infections. However, with HIV/AIDS, you can't catch it through the air like a cold, only through infected blood. So you can't get HIV/AIDS by high-fiving, hugging, or even sharing a drink or snack with someone who has the disease. If people with HIV/AIDS take their medicine every day, they can feel healthy and strong just like you and me. If they don't take their medicine daily, they get weaker and weaker until they can't fight off germs anymore.



VIRTUE OF THE QUARTER

# ENCOURAGEMENT

## DEFINITION

TO REMIND PEOPLE OF THEIR VALUE IN  
GOD. TO GIVE THEM HELP, HOPE, AND COURAGE.

## VERSE OF THE QUARTER

“But encourage one another daily, as long as it  
is called “Today,” so that none of you may be  
hardened by sin’s deceitfulness.”

**HEBREWS 3:13**

## DEVOTION

**The Lord's hand was with them**, and a great number of people believed and turned to the Lord. News of this reached the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. When he arrived and saw what the grace of God had done, he was glad and encouraged them all to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts. He was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith, and a great number of people were brought to the Lord. Then Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul, and when he found him, he brought him to Antioch. So, for a whole year Barnabas and Saul met with the church and taught great numbers of people. The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch. - **Acts 11:21-26**

Did you notice how the word of God spread in the early days after Jesus' death and resurrection? Encouragement! We can encourage one another to follow Christ and love Him. Barnabas was listening constantly to the Holy Spirit and passing God's message of encouragement and grace to everyone he encountered. That is our job, our role, in God's big story. We are called "ambassadors" -- a big word for representatives or workers who are supposed to show people what God is like. Encouragement can come in so many different forms. What kind of things can you do to encourage others? A smile, a compliment, a helping hand, reminding someone of the hope they have in God through a Bible verse or telling them something you've learned about God. The options to encourage are endless. Just go spill God's kindness on everyone you come in contact with!

There is a parable about forgiveness in Matthew 18:21-35 where one man is forgiven a HUGE debt, millions of dollars he could never pay back, yet he won't forgive someone who has a tiny debt against him. Think about this parable with kindness in place of forgiveness. Hasn't God showered on us millions of acts of kindness? Salvation, safety, provision, love, purpose, value, Jesus, God's closeness -- these are all from the kindness of God. Sometimes we won't give someone else a kind word or helping hand. We are like that servant who has forgotten how much love he had been shown. Let's be God's ambassadors, his encouragers of all his people. Like our verse says, let's encourage one another as long as it is called today, which is EVERY day! Look at the reason God says to encourage: to protect our hearts from hardening from sin. Our hearts flourish and come alive when we encourage one another.



# DINNER DISCUSSIONS



1. How do you like to be encouraged most? Do words, actions, a hug, or a helping hand feel best to you?
2. When was the last time you went out of your way to encourage someone else? How did your heart feel after that?
3. Who is someone in your life who is a great example of encouragement? What do you notice about this person?
4. Have you ever been afraid or sad and someone encouraged you? Don't you want to do that for others?
5. When is it hard to encourage? Why do you think we resist encouraging others? Who do you find it is hard for you to encourage and why?



# MEET GIDEON



Gideon is a spiritual counselor in the Mtongwe center in Mombasa, Kenya. In this city, many people do not believe in Jesus. Gideon's job is to simply be an encourager. He points people to God, prays for their suffering, tells them how much God loves them, and sits with them when they are sad. He is ALWAYS telling people about Jesus. He is so brave. The people you think would NEVER love Jesus are the people Gideon loves to tell about his amazing God. One day a lady lost her son and was sadder than anyone could ever be. She thought he was gone forever. She came to Gideon and told him about her problem and how sad she was. Gideon responded, "Well then, I will ask God for you and he will help." He prayed for her right there and boldly asked God to find her son. He trusted God for her, because she didn't believe there was a God who could help. That night Gideon got a message from the woman: a picture of her son and herself. She had found him! God had found him! The next time they were together, this woman accepted

Jesus into her heart. A few days later, this woman told several of her friends about the God Gideon had introduced her to, and these women also believed in Jesus for the first time! This is how encouragement works: it spreads, it is contagious, it inspires hope and salvation. Let's be bold encouragers like Gideon! Take some time today and pray for Gideon and the people he ministers to.

## FAMILY ACTIVITIES

### **DINNER TIME COMPLIMENT CIRCLE**

When your family is sitting together at the table, have each person say something encouraging about the person on their left. Now reverse it and say something different about the person on your right and complete the circle!

### **SURPRISE SPIES!**

Parents, this one's for you. Be a spy and catch your child encouraging someone or lending a helping hand. Grab them up and give them a big hug as you see them encouraging without being asked. Plaster sticky notes all over your child's mirror or headboard about special things you see in them. Encourage siblings to sticky note their sibling's rooms or doors with the ways they love and enjoy their sibling. Parents, you can even tuck a dollar bill in random places (in the dishwasher, under a pile of clothes on the stairs, underneath the trash bag in the kitchen) to be found when someone does a chore without being asked. Surprise your kids with encouragement in any creative way you can think!



# LOVE & SERVE DAY ACTIVITIES



## **SUMMER TO SERVE**

Families for Families, with the help of author Courtney Defeo, has come up with a Summer to Serve booklet. It is chock full of ideas on how to encourage and serve our neighbors. Our world could use a lot of encouragement right now! Download your booklet [here](#).

Tag us at @familiesforfamilies in ways you use it and other ideas you have of encouraging others!

## **ENCOURAGE A CARE FOR AIDS CLIENT**

You can write a note to a CARE for AIDS client or staff member! Draw them a picture, share your favorite verse with them, tell them you're grateful about the hard work they are doing. We will deliver it to someone in East Africa! You can mail these encouragement cards to:

CARE for AIDS  
977 Grant Cove Place  
Atlanta, GA 30315

## **DONATE TO CARE FOR AIDS**

Nothing is more encouraging than being given a chance to live, to grow, to get

to know God, and to be healthy enough to see your children grow up. You can be a part of this by donating at [www.careforaids.org/donate](http://www.careforaids.org/donate) or mailing it to the address above.





# HOW TO SHARE WITH OTHERS



As the author, Chris Marlow, said, “Doing good is simple.” So let’s gather our friends and family to do lots of good! Use this newsletter as an opportunity to rally your community, your small group, your

moms’ group, and your neighbors! Use the hashtag **#FAMILIESFORFAMILIES** on all your social media outlets so we can see the ways God is using families and small groups to impact families in East Africa!

# PRINTABLES

## THEME

**ENCOURAGEMENT:** to remind people of their value in God; to give them help, hope and courage.

## VERSE

*But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called “Today”, so that none of you may be hardened by sin’s deceitfulness.”*

**HEBREWS 3:13**

## PRAY FOR MTONGWE!

Pray for the clients of the Mtongwe center and Gideon and Elina who work with them.



Carpool Conversations:

- When was the last time you went out of your way to encourage someone else? How did your heart feel after that?
- Who is someone in your life who is a great example of encouragement? What do you notice about this person?
- Have you ever been afraid or sad and someone encouraged you?
- When is it hard to encourage? Who do you find it is hard for you to encourage and why?