

Compassion



EVERETT F. SWANSON, founder
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*"... I have compassion on the multitude ... I will not send them away."
Matthew 15:32*

EXPANDING MINISTRY OF COMPASSION

COMPASSION's ministry has been singularly blessed of God from its small beginning in 1952 when by faith Reverend Everett Swanson built the first orphanage in Korea to the present time with a world-wide ministry which supports approximately 24,000 children in 180 homes. Many of you have been with us from the early part of this great ministry and have shared in the thrill of its growth and outreach and have stood with us in prayerful support throughout the years. We thank God for each one of you! We are challenged daily with the magnitude of this ministry and the responsibility that is ours in addition to planning further expansion to other needy parts of the world.

Our work is continuing in South Korea, although it has been evident for some years now that Korea's economy has made great strides, due to the large input of American money and U.S. rehabilitation programs and also the Koreans' own desire to improve economically. We are happy that we have a real share in this improvement. We do have 22,000 children who need our care, but as they grow up and leave the homes, ready to support themselves, they will not be so rapidly replaced with newly-abandoned children. With economic stability, the abandonment problem has been greatly reduced. A recent famine in Chulla Namdo, which is in Southeast Korea, has caused some increase in abandonment in that area but this is no doubt a temporary situation. Another good factor in the lessening of orphan care in Korea is that many of the families are now willing to adopt orphans, which is something entirely new in Korean culture. We are



COMPASSION's South Asia Director, Ed Kimball, in his office in Singapore.

Successful Tour — Children Return to Korea

delighted that many of our smaller children are being adopted into Korean Christian homes. For the most part, it is the new children who have recently been taken in by our superintendents and not yet sponsored who are turned over to adoption agencies. Sometimes it happens, however, that a sponsored child is adopted. We sincerely appreciate the willingness of our sponsors to accept another child as substitute for the one who was adopted. There are so many others who need our love, so when we learn that one of our children can enjoy a normal home life, it just means that one more unsponsored child can be made to feel happy and secure in the knowledge that someone in America cares about him or her. Our work with the handicapped children, the blind, the deaf, and the children of lepers will no doubt always be a continuing and important one.

Early in 1968 COMPASSION's Board of Directors appointed Ed Kimball (picture on first page), formerly Field Director in South Korea, to go to Southeast Asia for the development of child welfare programs in Indonesia, India, Singapore, Malaysia, and other parts of South Asia. Ed undertook this monumental task, and COMPASSION is now supporting over 2,000 children in Indonesia, more than 300 in India, and one orphanage in Singapore.

Our ministry in Indonesia is quite different. Indonesia has a population of approximately 107,000,000, including West Irian. Statistics of 1966 indicate the religion of these people as 85% Islam, 6% Hinduism, and 4% Christianity. A great wave of revival has been sweeping Indonesia very recently, so the percentage in Christianity has surely risen since then. Since the Indonesian culture by and large stems out of its ancient Polynesian roots, orphanages are not favored by the Indonesian government, and family units are held together regardless of the circumstances. When we made our first survey of Indonesia, we found that the great need was among the widows of the country who had no visible means of support for their many children. We felt that here was an opportunity to try what sociologists have known for a long time, that the family unit if kept intact produces far greater results than institutions, no matter how well run.

COMPASSION has worked so far through churches of Indonesia. We have stepped in and assisted many widows by sponsoring their children, thus enabling them to go to school, have clothes to wear, and food on the table. This has made all the difference in the world to these families in the past year. Most of the widows whose children are sponsored in our program have large families, averaging eight or more children. COMPASSION has made it a policy to sponsor not more than four in any large family, because this support to a widow will provide the necessities of life and education for all the children. It is not our purpose to make these widows wealthy, but just to take care of their very real needs.

Since COMPASSION's concern is not only with the physical care of the children, but also of even more importance — the spiritual training, you may wonder how this can be done in a home situation. It is required that each mother (or foster parent in some cases) is a true Christian and sees that her children are brought regularly to all the services of the church. The support is sent to her through the local pastor, who makes sure that these guidelines are followed.

Please continue to pray for the ministry of COMPASSION and for God's wisdom in our expansion program as we consider the needs of destitute children throughout the world. Reverend Harvey is now traveling in Asia and looking into these needy areas. Please remember him in your prayers. We are indeed grateful for your continued prayer support. Be assured that we shall keep you informed as changes are made in our work. May God bless you for your Compassion!



Happiness to Billy is climbing on back of settee in Hospital, where he went for test.

They were brave little people, and although they made faces like other children do, they downed the bitter medicine and accepted whatever was given to them without any real serious questions. As you can see, Billy enjoyed himself inbetween shots by climbing on the furniture. A photographer at Mount Sinai Hospital (Chicago) took these pictures, and this shows how much like ordinary children they are.

They were wonderful troopers during the time they traveled some 20,000 miles up and down the United States from one coast to the other, rarely complained, and were kind and happy and loving all the way. They begged and pleaded for Mrs. Swanson to return to Korea with them, and even tried to bribe Mr. Harvey to send her over as the Korean Field Director so that they could have their "Mommie" with them from now on. It somewhat modified their negative feelings when they were told that Mrs. Swanson was going to spend a week in Korea along with the COMPASSION Orient Tour group in July, and so they are anticipating an early reunion.

We ask all of you to pray for these five children — Lisa, Billy, Debbie, Nancy, and Johnny. They have been exposed to our affluence and wealth and have seen how American children live and what privileges they have. It will take God's grace to keep them sweet and happy in a culture where they will not get nearly as much as their counterparts in the United States. We do hope and pray that each of them will grow up to become servants of the Lord in their own country.

Mrs. Swanson is grateful to all the sponsors who promoted the tour group meetings. We are also thankful for our new sponsors who signed up at the tour meetings (more than 400), and we welcome you into the COMPASSION circle.



Four of the five children drank down bitter medicine in hospital.



A DAY IN THE LIFE OF BUNGA SIDINDJAK

A COMPASSION-sponsored girl now attending Bible School in Sumatra

Bunga lives in North Sumatra in the town of Djintamane and is now attending Bible School in Pem Siantar. Bunga has a mother, but her father is dead. She also has four brothers, one of whom is also COMPASSION-sponsored.

Bunga completed elementary school (through 6th grade), and when her father died she could not continue her schooling due to lack of money. A couple of years ago she accepted Christ as her Savior and dedicated her life to the Lord. Because they were poor, she could not attend the Bible School and she wondered what the Lord wanted her to do with her life. Early in 1968 COMPASSION came to Sumatra and told her that sponsors in America loved her and wanted to help her. For many months now she has been receiving support from a sponsor. She decided to apply for admission to the Bible School in Pemantang Siantar and started school on March 12, 1969. She can hardly believe how good the Lord has been to her. She enjoys school very much, is a good student, and is very well liked by the students and teachers. She is presently studying the books of Genesis, John, and Acts, and at the end of two years will have studied in depth every book of the Bible. Her studies will also include Sunday School, Visitation, English Language (she speaks both Indonesian and Batak languages fluently), First Aid, Sanitation, Cooking, and other courses which will be helpful to her and others in the future.

Even though they won't admit it, Bunga and all the other girls at the Bible School are actually studying to become pastors' wives. As time goes by, most of them will marry either the men they went to school with or those who have completed school and are still single. In this area of Sumatra it is frowned upon for a pastor to marry a girl without Bible School training.

(Above): Reverend Sianturi, Director of the Bible School, Bunga in the center, and Mr. Edward Kimball, COMPASSION Director for South Asia, stand in front of the sign of the Bible School in Pem Siantar. (Below): Bunga's class. In the front row is the teaching staff, second row are the girls of the school, and the last row, the boys.



(Above): Bunga walking from one class to another.

(Below): Bible School Chapel.



Classroom buildings at the Bible School



(Left): The training is rough and exacting. Private worship starts at 5:00 A.M. Here Bunga is at prayer at 5:00 A.M.



(Above): Reverend Sianturi and Reverend Pangabeian, both teachers in the School, at one of the Bible Classes. Bunga is standing at left. (Below): Girl students eating supper.



(Above): Reverend Sianturi, Director of the School, helping Bunga with her classwork at the blackboard. (Below): The housemother, also a Sunday School teacher, assists the girls in learning how to handle flannelgraph work for Sunday School. COMPASSION furnishes this school with many of its flannelgraphs.

Every student has a share of work in the school's meal program. Bunga is helping to wash the dishes.



Bunga in her "bedroom". The beds are hard wood with only a small mat on the wood.



WARM AID RELIEF MONEY

SPECIAL CLOTHING APPEAL PROGRAM

According to the nursery rhyme, the woman who lived in the shoe had so many children she didn't know what to do. Although we have a lot of children to care for, we know just what to do — appeal for help to our good friends and sponsors!

Yes, it's time to make our annual clothing appeal for the children. Every year our friends have responded generously and provided the necessary monies to buy clothes for all the children. The "nose count" indicates 24,000 children in South Korea, India, Indonesia, Haiti, and Singapore will require new clothing. Some clothing will need to be warm for a cold winter, like in Korea, whereas others will be for warmer climates and will be provided in time for Christmas.

We deeply appreciate whatever you are able to give for the WARM Program (Winter Aid Relief Money). This year the Clothing allowance per child will be \$8.00 (an increase of \$2.00 over last year).

To give tangible evidence of appreciation to our friends who generously contribute for two complete clothing outfits (for your child and another one), the children and the Board of Directors of COMPASSION would like to send a memento made by the Children at the Young Chin Vocational Training School in Seoul — a 1970 Silk Calendar.

I was a stranger, and ye took me in; naked, and ye clothed me . . . Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these My brethren, ye have done it unto Me. — St. Matthew 25: 35-36,40.

To: COMPASSION, Inc., 7774 W. Irving Park Road, Chicago, Illinois 60634

Enclosed is my check for WARM (Winter Aid Relief Money) —

Amount: \$8.00 \$16.00 \$ _____

If providing 2 complete outfits:

Send me the appreciation gift of a 1970 Silk Calendar

Name _____
(Mr., Mrs., Mr. and Mrs., Miss)

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code No. _____

COMPASSION File Number (from previous receipts) _____

Letter From A Compassionate Family

Our family wishes to express our appreciation for your kindness in notifying us that our foster daughter has been adopted by a Korean Christian family. Choi Jom Soon (#371, #43 Peaceful Orphanage) warmed our hearts with her precious letters, and we thank God for the privilege of being her people even for a little while.

You sent us the sponsorship papers for #134 An Hue Ja, #45 New Friend Garden. After approximately a ten-second family council, we voted An Hue Ja a member of our family! We enclose a check for her care.

Our thanks to you and your wonderful staff for your compassionate concern of these dear children.

The V.B.S. Family

New Film —

"MAN OF COMPASSION"

The story of COMPASSION can now be seen in a new 16 mm. color film, and is available on a rental basis. We hope our friends and sponsors will arrange to have the film shown to their congregation or organization.

The film is entitled "MAN OF COMPASSION" and relates the life of Everett R. Swanson and how he began a ministry in South Korea to aid homeless and destitute children. The need to continue this work through hearts of Compassion is also presented.

The rental is \$15.00, and the running time of the film is 28 minutes.

Have you also seen the film "THE RUNAWAY"? Although this was filmed several years ago, it is still pertinent, depicting life in an orphanage and the escape of a restless boy who unknowingly almost crosses the demilitarized zone. This film is particularly good for children's groups.

For your convenience, USE THE BLANK BELOW to schedule either of these films.



Please schedule the film "MAN OF COMPASSION"
 "RUNAWAY"

for a showing on (date) _____

Send film to: Name _____

Name of Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code No. _____

- Rental fee of \$15.00 is enclosed
- Will send check for rental upon receipt of film
- I will explain the sponsorship program to interested persons.
Please send me _____ copies of literature to hand out.

Send to: COMPASSION, Inc., 7774 W. Irving Park Rd., Chicago, Ill. 60634



COMPASSION's Champion Knitter Needs Yarn

Mrs. Spence of New York is a very dear person to many COMPASSION children. She knits bright, colorful mittens and makes playing in the snow a lot of fun for the children. They take real good care of these mittens until they wear out.

Mrs. Spence wrote to us recently that she is about ready to ship 450 pairs of mittens to Korea, and this will make a total of 3,100 pairs that she has personally knit since 1964 for the Korean orphans. She states, however, that she is worried because she has no more yarn! From previous notices in this magazine, she has received yarn from sponsors for the knitting project. Do you have surplus yarn? If you would like to help Mrs. Spence with this knitting project by providing yarn, please send it to her at the following address: Mrs. William F. Spence, 5 Seneca Park Circle, Rochester, New York 14615.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT - GIFT PACKAGES

Since customs charges are now being placed on almost all packages sent to Korea, we want to alert you that your parcel may be unclaimed and returned because of prohibitive charges. We will pay up to \$3.00 customs charges, but we want to remind you that this is 1/4 of the monthly support of your child. We therefore encourage you to do what most sponsors are doing—send money gifts through our Chicago Office, which are forwarded 100% as designated. If you have misplaced the booklet on money gifts, write us for a copy. **NO PACKAGES CAN BE MAILED TO INDIA, INDONESIA, OR HAITI.**