

# Compassion

September-October, 1973



## "I'll be back someday"

*Many of our sponsors have difficulty understanding how or why a mother could abandon her child, or how after abandonment and years of neglect a mother or other relative may appear to claim a child, or why a children's home must be closed. Mary Erickson, wife of our former Field Director of Korea, wrote this fiction story which is typical of the events that occur in an abandonment and home closing.*

The water ran in gullies down the red clay mountainside and rain pounded noisily on the tin roofs of the tiny "patchwork" shacks. Mrs. Pak was just snuffing out the wick of her feeble farmer's light when she heard someone call.

"Mrs. Pak. Mrs. Pak! Have you heard? The government is going to tear down our homes."

"They have said that before," she answered.

"But this time they will. They say our shacks are a disgrace to modern Seoul."

"What will we do?"

"The ministry said we must move into those tall apartment houses on the other mountain. They were especially built for shack-dwellers."

"But we can't afford to live in those apartments. The key money (heavy down payment) is too much for any of us poor folk to pay. Tomorrow we will talk about it. Goodnight."

At sunrise she was awakened by raucous voices and sounds of destruction. She rushed outside to see hundreds of uniformed men all over the mountainside. Under their swinging picks and clubs the homes quickly became heaps of rubble. This time the government had kept their word.

"Everybody gone by sunset," a policeman yelled as he passed.

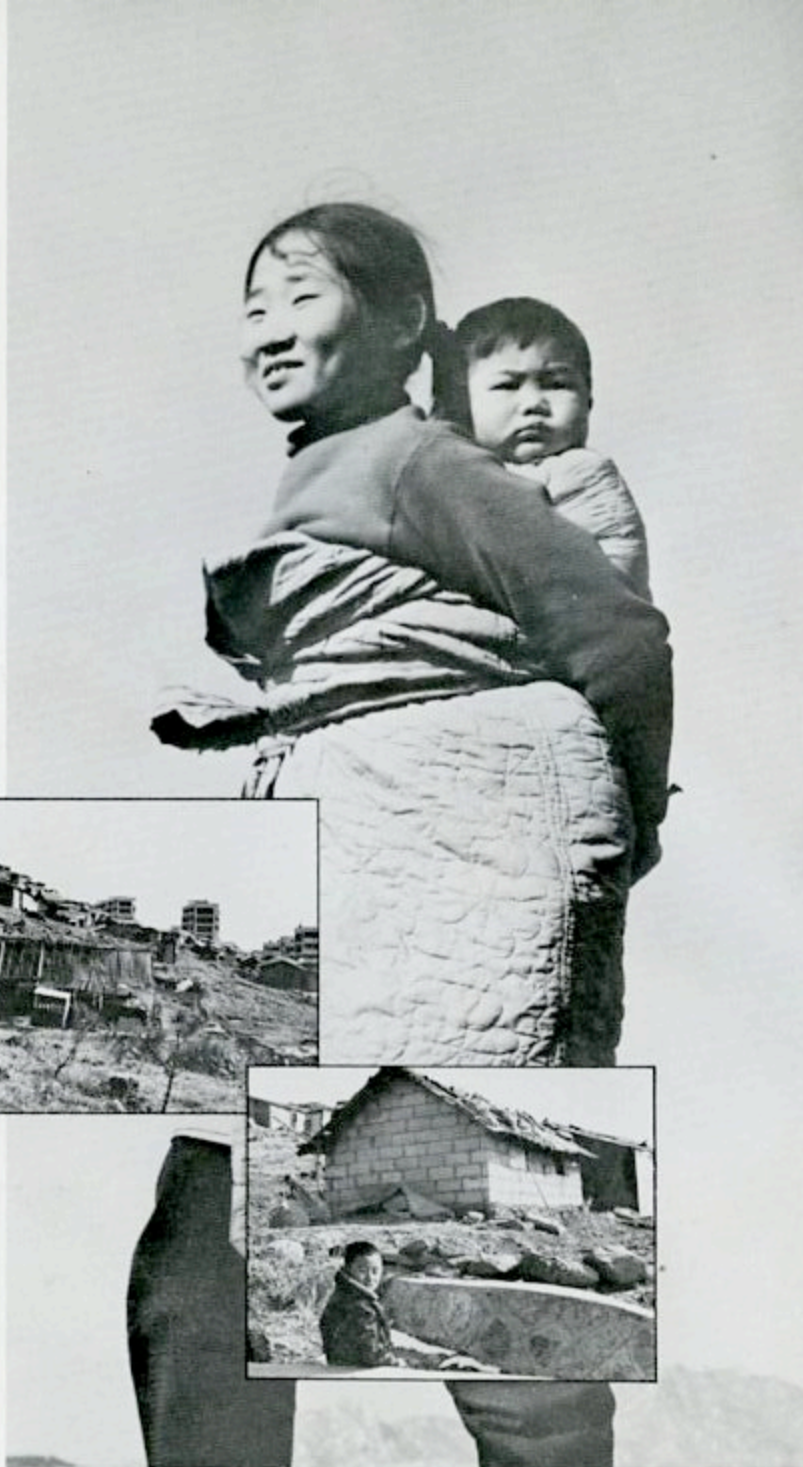
When the wreckers left, the moun-

tainside looked like a bombed village; its occupants like refugees. Women sorted through rubbish for their few household possessions. Men and boys stacked scraps of wood and cement blocks on rickety carts. They'd haul them away to another barren mountain, build another temporary shack, and live there until the government visited again.

Pak Soo Chung had no husband, no older children, no hope of building another home. Her husband had built this home two years ago, just before he died of T.B.

She now built a little fire and made a thin barley soup for her two small children. She cooked some millet and wrapped it in a scarf with her quilt and other possessions. After tying two-year-old Jung Ok on her back and balancing her motley bundle on her head, she took Hyung Tae by the hand and trudged down the mountainside.

They wandered for hours. When dusk came they stopped in the shelter of a bridge and ate the millet. Mother wrapped the children in their yo (sleeping quilt) and sang them to sleep. While the children slept Soo Chung made her decision. The children would be better cared for in a children's institution. There they would at least have a roof over their heads, three bowls of rice a day and a warm "ondol" floor to sleep on.



Jung Ok and Hyung Tae quickly made friends at Love and Peace Children's Home.



Hyung Tae would soon be old enough to attend school; they would send him. Yes, that would be better than begging and sleeping in a cold tent. And someday, when I have earned enough money I will take them to a new home.

She kissed them lightly and whispered, "I'll be back someday." Then, tucking the yo tightly around the two small children, she slipped off into the darkness.

"Well, here are two more little urchins. I found them wandering about near the Second Hahn River Bridge." The policeman set Jung Ok on the table. "Fill in the necessary papers and I'll take them over to the institution. This is Jung Ok and her brother Hyung Tae. He doesn't know his last name. Make it Lee. Hyung Tae and Jung Ok Lee. That's a popular Korean name. Father dead; mother abandoned children.

Even though the Love and Peace Children's Home was already crowded, Superintendent Kim always welcomed newcomers. The tears were

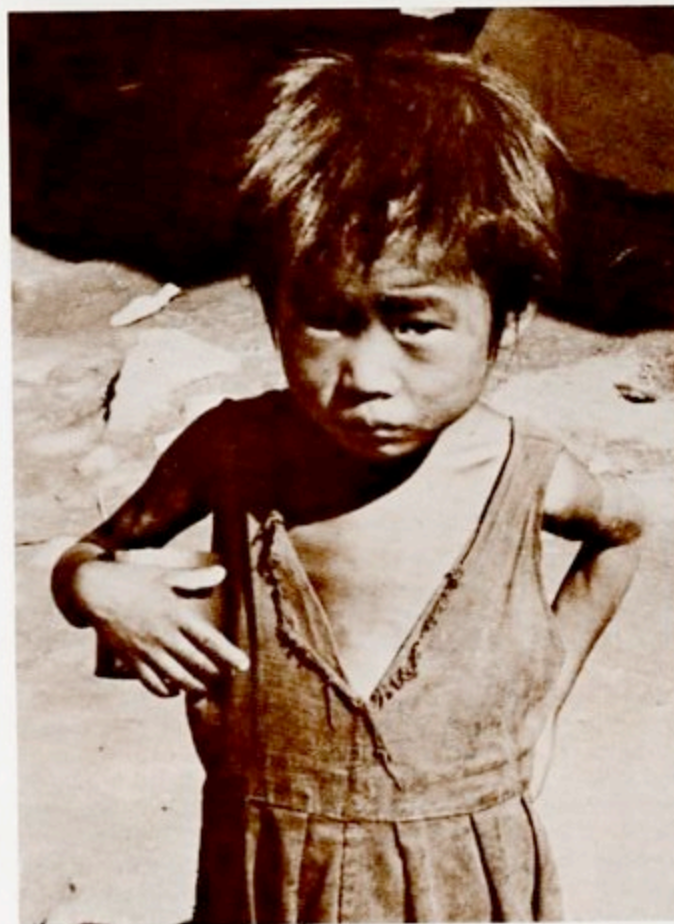
washed away and the tummies were filled with hot soup and rice.

After a few months Jung Ok forgot about the night under the bridge, but Hyung Tae still wondered what had happened to his mother. The lump of loneliness in his heart began to melt as he made friends among the 110 children with whom he lived and played.

One day he received a letter and a picture from Mr. and Mrs. John White, U.S.A., who said they would be his new mommy and daddy. It was good to belong to someone again.

Hyung Tae studied hard in school and excelled in sports. His American parents were proud of him. They prayed daily for him, sent birthday and Christmas gifts, and even helped with his education when he enrolled in Middle School.

After breakfast one morning, the superintendent called the staff together. "I have some sad news to pass on to you," he said. "As a part of the Korean government's five year improvement plan, the Ministry of Health and Social



Children like this "street urchin" are among hundreds of homeless and abandoned children who are brought to Compassion's homes each year.

Welfare is merging some of the orphanages in Korea. Our home is being closed."

"What will happen to the children?" asked one of the mothering ladies.

"As the legal guardian of the children, I am responsible for finding a place for each of them to live. Soon news will be out about our home-closing. There may be neighbors or friends of the children who will come

and invite some to live with them. Perhaps even aunts, uncles or grandparents will suddenly appear to claim the children when they hear the children will be transferred. In fact, Mrs. Kim and I have grown fond of Che Yung Ju who plays so much with our own boy. We will keep Yung Ju in our home. We would like to place all of the children in private homes if we could. However, I know this is impossible, but we will try. Those who are not

invited into a home will be transferred to another institution."

"Will they be transferred to another Compassion Home?" asked another pomo.

"I wish I could send them to another Compassion-affiliated home, but since there is none in this area, they will be transferred to another institution and Compassion support will be discontinued. You may go and tell the children before they hear it in the streets."

The news was upsetting to the children. Making new friends, changing schools, living with another pomo and superintendent. It was a frightening situation. To Huang Tae it was like another bombshell, exploding his second home. He couldn't sleep that night. He heard small children sobbing. A couple of older boys gathered their clothes and disappeared in the night. Hyung Tae sat up in bed. I could run away too, he thought, but what will my sister do? I can't leave her alone. He lay back down and soon went to sleep.

Each day for the next several weeks, the number of children in the home lessened. A few of the older teenagers who had found good jobs in the area did not want to give them up. They were old enough to be on their own and decided to start a new independent life. Some boys and girls were claimed by relatives who were per-

haps previously too burdened to accept the responsibility of another mouth to feed. Several youth who had developed deep friendships in the local community were invited to stay in the home of school chums. Some youth as apprentices were invited to live in the home of their instructors. However, most of the children were listed on the transfer form and would move across the city.

News of the home-closing had spread across the community like any rare tidbit of gossip. Many neighbors sighed with relief when they heard the news. One lady was especially interested in the details, and when she heard that the children were to be transferred, she became quite excited.

She called on the superintendent. "I am Mrs. Pak, the mother of Hyung Tae and Jung Ok," she said. "I want to take them with me. I can give them a home now."

"Where have you been all these years?" asked the superintendent.

"Struggling to survive. I have broken rock for new highways and carried sand on my back for the construction builders. I have watched my children from afar and have heard reports often about them. I loved them, but I could not provide as you have done. Now I hear they will be transferred to another institution, maybe another city and I will lose track of them. I have only one room, but I have a job as a housemaid and can care for my children again."

"One room with a mother's love is more than any institution can give. Take your children, Mrs. Pak, and God bless you."

"Dear Mr. and Mrs. White,

Thank you for your love and support for Hyung Tae for these many years. He has gone to live with his mother.

Sincerely,  
Superintendent Kim."



## Compassion's Billy Kim interprets for Billy Graham

Evangelist Billy Graham closed a five-day Korean Crusade in Seoul on June 3, 1973, and spoke to a record crowd of more than one million persons. The total attendance during the five-day Crusade was reported to be more than three million persons.

The awesome responsibility of interpreting Dr. Graham's messages went to Billy Kim, Compassion Board member in Korea and a close friend of Bill Adams, Compassion's Field Director for Korea. A trusted, capable friend of Compassion for a number of years, Billy Kim is also Director of Youth for Christ in Korea and Pastor of the Central Baptist Church in Suwon.

Site of the gigantic meetings was the

Yoi Do Plaza on an island in the Han River. For weeks, the Christians of Korea had been meeting by the thousands in organized prayer meetings. The Seoul Crusade had opened on May 30 with an estimated half million persons in attendance . . . climaxing a series of meetings across Korea by members of the Graham Team.

The final meeting was perhaps the largest assembly of Gentiles in history. Said Dr. Graham while looking out on a vast ocean of Korean faces, "I seriously doubt if we will ever see meetings quite like this again in my ministry . . . and I seriously doubt if my own ministry can ever be the same again."





## Wilner and friends need sponsors

The winsome lad pictured here lives on the remote west coast of Haiti. Actually, we could say he "exists" instead of "lives." Four-year-old Wilner George is one of seven children in a needy family that doesn't know the care and concern of a father and mother. His father died from disease and his mother has no means of support. Wilner is only one example of hundreds of youngsters throughout the world who need a sponsor this very minute.

During these beautiful fall days, when our own children are running off to school and play, we seldom stop to think that there are thousands of others, such as Wilner, who cannot go to school or obtain any sort of education. Schools are too costly for many of the impoverished children around the world.

If Wilner had a sponsor, he could

afford a basic education, decent clothes, and well-balanced meals. Best of all, he would have the opportunity to learn about a God that loves him and who wants him to find a new life in Jesus Christ. Sponsorship will enable Wilner to come under the proper care that Compassion can give him.

It's almost impossible to imagine the plight of thousands of youngsters in the shaky world of today. Some live in grass shacks in India or Indonesia . . . with no running water, electricity, or any convenience of life. Three square meals a day are only a fond dream.

As you know, sponsorship is still only \$12.00 a month . . . a small price to pay for such a big opportunity. You'll have the chance to help a child such as Wilner to stand on his own feet and make a contribution to his own country and to serve his Creator and Savior.



**Tan Un Heng—  
Indonesia**

Eleven-year-old Tan Un Heng is from the island of Java. Living with her mother, Tan is in sixth grade and loves to draw and read. Her father died in 1969, and her mother is very poor.



**Krupananadam  
Kondaveeti—India**

Five-year-old "Krupa" lives with his mother in extreme poverty. His father died in 1968 of a liver ailment. Krupa has not yet begun school.



**Papa Merakapalli—  
India**

Papa's father, now dead, was a coolie. She lives with her mother, who struggles with an inadequate income to care for Papa. They live in South India.

All the children illustrated here are available for sponsorship. Choose the child you'd like to sponsor, and send your first monthly support payment with the sponsor application form provided. Should the child of your choice already be taken, we will choose another child for you who matches your preference as closely as possible. We'll mail you complete details, along with a mounted photograph of "your child."

The important point is this . . . the sooner you become a sponsor, the sooner we can begin sending support for a child of Compassion. As you become a sponsor, you will be receiving letters from your child from time to time. Chances are, you'll be starting a relationship that can become something beautiful in the years to come. May God guide you in your decision.

- Yes! I want to sponsor a child for \$12.00 a month. My first support check enclosed is for  one month (\$12.00),  three months (\$36.00).
- Please select a child who needs me most.
- I would prefer a  boy  girl, about \_\_\_\_\_ years old.
- My choice is \_\_\_\_\_ from the pictures shown.

My name is \_\_\_\_\_  
(Mr., Mrs., Miss) (Please print)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State (Province) \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

*All gifts are tax-deductible. Make checks payable to COMPASSION, INC. Thank you very much!*

## News briefs

### Drought in India eases

Summer droughts throughout many sections of India took their toll in lives lost through starvation. It was reported that in Bombay, the well-to-do were selling their gold jewelry in order to obtain funds for food. At last report, the monsoons finally did come and are expected to help alleviate the plight. It is not known if any of our sponsored children were affected.

### Continued need in Haiti

Reports from Compassion assistants at the western end of this needy island say that 300 orphans are being supported by sponsors. Bob Stewart of the West Indies Mission also adds that he is now engaged in constructing a huge addition to his local church . . . which will serve as a "convention" center. Recent visits to Haiti by Wally Erickson, North and South American Field Director for Compassion, have uncovered the need for supporting hundreds of additional Haitian children.

### News from Southwest Indian School

Compassion aid has been credited with "stabilizing" the student body at the Southwest Indian School. In a note from Donald Carter, Superintendent, he indicated that 95% of the students were expected to return for the fall term, an all-time high percentage. A new reading center also has been established, and new text and library

books have been purchased. An interscholastic sports program also has been expanded. Indian children love sports of all kinds, and these extra-curricular activities give them an excellent incentive to stay in school.

### Deaf children progress

Jim Sloan at the Christian Deaf Fellowship in Kingston, Jamaica indicates that their head teacher has begun a new curriculum for their beginner's class. Already the youngsters know and understand more words and signs than some of the children who have been at the school for two or three years. Jim adds that "It is better if you do not sit with them at lunch, for they will spell and talk all the time . . . so that your food gets cold!" Compassion is pleased to see such progress in our home in Jamaica.

## Christmas gift deadline

**Just a word of reminder** that should you wish to provide a special gift of money for your child at Christmas-time, November 16 is the last day that we can accept checks for the purchase of gifts overseas. Please don't send more than \$5.00 for children in India, Haiti and Indonesia (\$10.00 for an Indonesian *Family*). Ten dollars is the top limit for the youngsters of Korea and all other countries not mentioned here. Of course, as usual, your special Christmas gifts are not "mandatory." And please . . . no parcels of any kind will be mailed overseas!

Exorbitant import duties, pilferage, and breakage are among the reasons that make it impossible for us to ship packages to your child.

By the way, our children take great delight in receiving colorful Christmas cards from their sponsors. A card to your child should be mailed to us no later than December 3 for assured delivery before Christmas.



## Bozo's Korean counterpart

**Bill Adams, our Field Director in Korea,** sent us this story and photograph of Krako the Clown.

Krako recently entertained several hundred of our Compassion children in the Seoul and Inchon area. His act consisted of amusing the children with clown antics and also a 15-minute performance of magic.

According to Bill, a clown has never before been seen by Korean youngsters. The illusion acts are especially interesting to them. Lee Mee Sook said, after seeing Krako, "When Mr. Krako appeared with his white face and red nose, we bursted into great laughter. Why did he wear such big shoes? I always wear the shoes that fit

my feet well."

Another child, Kim Hwa Soon, said: "It was strange that we should clap our hands three times so that the magic would work out . . . but we had to clap hard and long for the amazing things to happen. We will never forget the show and Mr. Krako. God bless him."

"Krako," by the way, is Air Force Technical Sergeant John Guthrie, Program Director for the American Forces Korea Broadcasting Network. He is a good friend of Compassion and hails from Denver, Colorado. Both John and his wife are members of the Clowns of America, and they have four children of their own.





## WARM is your expression of Compassion

The time is here once again to announce our 1973 WARM (Winter Aid Relief Money) project. This year, as usual, WARM will be your beautiful expression of the real meaning of Compassion.

Since the early fifties, Compassion has been making a special effort to provide spiritual training, food, and shelter for the underprivileged of many nations. More than 23,000 youngsters in 11 countries were ministered to during 1972. Twenty-three thousand little hearts were made a little lighter, thanks to sponsors and friends such as yourself who have been caring on a regular basis.

And now comes WARM, 1973. Another opportunity for you to take part in the provision of apparel, such as shoes, socks, cotton dresses, shirts and jackets.

WARM, in a sense, is a contradiction. Not all countries where we help needy children experience bitter cold

temperatures. To be true, Korean winters are always cold. Indonesia, India and the Caribbean areas are the farthest from being cold. However, these hot and humid regions are tough on clothes. And what a wonderful surprise these children receive when a new dress, trousers or shoes are tried on! Shoes may be a first-time experience for some, even at the age of ten or twelve. A new dress would be "just the ticket" for that weekly special Sunday School class.

The beautiful part about our WARM project is the rock-bottom price for a new set of clothes. Despite the devaluation of the American dollar overseas, Compassion is still able to purchase a complete set of appropriate winter and school clothes for only \$10.00. (Children in many Asian nations are not allowed to attend school unless they have a complete uniform. Our funds help buy these uniforms.)

As a special "thank you" for taking

part in our 1973 WARM effort, we are offering a gift for you. For your gift of \$20.00 (for the purchase of two outfits), we are offering you a choice of one of the following:

- A set of hand-carved miniature figurines—eight brightly-painted wood carvings made by Compassion children in Korea.
- A Korean doll dress—a colorful native full-length garment about ten inches long (Barbie-doll size).
- A pair of hand-painted baby shoes . . . of the type worn by Korean youngsters.

For your gift of \$50.00 or more, we will send you a beautiful eight-inch Korean wood carving. The figurine depicts an elderly gentleman in traditional garb.

The important point is . . . your gift will show your expression of real compassion and will make possible the purchase of much-needed clothes for children who have so little and yet express so much gratitude. Compassion, as usual, is a beautiful bridge between children in need and people, like you, who care. Let's make it possible in 1973 to send a complete set of clothes to each and every child who comes under the care of Compassion around the world. Thank you!



Compassion, Inc., 7774 Irving Park Road, Chicago, Illinois 60634

Yes, I want to help provide WARM clothing this year.

\$10.00 (1 outfit),  \$20.00 (2 outfits),  \$50.00 (5 outfits),

\$ \_\_\_\_\_.

Please send me the following gift (for \$20.00 or more):

miniature carvings,  doll dress,  baby shoes.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

All gifts are tax-deductible. Thank you!



## Father killed by spear

In the Northern Celebes lives 12-year-old Martin Wuisan.

The following note came from his area administration recently . . . it conveys a real touch of true Christianity.

Said Martin: "My father died when I was very young. Mother told me that my father was killed by a spear. It was very cruel. But mother said we must not revenge on the man who killed my father. As it is written, 'Do good to them that hate you . . . pray for them!'"

Martin lives with his mother and a sister. He enjoys mathematics in fifth grade. He is an average and quiet student . . . and we hasten to add, one who expresses beautiful Christian grace.

His warm testimony must surely bring many a ray of sunshine to his friends and neighbors.

## Just released: new TV special

Compassion announces the completion of another half-hour television special, "Love and the Little Ones," featuring the talented TV personality, Betsy Palmer. The producer is Jim Grant of Wheaton, Illinois. "Love and the Little Ones" will be shown over selected TV stations across the country in an effort to inform the public of Compassion's need to obtain sponsors for thousands of needy children around the world.

Betsy Palmer, long a standout in all phases of the entertainment industry, began her career during the "Golden Age" of television while starring in such shows as the "U.S. Steel Hour," "Kraft Television Theatre," and more recently, as a weekly guest on the "I've Got a Secret" program.

The special program interweaves overseas footage with some shots on location near Galena, Illinois. It portrays the direct relationship between the care and keeping of God as Creator as compared to the sometimes extreme lack of human care for children in many lands, such as Indonesia.

Two previous TV productions have been produced and shown over hundreds of stations across the country during the last two years. Both half an hour in length, one features Pat Boone, and the other is hosted by Dale Evans.

Watch for the showing of "Love and the Little Ones" when it comes to your area!

Compassion, Inc. Founder,  
the Late Everett Swanson  
President, Henry Harvey  
Vice-President, Miriam Swanson  
Editor and Chief Correspondent,  
Ed Ronne



## Little gems from our little ones

*(Our daily mail brings countless bits of correspondence from the children we support in many parts of the world. All mail exchange between sponsor and child passes through our Chicago office. Here are some gleanings from a typical batch of mail. Your editor wants to share with you these direct quotes from the children, as seen through the eyes of the local interpreters. We hope you'll enjoy them as much as we have. Bless their little hearts!)*

**Korea**—"Recently I was busy doing my home assignments. I made paper into an airplane. I think the airplane was made better than the one that the Brother Wright made for the first time. If I become a small insect, I will ride on the paper airplane and fly to you."

**South India**—"Everyday in the morning I collect milk from our buffalo and sell it in the milk project center. I drink some of it everyday and I am keeping healthy. We thank God for having that buffalo."

**Java**—"I often wonder and wish that an angel would come down. But I would feel sorry for one if he came down at our place. There are many thorns here so that the angel would hurt her wings and fall down and would not be able to fly away again."

**Celebes**—"Do you have lemon trees in America? The lemons in America must be very big because the American people are big."

**Korea**—"In the evenings we can hear the frogs crying in the rice paddies. I get up early every day and make noodles on rainy days."

**Korea**—"The sky is now high and blue. I think the Lord is the driver of the world."

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*Have you thought about*

## Change-Your-Mind Giving?

Here is a splendid idea you may wish to try. You are a person who cares about others. Otherwise this publication would hold no interest for you. Because you care, at this very moment, probably you are contributing to several organizations who are ministering to the world's needy and disadvantaged.

To say the least, you want to do more, but financially you cannot at this time. It is frustrating, isn't it? Write today for some exciting information how you can arrange for a future gift, but if necessary, change your mind and reverse that decision anytime.

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Stewardship Department  
COMPASSION, INC., 7774 Irving Park Road, Chicago, Illinois 60634

Please send me further information . . .

- Change-your-mind Giving
- 37 Things People "Know" About Wills That Aren't Really So
- The State Has Made *Your* Will
- Giving Through Living Trusts

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