



**“TAKING THE CHILD IN HIS ARMS, JESUS SAID TO THEM, “WHOEVER WELCOMES ONE OF THESE LITTLE CHILDREN IN MY NAME WELCOMES ME.”**

MARK 9:37

While the word ‘refugee’ is not found in Scripture, God’s heart for the foreigner, stranger and sojourner is clear – as is His call for His followers to consider their needs and take action on their behalf.

After watching [Amira’s story](#), use the questions on the following pages to guide discussion with your friends, family or small house-church gathering and use [World Refugee Sabbath](#) as your opportunity to take action for refugee children like Amira.



CONVERSATION GUIDE

JUNE 19 WORLD REFUGEE SABBATH [ADRA.ORG/WORLDREFUGEESABBATH](https://ADRA.ORG/WORLDREFUGEESABBATH)

After watching the short video at [ADRA.org/WorldRefugeeSabbath](https://ADRA.org/WorldRefugeeSabbath) begin your time with prayer — ‘Lord, we thank you for the opportunity to reflect on, connect with and take action for refugee children like Amira. Guide our thoughts and words, and our hearts and hands as we strive to reflect your character and grace in this world. Amen.’



## 1.

Take a moment to share with the group a time you have been lost, a stranger or traveling through a place that was completely unknown to you. How did you feel? How did people react — and how would you have wished they reacted?

## 2.

Have you ever met a refugee? Or, what is the closest interaction you’ve had with someone fleeing violence or crisis? Share these encounters with your group. If there are no, or limited experiences, you might like to share the stories of Rafeef, Fayeza and Rachel at [ADRA.org/WorldRefugeeSabbath](https://ADRA.org/WorldRefugeeSabbath)



## 3.

What stories of refugees (that is, foreigners, sojourners or strangers) can you recall from the Bible? Retell them in your group and discuss what lessons you can learn from them. Here’s a short list to get your started:

- a. **Ruth** — Ruth 1
- b. **Moses** — Exodus 2:11-22
- c. **Abram** — Genesis 12:10
- d. **Jesus** — Matthew 2:13-15



#### 4.

In Matthew 25:35 Jesus says, 'I was a stranger and you invited me in'. How else did Christ indicate that the way we treat strangers shows whether we are His followers?

#### 5.

Following the Exodus, the Israelites quickly forgot much of their experience in Egypt. What significance do you see in the words of Exodus 23:9 – 'Do not oppress the foreigner; you yourselves know how it feels to be foreigners, because you were foreigners in Egypt'?

#### 6.

'The foreigners residing among you must be treated as native-born. Love them as yourself, for you were foreigners in Egypt. I am the Lord your God.' These words are taken from Leviticus 19:34, but they echo Christ's call to 'love your neighbor as yourself' (Matthew 22:39). How should this guide the way we treat and advocate for refugees in the modern world?

#### 7.

What do you think Peter meant when he wrote in 1 Peter 1:17 to 'live out your time as foreigners here with reverent fear'? What does this mean for us now?

#### 8.

In the video Michael Kruger, President of ADRA International, highlights that refugee children are the worst affected, but also have the most potential. What do you think this means?

#### 9.

Scripture has a lot to say about children, and the way they should be treated and taught. Read and discuss the following passages together – and you may be able to think of others.

- a. Mark 9:37
- b. Psalm 127:3
- c. Proverbs 22:6





## 10.

As a group, discuss what meaningful action you could take today to support refugee children.

## 11.

What longer-term changes or actions could you take that would improve the plight of refugees or those who may be forced to become a refugee in the future?



# TO CONCLUDE,

**close with prayer together – ‘Lord God, thank you for consistently demonstrating your unending love for each of us, and your concern for ‘the least of these’. Help us find ways to connect with and serve refugees like Amira, and in doing so demonstrate your character in a world marred by sin. Amen.’**

