



"Which of these three do you think was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?" The expert in the law replied, **"THE ONE WHO HAD MERCY ON HIM."** Jesus told him, **"GO AND DO LIKEWISE."**

—LUKE 10:36, 37

There are various ways each church member can get involved to help refugees around the world. Here are some ideas and resources.



GET INVOLVED

WORLD REFUGEE SABBATH [ADRA.org/WorldRefugeeSabbath](https://ADRA.org/WorldRefugeeSabbath)

## Share the Table

How to host a meal to pray, eat and act together in solidarity with refugees.

Share the Table brings people together for a meal as a simple but powerful way of reminding ourselves, our communities, and our leaders about our responsibility to ensure that all people, including all refugees, share in the abundance of God's good creation, and are able to live full, flourishing, and safe lives as He intends. It's about sharing a meal, sharing our stories, and sharing what it looks like for you personally, and as a community, to pursue justice for refugees around the world.

**“Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it.”**

—Hebrews 13:2

We know that deep connection and conversation often happen around the table, while sharing a meal. It is our prayer that Share the Table provides you with the opportunity to demonstrate hospitality, while creating a space to learn, reflect and take action to support refugees.

### How to Run a Share the Table Event

#### *Planning your event*

- ▶ Get a team together early to help you brainstorm ideas for your event and help organise it.
- ▶ Venue and size. Share the Table can be held in any venue, and at any scale. An intimate event at someone's home with family, a bible study group or a few friends. Or it could be a bigger event involving your church, youth group or broader community - hosted outdoors, in your church, or at a community hall.
- ▶ Date and time for your event. There's no set date and time to host a share the table. Lining it up with a date that is close to World Refugee Sabbath is ideal, but it's important to think about when works best for the people your inviting, the venue your using and when your team have capacity to help out.
- ▶ Special guests. Decide if you would like to invite any special guests, such as a local politician, church leaders or a refugee or former refugee that could come and share their experience.



## Planning your Event, continued

- ▶ Invite people to attend. Depending on the size of your event, you may like to invite people personally, over email, or even broadcast an open invite through your church bulletin or via social media. If you have a special guest coming along, include this in your invite.

## Hosting Your Event

With the meal being the focus of your evening, you need to decide how you are going to cater the event and what food you are going to eat. If you are having a smaller event, you may wish to cater it yourself, otherwise a 'potluck' option may be easiest with everyone bringing a plate to share. If you are planning a large-scale event, you may even find a community catering enterprise that can cater—maybe even one that is run by refugees! Check out the "recipe cards" at the end of this page in the resources section for ideas of meals that you can prepare that celebrate the cuisines of some countries most impacted by refugee crises.

Aside from eating, there are a number of activities you can incorporate into your event or schedule separately, as you explore what it looks for you personally, and as a community, to pursue justice for refugees around the world. Here is a list of idea on what you can do to help.

- ▶ **Conversation Guide**

Use this guide to prompt meaningful conversations about what pursuing justice for refugees looks like for you and your community.

- ▶ **Sharing Stories**

Is there anyone around the table who is a refugee? Or anyone who has had experience with refugees? Make space for people to share their stories and personal experiences.

- ▶ **Letter Writing Activity**

As you come together, use your voices to encourage leaders to do all they can to pursue justice and compassion for refugees.

- ▶ **Prayer**

Coming together in prayer is so important, you can use the prayer provided on our Resources page as well as opening a time of open prayer.



## Other Ways for Deeper Engagement & to Help:

- ▶ Contact your local community services representative through your church, conference, or community to learn more about how you can participate in local services that help refugees.
- ▶ Make a welcome bag filled with important items such as toiletries, snacks, school items, and a few fun items such as a gift card or stuffed animal and deliver the bag to a refugee or someone new in your church, school, or community.
- ▶ Sponsor a donation drive in your church, school, or community to collect items such as new and gently used clothes, books, toys, or furniture that can be given to help refugees in your community.
- ▶ Host a fundraising event to raise money that can be donated to ADRA to support programs that help refugees.

