

WORLD MISSIONS MAGAZINE

On the way!

**Compassion International
Forced to Close its Doors
in India**

HOW TO:
Take Incredible Trip Photos



APRIL 2017

COMPASSION INTERNATIONAL FORCED TO CLOSE ITS DOORS IN INDIA



I also have hope for the future because I have met some of these precious Indian children, and I have witnessed their resilience. I deeply believe that nothing — no government, no politics, no principality — can stop the work of God in a child's heart. And I hope with all my heart that Compassion's work isn't entirely finished in India, the country that's home to one-third of the world's poorest children. God has called Compassion to release children from poverty and I don't believe He's excluded Indian children from that calling. I don't know what our service in India will look like in the future, but I'm confident we will continue to follow God's leading.

I'm honored by how you, our sponsors, have faithfully walked beside us through this trial. You've prayed. You've fasted. You've written your congressperson and you've spoken on behalf of Compassion through your social media channels. I am in awe of our Compassion family — tens of thousands of people from all walks of life who banded together on behalf of children we may never meet in person. That is powerful! That is humbling. I want to assure you that Compassion has broken no laws in India. We have been and remain committed to abiding by the laws



of every country where we serve. You may have seen reports from Indian media accusing Compassion of forcing children to convert to Christianity in order to receive the benefits of our program. That, of course, is simply not true. We partner with local Christian churches to extend the love of Jesus in very tangible ways, but we never required a child to convert to Christianity to benefit from our program. That, of course, is not true.

“I HOPE WITH ALL MY HEART THAT COMPASSION’S WORK ISN’T ENTIRELY FINISHED IN INDIA, THE COUNTRY THAT’S HOME TO ONE-THIRD OF THE WORLD’S POOREST CHILDREN.”

Despite this heartbreaking situation in India, please know that Compassion's ministry is still flourishing. We are continuing to serve more than 1.8 million children in 25 other countries. Our partnerships with more than 6,700 churches in those countries are as strong as ever. And our commitment to answering God's call to release children from poverty in Jesus' name is unwavering. Thank you so much for your support

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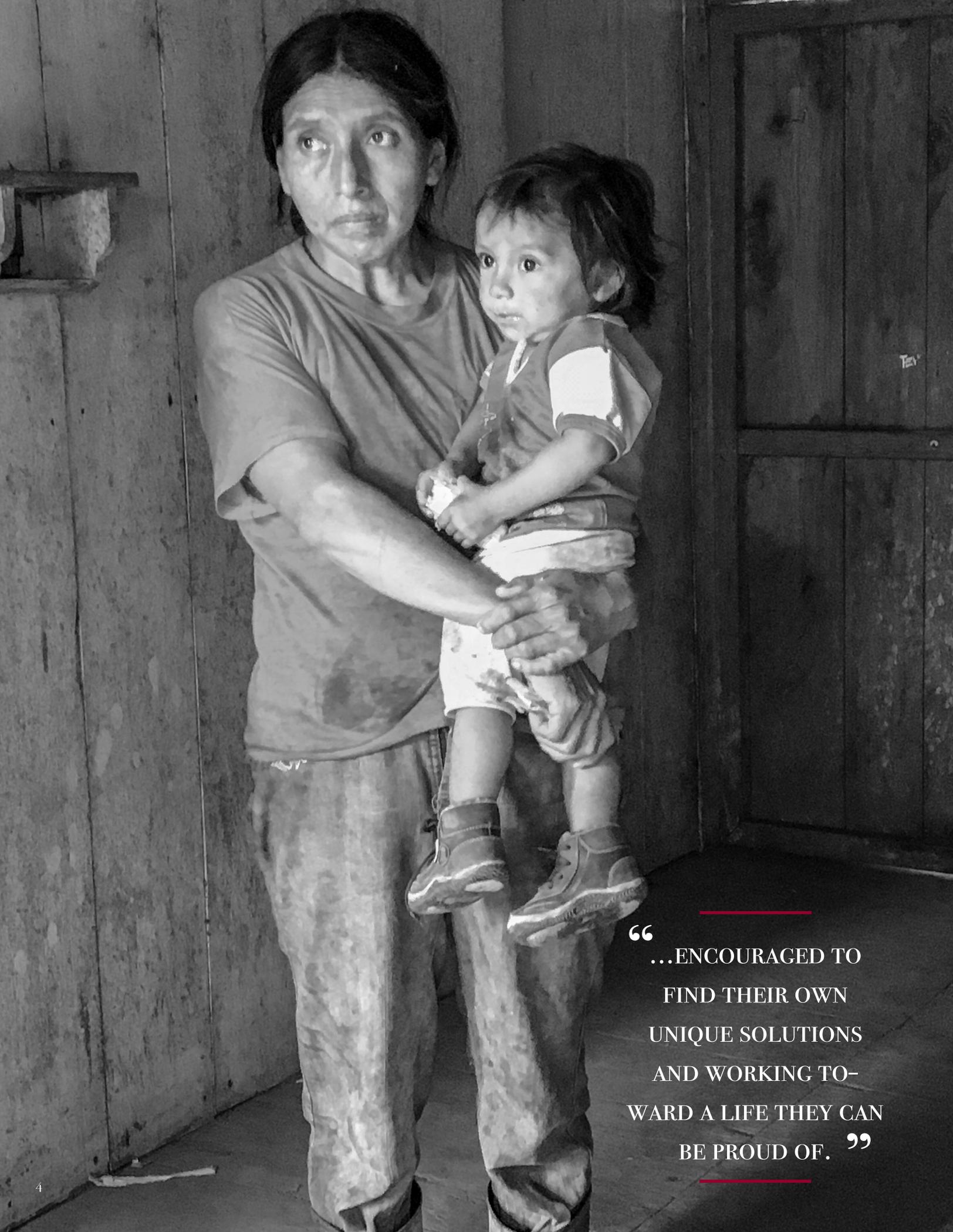
Thank you so much for your support through this difficult season. I'd ask that you please continue to pray for the children of India. Pray also that God will continue to equip the Church in India and that she will rise up to care for the vulnerable. Pray too for India's leaders — that they would be willing to speak directly to us about this situation so we may come to a mutual understanding that benefits the children of India. And, finally, please continue to pray for Compassion, that new doors of ministry would open even as some are closing. I also have hope for the future because I have met some of these precious Indian children, and I have witnessed their resilience. I deeply believe that nothing — no government, no politics, no principality — can stop the work of God in a child's heart.

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THE FIGHT

AGAINST

POVERTY

When churches shower the less fortunate with gifts and charity, especially on a regular basis, it has the tendency to create a consumerist attitude that results in a dependency on Americans instead of empowerment to improve their own economies and living conditions and take pride in their own work. This vicious cycle actually keeps communities from escaping poverty because they are habitually relying on foreigners to come and bring them what they need rather than feeling encouraged to find their own unique solutions and working toward a life they can be proud of.

Take Africa as an example. In the last 50 years, the continent has received \$1 trillion in benevolent aid; in other words, free money. Now, overall per-capita income is lower today than half a century ago. Over half of Africa's population lives on less than \$1 per day, and life expectancy and adult literacy has dropped (Lupton 3). It is no secret that Christians are called to live in mission. The passage famously known as the "Great Commission" commands us: "Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age" (New International Version, Matt. 28:19-20)

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A large, ornate yellow building with a blue roof and a central balcony, surrounded by lush green trees and a well-manicured lawn. In the foreground, a pond with a fountain reflects the building and the surrounding greenery. The scene is captured during the golden hour, with warm light illuminating the building and the water.

HOW
TO...

6 Take Incredible Trip Photos

I



FIND A SUBJECT YOU ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT

Fast forward a few months and I was on a plane to Nairobi, Kenya. This was my first international mission trip and it was another experience that would reshape my life. It provided me with the opportunity to begin developing a worldview, and a hunger for learning about other people and their cultures. As I fumbled through my first couple years of college trying to figure out what I wanted to major in and how I could use my skills to do work I was passionate about, I realized that I needed to stop putting so much weight on the opinions of those around me, telling me I should major in something “responsible” like Business or Engineering. After two years at CU I had been on two mission trips and also fallen in love with digital photography; so looking for an adventure and a challenge, I packed up my life.



CAPTURE THE MOOD

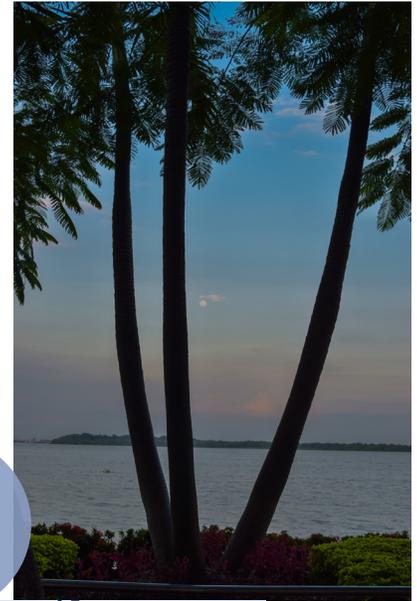
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LOOK FOR INTERESTING ANGLES TO FRAME THE SHOT

2



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Photographer • Videographer • Designer
kjsorenson.myportfolio.com

