



CALL FOR PRAYER

“He will rescue the poor when they cry to him; he will help the oppressed, who have no one to defend them.” Psalm 72:12

Nothing could be clearer from this verse than that God stands on the side of the oppressed, the poor and the defenceless.

These are the injustices that millions of men, women and children face as they flee extremist violence emanating from northeast Nigeria into the inhospitable Lake Chad Basin region.

Take a few moments to imagine the fear and suffering of families and communities who have been forced to live under the yoke of extremism or who have fled it into Niger, Chad and Cameroon.

The fear for your life for not signing up to follow an extremist ideology...

The fear of a child who has seen loved ones killed and villages taken over and ransacked...

The fear of parents for their children's futures now that schools have been closed for providing access to education and critical thinking...

The fear of a mother who has fled violence and brutality multiple times with just the clothes on her back and her youngsters in her arms.

Imagine what it is like to arrive in a foreign country and to discover you and your family are among tens of thousands of people who have fled into the harshest of regions where food and water are in short supply.

And yet God is there. He is working through the poorest host communities who are doing what they can to help the strangers in their midst. Aid workers are also making a difference, giving hope and basic support – distributing bags of rice, providing shelter against the relentless heat, installing water points, and creating spaces where children can play and learn.

In such desperate circumstances these small things make a big difference. They demonstrate that people care, they give hope and they reveal the heart of a God who won't abandon them.

Today's world is filled with reports of wars and catastrophes and among them are millions of children and their families who are suffering in invisible, out-of-the-way, hard-to-reach places that rarely make it into the headlines.

World Vision is going after the children and families who live in or have been driven into these tough places... places like the Lake Chad Basin region.

- Pray for the health and safety of World Vision's response team who are working in very arduous conditions.
- Pray for enough funding from private and agency sources to meet the enormous needs.
- Pray for God's love to shine through as we unite to serve those close to God's heart.