

CHILDREN IN CRISIS MINISTRIES

FOCUS

Bringing help, healing, and hope in Christ to vulnerable children

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A Future AND A HOPE

THE SMALL ISLAND nation of Sri Lanka, off the coast of India, has struggled to recover from a lengthy civil war, a current economic crisis and unprecedented levels of inflation. At the same time, only 1.3% of Sri Lankans are evangelical Christians. Pastors planting churches in the rural areas must depend on the offerings of the believers in their churches, many of whom are struggling to provide for their own families. Funds are scarce.

Because of inflation, education costs have soared. Parents who cannot afford to send their children to school have stopped sending them. How can pastors manage the luxury of their children's education when some of them must work part time just to provide the basic needs for their families?

Fifteen-year-old Edwin* is the son of a pastor who planted a church in a Buddhist village notoriously known as a center for drugs and filled with drug dealers and

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addicts. Edwin is a brilliant student who received sponsorship funds through one of ACTION's ministries, enabling him to attend high school. He has excelled in his studies and recently received the award for being the school's best student.

Several pastors' children, like Edwin, have been blessed through sponsorship, giving them hope as they look

toward the future. Investing in the education of these bright, capable young believers is having a lasting impact on their lives. But the impact goes beyond the children themselves. These children and youth are growing into well-equipped young leaders for the church in Sri Lanka and have the potential to become incredible assets for the nation. Just imagine what God can do with a faithful, educated generation, zealous for the Kingdom of God!



Are you interested in investing in the next generation of believers? For easy online giving to ACTION's Children in Crisis Fund, please visit www.actioninternational.org/project/ACTION-Children-in-Crisis

**Name changed*

Discipling the Children of the Nations

I'VE BEEN WORKING WITH children for most of my life, first as a volunteer in the church, then as an elementary school teacher, a children's pastor, and now as a missionary with ACTION. I'm passionate about equipping children's ministry leaders around the world to reach, disciple and empower children. Since 2005 I've served as a global trainer of children's leaders, equipping men and women in 32 countries to minister more effectively to children in their context.

The realities of poverty, political instability, persecution, natural disasters, etc., faced by children around the world necessitate that many children's ministry leaders work with children and youth in crisis. But what does discipleship look like for an at-risk child? It is holistic. Luke 2:52 says, "And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men" (NIV). As children grow, their discipleship should address the physical, mental, social-emotional, AND spiritual aspects of their being so they can become all God created them to be. God wants EVERY child to know, love and follow Him, including children at risk.

In 2004 God gave me the ministry vision to "Disciple the children of the nations!" As ACTION International's new Coordinator of Children in Crisis Ministry, it is my privilege to come alongside ACTION's field workers to holistically reach, disciple and empower children at risk around the world. Thank you for joining the journey.

What is your vision for the next generation? Can ACTION help you fulfill it? Contact us at: info@actionintl.org.



*Sheryl Grunwald,
ACTION International's
Coordinator of Children
in Crisis Ministry.*

Find out more!

Contact us through any of the following:



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CHILDREN IN CRISIS

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