

We Can Raise Money to End Slavery!

How two brothers in Arlington, Virginia, are helping people on the other side of the world

COLEMAN AND CALEB are brothers who care a lot about people who are hurting. Their mom and dad taught them that kids can help with serious things like hunger and poverty and slavery. So Coleman, age 10, and Caleb, age 8, help out in many ways.

In their own city, they keep "kindness packs" in the family car, to give away

to homeless men and women who are begging at the side of the road. They fill each kindness pack with a McDonald's gift card, water bottle, toothbrush and toothpaste, Bible or Scripture card, and a personal note; in winter they also add gloves and a hat.

But how can two small boys help people on the other side of the world?

Two years ago, Coleman and Caleb learned about countries where many children, women and men are poor. "Bad people take advantage of that and force them into slavery," Caleb says. "The bad people lie, saying, 'You'll get treated well.' But then they barely get any food and have to work in the hot, burning sun."

Coleman and Caleb wanted to help IJM with rescues. But rescuing people requires money to pay investigators and police to search and find the people who are in slavery. It also requires money to hire lawyers, who go to court and fight to send slave owners to jail so they don't hurt anyone ever again.

So the boys started selling lemonade and hot chocolate to raise money for IJM. They even donated money they received for their birthdays. "If everybody pitches in and helps," Coleman says, "it can make a much bigger difference."

They also believe in telling others about IJM and about slavery. Caleb even traveled to Washington, D.C., with his aunt, to ask senators to pass important laws against modern-slavery.

The boys' mom and dad are so proud of them. "We believe that in the Bible, God asks us to care for others in need," says their mom, Gretchen. "When we see our kids doing that on their own and taking it seriously, it's very exciting."

What Can I Do?

Just like Coleman and Caleb, you can do a lot to help IJM stop slave owners from hurting people around the world:

- God to see and help all the people who need justice. Ask God to help rescuers find those who are trapped in slavery.
- Tell: Use your voice to tell others about people who are in slavery. Write letters to elected officials — or visit them. like Caleb did.
- **Give:** IJM uses every penny to rescue children and their families.

Maybe you don't have much money yourself, but you can invite others to join you:

- Loose change? Ask everyone in your family to put their coins in a special jar every night, and see how much you can collect in one month. And don't forget to look under the cushions of your sofa!
- Dedicate your birthday party.
 Ask people to donate money instead of giving you presents.
- Organize a race. Ask people to donate \$1 for every minute or mile that you run. Tell everyone that you are running for freedom!

Have an even bigger idea? Use IJM's online tool: visit fundraising.ijm.org.