

# EXPERIENCE ANOTHER WORLD

Without Leaving Yours

## NOTE TO PARENTS

Compassion works in some of the toughest places on the planet. Children growing up in these environments are extremely vulnerable. The stories we profile in The Compassion Experience contain true realities that are faced everyday by children living on less than \$1.50/day. We take great effort to avoid sensationalizing dark circumstances and try to tell the bigger story of these children who are on a journey from poverty to hope.

We view The Compassion Experience as a resource to help you, as a parent, bring your children into a larger conversation about helping others and showing Compassion to the vulnerable in other parts of the world. We have designed the experience to be generally appropriate for all ages, however we are mindful that small children are all impacted differently by stories they hear.

Below is an overview of the individual stories featured in The Compassion Experience to help you understand the subject matter presented and determine if there is content that might be too sensitive for your child.

## SAMESON'S STORY

As a very small child in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, Sameson's father leaves he and his mother, who cannot afford to feed or care for him. She leaves him in the care of his aunt, who sees him as just one more mouth to feed. At a very young age, Sameson works to help provide food for the struggling family. More than that, he is burdened by self-doubt and loneliness. When Sameson's big dream of attending college falls through, feelings of self-doubt reemerge. His story shines when we learn that God's plan all along was to ensure Sameson realizes he's never alone. .

### SENSITIVE THEMES:

As a child, Sameson must deal with loneliness, abandonment and worth. There are themes of child-labor and safety while he works within his Aunt's household.

## YANNELY'S STORY

Unwanted by her own father, who left his family because of her birth, Yannely is growing up in extreme poverty under the care of her mother. Though her mother is a positive influence and works very hard, they are hungry most every day. They have to boil water because their water supply is unsafe. Yannely eventually finds her father, but he continues his rejection of her and will not speak to her. In time, the life and value that are spoken into her at her church project and by her loving Compassion sponsor bring a hope and security that provides her the strength to understand her potential.

### CONTENT AND THEMES:

Yannely's father rejects her throughout her life. This rejection brings sadness and real challenges to her self-worth. Yannely also has to deal with news that her Compassion sponsor, who had a significant impact on her, has an illness that will take her life so she will no longer be able to sponsor her. There are several references to themes that Yannely was unwanted however no specific references to abortion are made.