

# CHILDREN'S LESSON

## CWS Blankets

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"But they are also filled with abundant joy, which has overflowed in rich generosity."

- 2 CORINTHIANS 8:2-4

### STORY OF CHANGE

Last year a group of 15 tornadoes touched down in western Ohio. These tornadoes knocked houses off their bases and damaged several apartment buildings. Many people did not have a place to stay. The following morning, Rev. Terry Kukuk knew the churches in the area needed to help.

"Immediately we knew that we had to... do something because our neighbors were in need. [We contacted] Church World Service—and that's when the bell went off. Oh, my gosh! All of the years of packing the kits and the blankets and the buckets, now they can come to us," said Rev. Kukuk.

Church World Service provided lightweight blankets to the families in need for tornado response.

Rev. Kukuk immediately enlisted the help of the members of a local church near the damage- some of whom also had damage done to their homes- to help pass out the blankets.

Some of the blankets were donated to churches serving as temporary shelters for families who didn't have a place to stay. "When you are staying in a temporary shelter something as simple as a soft blanket to keep you warm can provide you with a little piece of comfort," said Rev. Kukuk.

### LESSON QUESTIONS

Do you have something that you take to bed with you? (*Go around and have the kids list this: teddy bear, stuffed animal, blanket, etc*)

Why do you like to have it? (*makes them feel safe, helps them not feel scared, comforting, etc*)

Have you ever spent the night somewhere? Maybe your grandparents' house, an aunt or uncle's house, or even a friend's house? You can take a minute and have them explain a little bit about this as that can potentially help lead into the next question.

What did you think of that? (*maybe it was hard to sleep, it seemed strange at first, etc*)

Some of you may have even brought the item you take to bed because it could help you feel safe and comfortable. A blanket is something that can comfort us and make us feel better. Though some kids in Ohio and their families had a hard time when tornadoes damaged their homes and didn't know where they were going to stay; because of churches like ours hosting CWS Blanket Sundays, they knew they at least had a "warm hug" from their CWS Blanket to make them feel better.

### PRAYER

Loving God, we thank you for the things that give us comfort and pray that we can continue to grow generous hearts so that we can help provide comfort for our neighbors in need. Amen.

For more resources to use with your congregation, please visit: [cwsblankets.org/downloads](https://cwsblankets.org/downloads)