

advent. week two. "peace."

dec. 5 thru 11 2010



sunday. dec. 5

scripture: isaiah 2.1 thru 5

story:

<http://www.notforsalecampaign.org/about/slavery/real-stories-from-africa/>

prayer:

Jesus, you are the Prince of Peace. You speak peace to the waves and they are still. Wars all over our world are forcing people - especially children - to fight as slaves. Send your peace and your freedom throughout the world and enable us to see and know how we can be agents of peace and freedom in this vulnerable lives this Christmas. Amen.

challenge:

take some time to journal about your on-going story as an abolitionist.

this week we'll be learning about conflict slavery, or aptricularly about children who are forced to be slaves. as we do, we will pray for and participate in peace in a new way.

tuesday. dec. 7

scripture: isaiah 59.1 thru 9

freedom fact:

Children are uniquely vulnerable to military recruitment because of their emotional and physical immaturity. They are easily manipulated and can be drawn into violence that they are too young to resist or understand. Children are most likely to become child soldiers if they are poor, separated from their families, displaced from their homes, living in a combat zone or have limited access to education.

prayer:

Lord of Light, the world seems so dark. When children are abused because of their innocence and orphans because of their loneliness, the world seems dark. We are looking for light. Be light in darkness. Make crooked roads straight. Turn bloodstained hands into hands that can work for justice. And, please, use my voice as one who calls for justice. Amen.

challenge:

share today's fact with someone. discuss what it means to you.

challenge:
The fact that children are forced to be soldiers is jarring. Spend some time just contemplating/mourning this reality. Journal about it if you feel lead.

prayer:
Lord, you are a refuge for the oppressed - their stronghold in times of trouble. Twenty-one wars around the world are using children to fight. They are oppressed and in trouble. Be a refuge and a stronghold to them today. And please, enable us to celebrate your birthday in a way that offers refuge to these children and shows them tangibly that you have not forsaken those who seek you. Amen.

freedom fact:
Since 2001, the participation of child soldiers has been reported in 21 on-going or recent armed conflicts in almost every region of the world.

scripture: psalm 8.9 thru 10

monday. dec. 6