

Children's Message

(You can also use the skits in the “Creative Ways to Engage” section of this toolkit.)

Jesus was a refugee. Paul had to flee for his life. Naomi left home because of a famine. Elijah ran from an angry ruler. Any of these stories can be windows into the refugee experience for kids...and entire congregations! Contemporary stories of the refugee experience help us walk a mile in a refugee's shoes and hear the biblical call to welcome the stranger's particular echo in our context today.

Here are a few ideas to consider, using one of the children's books in our toolkit:

- Use a few images from the book you are reading to the children in **a few PowerPoint slides** so that adults can see what you are talking about.
- Use some **costumes or props** to help children engage in the story i.e. “Four Feet, Two Sandals”, bring a pair of flip flops like in the story.
- Include a **prayer or a poem** from one of the books i.e. “Let There Be Peace: Prayers from around the World”.
- Share **one image** (a powerful one!) from a children's book and talk about how the people must feel in the picture, why they think this, what the colours are telling us about the mood on the situation, etc.
- Tell **an abbreviated version** of the written text while still showing all the images of a children's book (you can move through the book more quickly and simply in this way).