

Tip From the

TOWER

If time permits, lead kids in singing "Gifts" from the *Sing & Play Rock Leader CD* (Track 27). The words are on page 102 of the station leader manual.

Day 1: Fighting Hunger Worldwide

✦ Catholic Social Teaching: Life & Dignity of the Human Person

Say: God loves all of us—rich, poor, black, white, tall, short, old, young—we are all created in God's image. Whether we are American or Canadian or African or Mexican, we are beautiful. Today we are asked to remember that **God's love helps us stand strong!** No matter who we are, God loves us and helps us stand strong. His love can help us see the beauty in each other.

Did you know that ending hunger means much more than handing out food? When there's an emergency, giving people food to eat and survive is important, but it's even more important to give people a way to feed themselves. That's something Catholic Relief Services does; CRS is an organization of our Catholic community that helps people in need around the world.

Let's hear about someone who has experienced hunger firsthand. Maabisi Phooko cares for her three orphaned grandchildren in a small mountain village in South Africa. Maabisi struggled to feed her grandchildren, and there was no money for things we take for granted here, like soap and schoolbooks.

Now, thanks to Catholic Relief Services, Maabisi can feed her family. CRS taught her to plant a "keyhole garden," a special raised garden that keeps the soil warm enough to grow plants in the cold mountain temperatures. Maabisi grows a variety of healthy vegetables in her keyhole garden, including spinach, onions, and carrots. Her grandchildren eat well, and she can sell the extra vegetables to pay for other things they need.

Supporting the work of our Church through Catholic Relief Services means helping people feed themselves. The money we gather here at Kingdom Rock Totally Catholic VBS means that families and whole communities prosper. It means they always know where their next meal will come from: their own gardens. In this way, we honor them as God's children.

Talk About It

- ✦ What surprised you in today's story?
- ✦ What are some ways we can help others see that everyone is created in the image of God?

