



Parents,

As we talk about compassion as our response to current events, you may have packed snack bags with your kids, or purchased extra canned goods to donate to the food pantry. One other way that we can show compassion is by continuing to care for and pray for our sponsor child Aida.

Aida Acarapi is our sponsored child through Compassion International. She was adopted by the Preschool Ministry 6 years ago. She lives in the hillside community of San Carlos in Cochabamba, Bolivia and attends the San Carlos Student Center. Aida lives with her parents, an older brother, and younger sister.

In recent days, the Covid-19 pandemic has reached Bolivia, too. By government decree, schools are closed until March 31, the national borders are closed, work hours are limited, and there are restrictions on travel, events, and public gatherings. As a result, most of the Compassion child development centers have had to close, although there are some churches that are continuing to distribute food to those children and their families. Compassion has assured us that the staff will continue to keep in touch with the children and attend to health issues as they are able.

We want to make sure that we continue to care for Aida, so here's what we need you to do:

1. Continue to practice generosity: Several families have reached out to ask about what to do with the offering that we typically collect for Aida during service each week. Here are two suggestions:

- Designate a special container and collect the offering there at home until we are able to get back together.
- If you prefer, you may also mail it in to the church, to the attention of Children's Offering/Aida. (Mail is being checked daily.)

2. Pray, Pray, Pray: We remind our preschoolers often that one of the most important ways that we can help and support Aida is to pray for her regularly. Please gather your preschooler(s) and join us in praying the following:

- for health and safety for Aida, her family, and community
- that her parents will be able to work (safely) and support the family
- that Aida would continue to receive the medical and nutritional services that she needs to stay healthy and well.
- that she and her family would experience God's protection and that He would provide for all of their needs during this time of uncertainty.

Thanks so much for partnering with us to care for Aida. We miss all of our preschool friends and pray that they and their families are staying safe and well!

Just this week, we received a new letter from Aida. We usually share her letters during our worship time on Sundays. Since we are not able to get together right now, we're attaching please her letter so that you can share it with your preschooler. The present (money) that she refers to was for her birthday.



Dear friends,

we greet you with the Lord's love. This is Teresa, I am Aida's tutor. She says she is very happy. She also says she thanks you for the letter you sent to her. She says she loved reading it. Also, Aida thanks you for the present you sent her. With the money she got tennis shoes, a sport suit for school and a t-shirt and sports pants. She likes them very much. Aida asks: what sport do you practice?

Aida asks you to pray for her mom that she does well at work. We close with love, Aida sends kisses and hugs. Love Aida and Teresa (tutor)