

## **LIFE IN A SLUM**



Modernity has brought so many things into our lives; the impressive movement is the concentration of people around the cities and towns. From time immemorial, even the Bible asserts that people loved to live together where water and security were guaranteed. This is the case of the ancient Jericho and the development of Jerusalem as a city.

Why do people come to live in the city? It is because there are opportunities; in fact, you find that even when the country is very poor, water, electricity, food, money, etc., are available compared to life in the villages. People do not love life in the village because even though land is in plenty and there is a sense of family belonging, life is very hard with a lack of basic necessities like water, health care, and so on.

The lifestyle in African cities is improving at high speed. Most of the basic needs are in place, and life is enjoyable due to the availability of cash flow. The industry sector is growing tremendously, skyscrapers are rising day by day, good roads are being paved, and migration from village to town is inevitable. Many people who come to the slums are dropouts who do not have enough skills and qualifications to compete with the elites. They end up living in a deplorable situation. From my personal experience, I found that the slum dwellers totally depend on God; what we mention in our Lord's prayer, "give us our daily bread," is very much applicable in this area. You can imagine

where a family of 10 people lives in one room of 2/2 m, where the father, the adolescents, and the young ones sleep at night!



Contrary to the growing facilities in the inner cities, in these slums, which are always on the peripheries, life is very hard; the basics are not there, though they are a few miles away, but they do not have the capacity to afford them. What I loved in these places is the spirit of togetherness and hard work. Though there is too much crime, drug abuse, and immorality, the presence of religious movements is beyond understanding. In fact, the many megachurches we have so far originated in such places.

What can you do?

You can give a valentine/love gift in so many ways by sponsoring a meal for a family of 10 at \$10.

You can sponsor tap and clean water for a family at \$200.

You can sponsor a kid in a primary school at \$50 or a secondary school at \$200.

You can put up a shelter for a family at \$2,000.



You can buy a sewing machine to generate income for \$150.

You can pay health insurance for a family at \$100.

You can buy a motorcycle for income generation at \$1,500.

You can sponsor a workshop for one day at \$500.

You can be physically involved by visiting them or praying for them wherever you are.

In case you would want to be involved just click on this link.

<https://squareministriesafrica.org/donate/>