

13 CC WORKS OF MERCY & WORKS OF WAR



This Iraqi girl was injured in war.

Do you think this little girl understands why she has to suffer pain and have scars for the rest of her life? Is there any reason good enough in "the mind of Jesus" to justify what this child has seen and experienced in the fighting of war? Jesus loves children and wants children to feel loved at all times. War brings us the opposite of love.



Children watch as their village burns.

Children always suffer in war. It is impossible to have feelings of safety and happiness when your village is burning down. Where will these children live, sleep, go to school, play, and run? Will the adults in this village be able to work? When will they have normal lives again? Will the adults be so worried and stressed that they cannot give attention and love to their children?

Print these pages on card stock. Cut paragraphs to approximately 4 1/2 in x the necessary length. Cut the one sentence caption cards to 1 1/2 in. x 4 in. The two title cards are 7 1/2 in. x 1 3/4 in.

If the exact picture is available the link is included. You will have to cut and paste the link into the address bar (rather than pressing Ctrl and clicking). If the link for the exact picture was not available there are ideas to search Google Images.

Organizing list:

- Feeding the hungry
- Building homes
- Nursing home care
- Play pump
- Elizabeth Fry visiting prisoner



Or Google Images world hunger, hungry children receive food

- Teaching others to read
- Homeless relax at homeless shelter
- Siblings comfort each other
- Father/daughter hug
- Children praying

- Deformities from napalm
- Arlington cemetery
- Community school buildings destroyed
- Monastery destroyed
- Chemicals burning vegetation in Vietnam
- Dehydrated baby with mother and grandmother
- Homes burning/bombed
- Soldiers shoot cattle
- Bombed out water reservoir
- Village burning
- Planes drop napalm
- Child carries water
- Girl abandoned from war
- Iraqi girl with facial scars



www.hfhofmc.org > frequently asked questions



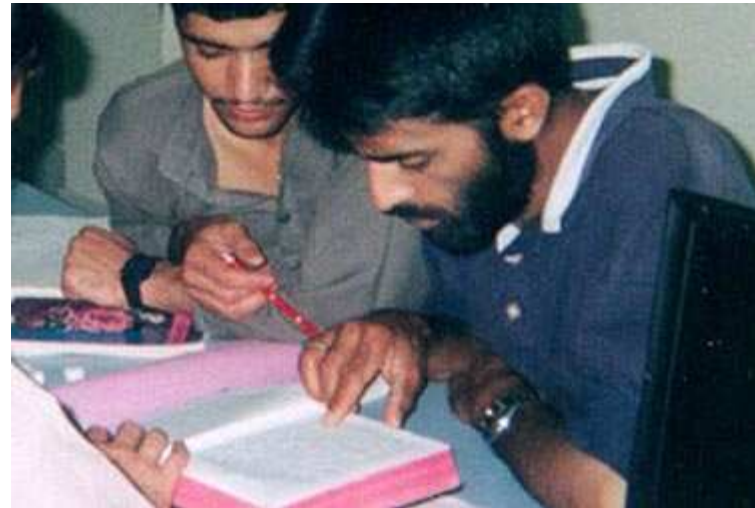
Google Images –Nursing home care



sustainableupdate.com > search box “play pumps”



Google Images Prison or Prison ministry



Google Images-adults teaching adults to read



Google Images: homeless shelter



Google Images: boys hugging



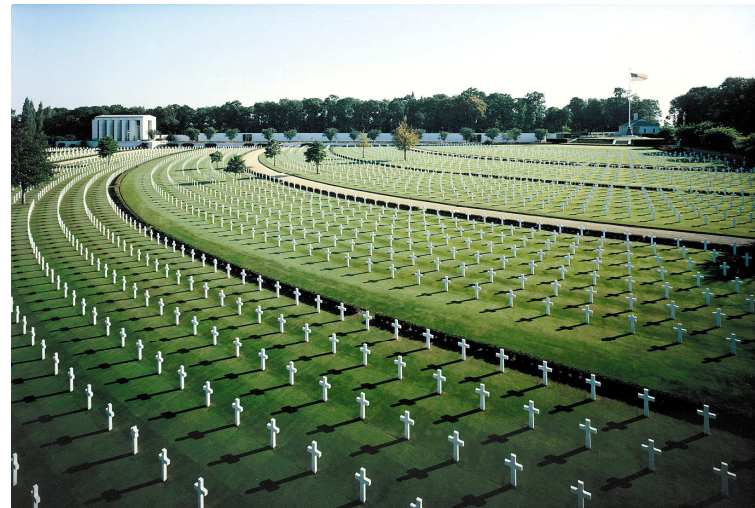
Google Images Forgiveness



Google Images Children praying



<http://dearkitty.blogspot.com/2007/01/03/support-victims-of-agent-orange-bombing-in-Vietnam> or www.dearkitty.blogspot.com/2007/01/03/ then scroll down to picture or Google Images "support victims of agent orange bombing in Vietnam".



Can't get this exact one but another good one from "Arlington West" at

<http://www.commondreams.org/headlines06/1213-08.htm>



Can't find this exact picture but Google Images:
War destruction, buildings works.



<http://www.germanwarmachine.com/fallschirmjager/montecassino.htm>



<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/6743249.stm>
Or Google BBC Monday, June 11, 2007, US
veterans 'high risk'



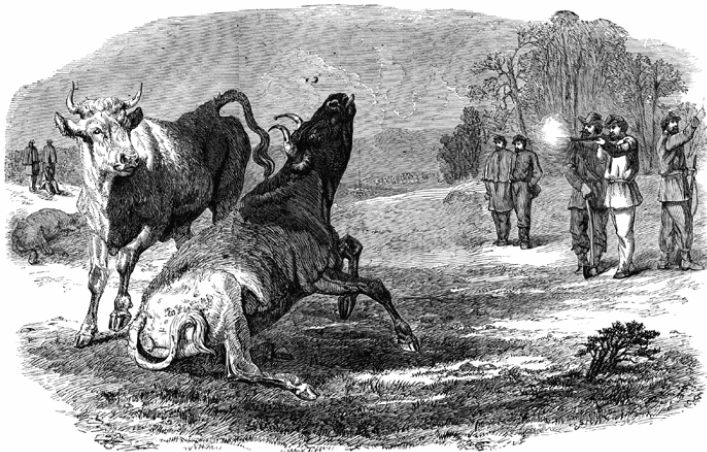
Can't find this exact picture.
Google Iraqi children dehydration **or use**



<http://www.islamonline.net/English/News/2003-06/08/article11.shtml>



www.st-george-church.org/English/Kosovo_News.htm scroll down to photo



etc.usf.edu
http://etc.usf.edu/clipart/11600/11635/shoot-cow_11635.htm



FIGURE 61.—Bombed-out underground reservoir at Cologne, Germany, which normally stored more than 5 million gallons of water.

history.amedd.army.mil ---to get to this picture
Google images: Bombed out reservoir. Click on small picture, scroll down that page to "Illustrations", scroll down to #61



Google Images: children watch village burn

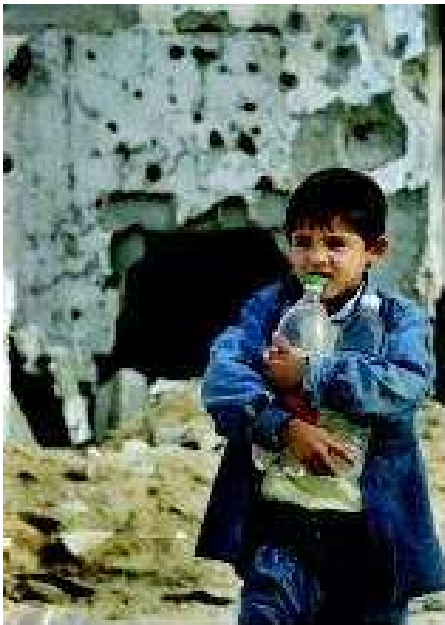


<http://www.scienceclarified.com/A-Al/Agent-Orange.html>



or use

<http://www.brusselstribunal.org/Children.htm>
>Iraqi children paying high price



Google images-Iraqi boy searches for water



Can't find this exact picture.
watch.windsofchange.net/03_0324_0330.htm or
Google Images: Iraqi girl



Can't find this exact picture but useable ones at:
<http://www.agrnews.org/issues/137/nationalnews.html>

In 2007, 852 million people were hungry. That means everyday almost a billion people are not receiving the nutrition they need. Feeding the hungry gives people, especially children, the chance to have healthy bodies. Strong bodies resist disease and keep us healthy longer as we age. 852 million people hungry everyday when the earth does produce enough food for everyone. What is keeping the food from the hungry people?

Works of war tear down and destroy. Works of mercy and love build up. Working together a group of builders can have a home ready for a family in just a few months. Having a home allows a family to be safe and settled. It allows the family a secure place where they can show the love and support they feel for each other.

The elderly and people who are sick are vulnerable—that means they can be hurt easily. Germs, falls and bumps which younger, stronger people tolerate can damage the weak quickly. Caring for the elderly reflects our awareness that Jesus is in each person. Each person is of value.

Engineers have many choices on how to use their abilities. Some engineer cared enough about children around the world to spend time developing this Play Pump. While children play they are also pumping water from deep underground. Around the world children and their families can have clean water to drink, cook with and bathe in because some engineer worked with their needs in mind.

Who becomes the prisoner? How Jesus would relate to prisons and prisoners? A prison visit brings to the prisoner more than a few minutes of companionship—it brings a sense of dignity and value. Each human being needs to receive care and respect. Even those who have committed a crime are loved by God and deserve our love.

The ability to read opens up the world. Reading is necessary for almost every skill and every job. Reading is necessary for following labels on medicine and understanding street signs. Reading connects people to healthy involvement in life.

There are many reasons people become homeless and stay homeless. Helping at a shelter or having a “Christ room” in your home serves those in need of a place to stay. Homeless people cannot carry with them all that is necessary for life—like proper clothing for all sorts of weather. Homeless shelters often need donations of clothing to give to those who come for a shower or a good night’s sleep.

Empathy, the ability to share in the feelings of another, leads to compassion—putting our feelings of care into actions which brings comfort to the other. Empathy, compassion and mercy are the healing presence of Jesus in the world.

When we forgive others we are sure to be forgiven ourselves. The sufferings we receive from others sometimes stops healthy relationship. But love only happens in relationship—so those injuries must be forgiven so love can be present again. This is so important forgiving injuries is a work of mercy.

Praying is a work of mercy, a work of love. Instead of spending time enjoying the pleasures of life the one who prays lifts to God the concerns of those in need. Praying changes hearts and lives.

Unborn children are absolutely sure to be hurt by war. The chemicals dropped from planes hurt the DNA in these women. Deformities make life less than what it could be, less than what it is meant to be. No child deserves this—but that is what war brings—suffering when the war happens and suffering for future generations. Emotional and physical damage to the human being is the reality of war.

Millions of people have died in war in the last 200 years. That's the point of war—to kill and conquer. This means all those who loved the ones who died are also suffering. Mothers and fathers can't watch their sons and daughters raise children. Children are without their moms and dads. In war everyone loses except those who own the weapon factories—they get rich.

Schools are for building up the community by teaching children what is necessary for healthy adult life. Learning happens when the mind is at ease. Have you ever thought about the noise of war? Noise terrifies. When schools are bombed, if children are not killed, they still have the whole learning process, their whole sense of security disrupted. The child who is terrorized is changed. The future for each individual and each community will be less than it could have been.

Bombing churches and monasteries is another way the enemy destroys the security of the people. This is not surprising since the enemy always tries to create fear and confusion which is the opposite of love.

Human beings are very connected to the land. We all live in a particular space, a particular place on the earth. When the land is destroyed by fires from chemicals the land is barren—or worse—it damages our bodies. The natural beauty which had refreshed us each day now becomes a constant reminder of death and destruction. The future for those living in that place is changed; it is ruined for generations to come.

Look at the hands in this picture. The grandmother suffers as she sees her daughter suffer watching her baby die from contaminated water. This little girl never had a chance to run, play, go to school or have a child of her own. This child and many more died because water treatment facilities were destroyed.

What does it mean to have your home destroyed? Even when homes are destroyed by natural causes, such as a flood or earthquakes, those who lived in the home are unsettled and feel out of place, less safe and unhappy. Perhaps all the possessions necessary for life were also destroyed. When the home is destroyed on purpose by someone who doesn't want you to live, the pain and confusion are even more difficult to understand—especially for children.

One of the works of war is to destroy food. This is more than just emptying a grocery sack on the ground. Sources that supply food for months, like milk cows and beef cattle, are killed. Perhaps the ground is ruined with chemicals so crops won't grow, or land mines prevent people from tilling the soil.

This reservoir stored more than 5 million gallons of water. Water is necessary everyday for healthy living. One of the works of war is to ruin (contaminate) drinking water so that slowly but surely the enemy gets sick and weak and dies. This is the opposite of what Jesus taught—give food and drink to those in need—even the enemy.

Children always suffer in war. It is impossible to have feelings of safety and happiness when your village is burning down. Where will these children live, sleep, go to school, play, and run? Will the adults in this village be able to work? When will they have normal lives again? Will the adults be so worried and stressed that they can not give attention and love to their children?

The enemy devastates the lives of people and vegetation—trees and food crops—when chemicals are dropped from planes. This ensures the enemy will suffer long after the war is over.

War disrupts the normal, healthy activities of children—school, music, exercise, learning languages, developing skills. Instead children are often forced to work. Meeting daily needs, like searching for water by walking through war zones, becomes the extent of some children's activity.

Where is this little girl's family? Are they dead? Were they taken away? Have they fled? War scatters families, breaks family ties, brings terrible fear, uncertainty and insecurity. War brings to children the opposite of what family life is meant to bring.

Do you think this little girl understands why she has to suffer pain and have scars for the rest of her life? Is there any reason good enough in “the mind of Jesus” to justify what this child has seen and experienced in the fighting of war? Jesus loves children and wants children to feel loved at all times. War brings us the opposite of love.

Children go through a food line.

People work together to build a house.

The sick and elderly receive care in a group home.

While playing on this Play Pump children pump water from deep underground.

A woman in prison receives a visit from a friend.

One young man uses his time to help another young man learn to read.

Homeless people stay at a shelter.

A boy comforts his upset brother.

A man and child forgive each other.

Three children pray together.

Chemicals dropped from planes onto people and land cause birth defects.

As far as the eye can see there is only the white cross marking the grave of some of those who died in war.

School buildings and community centers are destroyed by bombs.

Beautiful churches are bombed.

**Little children do dangerous work,
like hauling water for the family
through war zones.**

**Chemicals destroy vegetation and
ruin land for years to come.**

**This little child's family cannot be
found.**

**A child suffers from the effects of
contaminated water.**

This Iraqi girl was injured in war.

Homes are bombed and burning.

Soldiers shoot cattle.

**Underground water source is
bombed-out.**

**Children watch as their village
burns.**

**Crops grown for food to be used at
harvest time are destroyed by
chemicals dropped by planes.**

WORKS OF MERCY

WORKS OF WAR