WEEK 4: KENYA

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Every person has basic rights like food, water and education because we are made in the image and likeness of God and have human dignity that must be respected and upheld. We also have duties and responsibilities to one another to ensure everyone can access these rights.

STORY OF HOPE

Turkana, Kenya is hot and dry. Most people in this area raise livestock, and a few are farmers. But climate change is making this work difficult.

Rebecca and her husband, Lotiang, farm and raise goats. They rely on rain and river water, but it is raining less and less in Turkana.

To overcome this challenge, Rebecca and Lotiang participated in a Catholic Relief Services program that installed a solar powered well in their village. Now they can irrigate their fields regularly and take care of their goats.

Rebecca and Lotiang also learned new farming techniques. Lotiang grows and sells kale, which provides his family nutritious food and income so his children can attend school.

Rebecca and Lotiang are teaching others in their community what they learned.

Rebecca says, “The CRS program changed my life. I am trying to show my community so they can emulate it for a better future.”

FACTS TO CONSIDER:

- Kenya is a country in East Africa with a savanna, lakes and mountain highlands. It is home to more than 50 million people and wildlife including lions, elephants, rhinos and giraffes.

- Kenya’s climate is tropical along its coast and arid—or having little rain—in other parts of the country. More extreme droughts, higher temperatures, unpredictable rainfall and flooding due to climate change affect Kenya’s people, wildlife and land.

- CRS has been working in Kenya since 1965, supporting improved agriculture and livelihoods, health, water and sanitation, social services for children and families, and peacebuilding efforts.

For downloadable photos, visit crsricebowl.org/photos and watch the video from week 4 at crsricebowl.org/stories.
WEEK 4

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

45 MINUTES

OBJECTIVE
Through the story of Rebecca and Lotiang in Kenya, students will explore the Catholic social teaching principle of Rights and Responsibilities.

MATERIALS
- Week 4 story and video—available at crsricebowl.org/stories.
- Week 4 Activity Sheet: Grades 4-6.
- Crayons, colored pencils or markers.

DISCUSSION (15 MINUTES)
1. Read the story from week 4. Use the video to supplement the story.
2. Reflect:
   - What did you find interesting about the story?
   - What challenges did Rebecca and Lotiang need to overcome to maintain their farming livelihood, or work?
   - What is climate change and how is it affecting people in Kenya?

ACTIVITY (25 MINUTES)
1. Explain the Catholic social teaching principle of Rights and Responsibilities. Discuss as a class how as human beings, we all have certain rights regardless of where we live or what we do. We also have a responsibility to respect these rights and work to ensure others have them, too.
2. Have students complete the Week 4 Activity Sheet: Grades 4-6.
3. If time permits, ask students to share one thing they can do at home or school to reduce the effects of climate change.

CLOSING PRAYER (5 MINUTES)
An excerpt from Pope Francis’ encyclical Laudato Si’:
All-powerful God,
You are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures. You embrace with your tenderness all that exists. Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty. Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one.

Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey toward your infinite light. We thank you for being with us each day. Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love and peace.

Amen

AT HOME
1. Share your activity sheet with your family.
2. As a family, read and discuss the daily reflection in your CRS Rice Bowl Lenten Calendar.

IF YOU ONLY HAVE 10 MINUTES
1. Read the story from week 4. Use the video to supplement the story.
2. Lead Discussion step 2.
Every person has the right to live and grow to their full potential and to have what they need to do that—such as food, clean water, education and medical care. We also have the responsibility to ensure others can enjoy these rights, too.

Unscramble the words from the story.

1. ofod
2. tarew
3. efamrr
4. raosl
5. itagirrino
6. eanKy
7. ekla
8. oshcol
9. mctaeli
10. htugodr

The solar powered well provides water for Rebecca and her family to drink, cook, clean and water their farm. Use the word bank to fill in the lines demonstrating how the well works. Then color the picture.

Word Bank
Farmers use well to water fields
Sun gives energy to solar panels
Solar panels power well

Answer Key: Food, Water, Farmer, Solar, Irrigation, Kenya, Kale, School, Climate, Drought