

Transforming the Lives of Children, Families Affected by Poverty

American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS) Rizpah's Children Freedom School program is a literacy program that serves kindergarten through second-grade students who may not otherwise have access to books and structured learning opportunities. Freedom Schools use an integrated reading curriculum that reduces summer learning loss and prepares students to enter the school year at or above the reading level of their peers.



The program's five essential components are as follows:

- high-quality academic enrichment;
- parent and family development;
- civic engagement and social action;
- intergenerational servant-leadership development; and
- nutrition, health and mental health.

The Freedom School program's impact on young scholars is apparent. One 9-year-old boy said, "The future I want is for the world to be a better place," while another said, "You can be like a mustard seed and move a mountain."

Your gifts to America for Christ support ABHMS' Rizpah's Children, a network focused on strategically addressing childhood poverty in the United States and Puerto Rico.

ABHMS is licensed to sponsor and operate CDF Freedom Schools.

Reproduce and use as a bulletin insert.

America for CHRIST OFFERING 2020

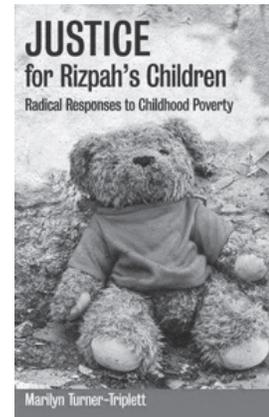
"You shall
LOVE your
NEIGHBOR
as **YOURSELF.**"
MATTHEW 22:39



American Baptist Home Mission Societies
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abhms.org/afc

"Justice for Rizpah's Children: Radical Responses to Childhood Poverty"



Poverty is the greatest threat to a child's welfare. According to the National Center for Children in Poverty, approximately 15 million children in the United States live in families with incomes below the federal poverty threshold. What is God calling you to do about children who experience poverty? In "Justice for Rizpah's Children: Radical Responses to Childhood Poverty," the Rev. Dr. Marilyn P. Turner-Triplett inspires us to action.

Grounded in a sermon delivered by Turner-Triplett about the biblical Rizpah, who advocated for the seven slain children of Saul (2 Samuel 21:1-10), this book urges readers to follow Rizpah's example, refusing to remain idle while children are consumed by systems that prey upon the poor.

978-0-8170-1798-9 paperback 168 pages \$15.99

Available from Judson Press 800-458-3766 www.judsonpress.com

Rizpah's Children Freedom School, Somerset Academy graduation 2019

“Don't let anyone tell you that you
can't be what you want.”

— Renown abstract artist Moe Brooker, who spoke during
the 2019 Rizpah's Children Freedom School, Somerset Academy
graduation at American Baptist Home Mission Societies'
Leadership and Mission Building, King of Prussia, Pa.



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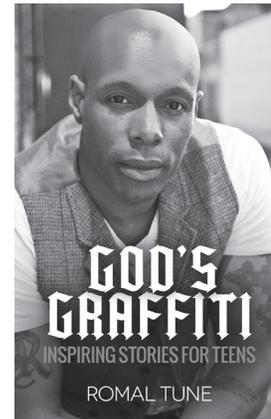
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“God's Graffiti: Inspiring Stories for Teens”



Highlighting noted “at-risk” youth in the
Bible and sharing his own story of growing
up in poverty amid crime and violence, the
Rev. Romal Tune details how obstacles can
become opportunities through faith. This
Bible study celebrates men and women in
Scripture who left troubled pasts behind to
claim purpose-filled futures!

978-0-8170-1733-0

paperback 184 pages \$13.99

JUDSON PRESS
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Puerto Rico Urgently Needs our Support!

The daily struggle in Puerto Rico since Hurricane Maria is astounding. Some recent statistics provide a snapshot of what Puerto Ricans are facing:

- 70,000 homes were destroyed.
- 250,000 homes have partial damage.
- 48 American Baptist churches were damaged.
- Approximately 30,000 people are without jobs.
- Approximately 50% of the houses are not covered by insurance.



Unbelievably, there are tens of thousands of homes in Puerto Rico still covered by blue tarps. In addition, that means tens of thousands of our brothers and sisters live day-to-day with leaky roofs and buckets in their living rooms to catch the rain, always worrying about the next cloudy day or pending tropical storms.

American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS) is currently providing funds for repairing roofs in Puerto Rico.

“Life was hard before [the roof was fixed]; we were saving and trying to make it, but it was hard. ... The house kept getting wet with every rain.” — Magaly Figueroa

“My life is so much happier now. I don’t have to keep putting towels and buckets on the floor if it rains. ... I can finally sleep in peace.” — Mary Luz Jiménez

Your gifts to America for Christ support ABHMS funds for repairing homes and Volunteer-mobilization Ministries teams.

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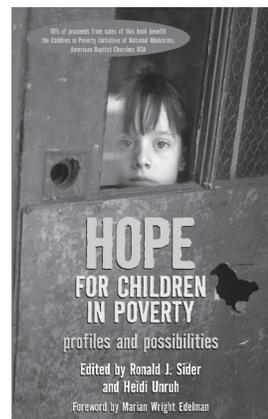
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“Hope for Children in Poverty: Profiles and Possibilities”



This comprehensive reader does more than just analyze the problems of poverty and the issues that typically accompany it. It takes a giant step forward in exploring real solutions through public policy and faith-based organizations.

978-0-8170-1505-3
paperback 200 pages \$16

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PUBLISHERS SINCE 1824

Available from Judson Press 800-458-3766 www.judsonpress.com

Puerto Rico: Restoring a Life with the Light of Christ!

Numerous stories are similar to Yaira Cuevas and Luis Rodríguez of Arecibo, Puerto Rico. They are parents to two children with autism. And Cuevas lost a baby about one year before the visit of American Baptist Home Mission Societies' (ABHMS) Volunteer-mobilization Ministries team.

Like many mothers on the island, Cuevas suffered severe depression because of the loss of her baby and the urgent need to



take care of her two children after the hurricane. The ABHMS volunteer team was assigned to clean and seal the roof as well as to scrape and paint the inside of the roof. According to Cuevas, the team did more than restore a house; they became

the light of Christ in the darkness she was living because of the depression in the hurricane's aftermath.

Progress in Puerto Rico has been relatively stalled since only a small fraction of the federally approved funds has been disbursed. In light of not having a stable infrastructure and government support, Puerto Rican families have been resilient.

Your America for Christ support will respond to the needs of families like Cuevas' and Rodríguez's to provide hope in the midst of hardship. Let us be the light of Christ in the darkness.

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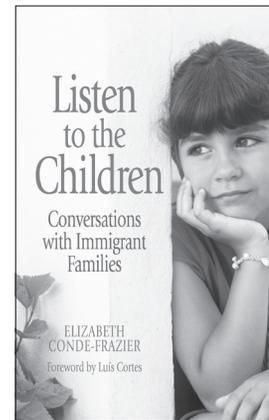
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Listen to the Children: Conversations with Immigrant Families (Escuchemos a los niños: Conversaciones con familias inmigrantes)



This unique resource brings human realities to life as it invites the reader to eavesdrop on fictionalized conversations between immigrant parents, their children and their caregivers. It offers insight into the emotions and perceptions of immigrant families and how the reader can support these children in our churches, schools and communities.

978-0-8170-1661-6
paperback 168 pages \$13.99

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