

CMSI Children's Resource 2021

Introduction



# Thank You...

..for signing up for CMSI's 2021 Children's Resource. We hope that you find the material helpful as you inspire your children and young people to play their part in global mission.

# **Introducing CMSI**

**The Church Mission Society Ireland** (CMSI) is a Christian mission organisation that exists to help God's people engage in God's mission. We make connections between different parts of God's global family and we equip churches and individuals as they work together to share God's transforming love.

The **Children's Resource** is just one of the ways in which we resource the Church in Ireland and encourage parishes to support and be inspired by churches in other parts of the world.



equipping the church in mission



#### **Our Global Partners**

CMSI has developed strong, fruitful relationships with a number of Anglican Dioceses, local churches and Christian organisations in Africa and South Asia. Our relationships with these **Global Partners** provide the context for all we do.

*Heroes Of Hope* shares stories from all nine countries where our partners work.

## **Our Annual Theme**



Every September CMSI picks an annual theme to help us shape and share our work over the next twelve months. This theme is reflected in our Children's Resource, as well as our magazines and events.

The theme for 2020-2021 is 'Voices Of Hope'. It's all about championing the stories and perspectives of our Global Partners and encouraging people to embrace God's message of hope.



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### The Children's Resource Theme

CMSI's new Children's Resource explores the theme of 'hope' - a very precious commodity in these days of lockdown, restrictions, uncertainty and despair.

The resource introduces *Heroes Of Hope* in the Bible and across the global Church. This dual focus on the Bible and our Global Partners has characterised all of CMSI's Children's Resources over the years.

We pray that through these stories, your children and young people will hear God's call to play their parts as *Heroes Of Hope*. We also join you in praying that your wider church might hear that call afresh.



### Using the material



Given the uncertainty of church openings and restrictions in 2021, the *Heroes Of Hope* material has been designed for use in a variety of settings. You can simply pick and choose different activities, films and stories as you see fit. Or you can follow the suggested **Session Outlines** for a more ordered approach.

In addition to the **Global Church Story films** (2-4 minutes for each film), each session includes a **Bible Story** and a range of **Activities** that link to that story. You should find enough variety in these activities for different ages, abilities and settings.

All the material - including the short films - is free to view and download from the *Heroes Of Hope* page of CMSI's website. Should you wish to make a donation towards the costs of production, you can use the donate buttons on the web page or send a cheque to CMS Ireland (with 'Children's Resource Materials' on the back).

The web page is password protected. Once you have signed-up for the resource and received the link and password, please feel free to share these within your own church (with Sunday school leaders, families etc). However, we request that you not share the details outside your church. Simply point people to the Children's Resource page of our website, so they can sign-up their church for the resource.