

MISSION OUTREACH FOR AT-RISK YOUNG WOMEN IN AFRICA Lutheran Hour Ministries — \$100,000

- Reader 1:** We live in a land of plenty and we are blessed with laws to protect us when we are wronged. Even when faced with hardships and loss of security or jobs, we have resources available to us. Truly we are blessed. Are we generous when others suffer and need a handout? Do we look down on those who are less fortunate? Are we compassionate?
- Reader 2:** *Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful (Luke 6:36) ... give and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap ... (Luke 6:38).*
- Reader 1:** Young women in Kenya and Cameroon live in poverty and violence. They are often sexually abused and, with little education or resources to help, end up in prostitution. Trafficking mainly to Europe is common. Some girls as young as 12, no longer welcome in their homes, end up selling themselves on the streets. Even churches disown those who become pregnant. Some of these women resort to crime and end up in prison along with their children.
- Reader 2:** *Then the King will say to those on his right. 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you, ... for I was in prison and you came to me' ... the righteous will answer him, 'when did we see you ... And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these ... you did it to me' (Matthew 25: 34, 36, 39, 40).*
- Reader 1:** Our mite offerings can make a difference in the lives of these desperate young women in Africa. Lutheran Hour Ministries has Christ-centered and holistic outreach programs that help change their cycle of poverty and prostitution by teaching income-producing trades and giving them a chance to achieve economic independence. They share the Good News of Jesus and connect them to Lutheran congregations.
- Reader 2:** *For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly ... God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us (Romans 5:6, 8).*
- Reader 1:** Pray with me. Lord, You have called us to be Your children and blessed us daily. Forgive our sins and give us generous hearts so that this mission grant is funded and many young women will learn of Your grace and forgiveness. In Jesus' name. Amen.