



Session 6: A Changed Family
Suggested Week of Use: January 7, 2018
Core Passages: Acts 16:22-34

News Story Summary

Syrian baby Karim and his mother were caught up in an artillery attack on a Syrian market two months ago. His mother was killed, and he sustained head injuries that resulted in the loss of his left eye. Baby Karim's injuries are the consequence of a seven year civil war that began before he was born. His injuries has also sparked a hashtag social media campaign that has gone viral on Facebook and Twitter, with people, including world leaders, sports stars, and celebrities, from around the world posting selfies of themselves covering one eye, using the tag #SolidarityWithKarim and #StandWithKarim. Karim has become a symbol of the Syrian war.

(For more on this story, search the Internet using the phrase "stand with Karim")

Focus Attention

To supplement the Focus Attention idea, read the news story summary. Ask: *How has baby Karim's blindness influenced others?* Explain that baby Karim has become a symbol for the consequences of the Syrian war. Ask: *What possible influences might baby Karim have on the future?*

Summarize and Challenge

To supplement the Summarize and Challenge, remind the group of the news article. Lead group members to compare the influence of baby Karim to the influence of Paul and Silas. Explain that God can use every situation and consequence of our lives to influence others for His glory and to accomplish His purposes. Encourage group members to use every opportunity, both good and bad, to testify of God's work in their lives and to draw others to Him.