



August 20, 2010

"Let the little children come to Me, and don't stop them, because the kingdom of God belongs to such as these," Luke 18:16b

WHISTLE WHILE YOU WORK

Remember we talked about children's games and toys last week? This week a mom living among the Northern Africa and the Middle Eastern peoples tell us a little about how children work:

"Children are put to work very early. If their family is very poor, they will beg, or sell small items, such as hard-boiled eggs or kitchen sponges, on the street. It is not uncommon for children to buy the food for meals. I've seen an approximately 8-year-old girl bartering with a vendor on the price of tomatoes.

"The oldest child is usually responsible for hauling the drinking water to the house each day. They make a game of it, an older child pulling a younger one on the little sled they have made from an empty oil container on the way to the water company, and then using the sled to haul the jugs of water back home.

Oldest daughters learn to cook when they are very young. A neighbor told me her 9-year-old daughter cooked for the rest of the family for the 40 days after she had her youngest child. Last week we saw a car pull up to Baskin-Robbins, (yes! we got a Baskin-Robbins in town, just this year) and 6 children got out. The driver told us he was 15, and he had been driving for 2 years! If you had ever experienced the traffic here, you would be even more amazed."

Please pray for these children that they will not be afraid but will trust Jesus to provide food and water...and even ice cream!

<http://kompray.imb.org>