

**Thanksgiving 2011**

If you want to help for a day, give them rice;  
 If you want to help for a while give them a tree;  
 If you want to help for an eternity, give them an education

***Prayer sent to kids who lose shoes, and those who have none to lose.***



*(School children scavenge the city dump in the morning and attend Responsibility's school in the afternoon. The school is geared specifically for them.)*

*We pray for children  
 Who sneak Popsicles before supper.  
 Who erase holes in math workbooks.  
 Who can never find their shoes.  
 And we pray for those  
 who stare at photographers from  
 behind barbed wire.  
 Who can't bound down the street in  
 a new pair of sneakers.  
 Who never "counted potatoes,"  
 Who are born in places we  
 wouldn't be caught dead in.  
 Who never saw a circus.  
 Who live in an X-rated world.  
 We pray for children  
 Who bring us sticky kisses and  
 fistfuls of dandelions.  
 Who hug us in a hurry and forget  
 their lunch money.  
 And we pray for those  
 Who never get dessert.  
 Who have no security blanket to  
 drag behind them.  
 Who watch their parents watch  
 them die.  
 Who can't find any bread to steal.  
 Who don't have any rooms to clean up.  
 Whose pictures aren't on anybody's  
 dresser.  
 Whose monsters are real.*

*We pray for children  
 Who spend all their allowance before  
 Tuesday.*

*Who throw tantrums in the grocery  
 store and pick at their food.*

*Who like ghost stories.  
 Who shove their dirty clothes under  
 the bed and never rinse out the tub.  
 Who get visits from the tooth fairy.*



*(This 8-year-Old is eating a banana she found scavenging in the city dump.)*

*Who don't like to be kissed in front  
 of the car pool.  
 Who squirm in church or temple and  
 scream into the phone.  
 Whose tears we sometimes laugh at  
 and whose smiles can make us cry.  
 And we pray for those  
 Whose nightmares come in the  
 daytime.  
 Who will eat anything.  
 Who have never seen a dentist.  
 Who aren't spoiled by anybody.  
 Who go to bed hungry and  
 cry themselves to sleep.  
 Who live and move, but have  
 no being.*



*We pray for children  
 Who want to be carried.  
 And for those who must be.  
 For those we never give up on,  
 and for those who never get a second  
 chance.  
 For those we smother  
 And for those who will grab the hand  
 of anybody kind enough to offer it.*



*All of the photographs were taken at the Matagalpa, Nicaragua garbage dump. Families of 8 earn up to \$2 a day. On a good day, they will find a pair of shoes, a shirt, and maybe lunch or dinner. This year, let's invite them all to a Thanksgiving dinner.*

*Happy Thanksgiving,  
 David Lynch and Kids*