



YOUTH ACTIVITY

Know the Flow!

How much water does it take to run your household? Let's find out! With your parent or guardian, see if you can find a water bill. It will show you the number of gallons or liters your house used last month. Divide that by the number of days in the month. The average U.S. family uses about 300 gallons (1200 liters) per day.¹ How does your family compare? In many places where Week of Compassion is helping love to flow, families have to walk more than 3 miles and carry every gallon. Each gallon of water weighs 8.5 pounds. With a friend, test to see how many pounds you can carry in a backpack. Can you carry 10lbs? 20lbs? Once you think you know, calculate how many trips you'd have to make to get your family's daily water usage. Wow! It could be a lot of trips, even if other members of your family helped! That's why supporting Week of Compassion water projects makes such a difference! When we help provide a water source for a community, the people who live there can safely access water much closer to home. They don't have to spend so much time traveling and carrying water, so they have time for other things: like going to school, and spending time with their family.

Now that you know how many trips it would take, with your family or friends consider making a contribution based on that number to your Week of Compassion offering. You could make an offering based on:

- **Your average usage of gallons per day.** Could you give a penny, a nickle, a dime, a quarter or even a dollar for each of those gallons? What a difference it would make!
- **The number of trips you would have to make to meet your household needs if you carried all your water yourself.** Pick an amount that's right for your gratitude and that will help others!

Money isn't the only way to "let love flow." People around the world, including in the U.S. and Canada, are living with water supplies that are unsafe or not affordable. Could you **write a letter to the congressperson or senator** in such an area asking them to make sure there is clean water for everyone? Your letter might make a difference for a family in need.

According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency, "How We Use Water."