

June 2, 2019

Mission Minute

During the week of World Refugee Day, June 12-23, people and groups from around the world have committed to participate in the Ration Challenge. This campaign benefits Church World Service and has existed in other parts of the world, but 2019 is the first time its been made available in the United States.

The Ration Challenge has been designed to reflect, as closely as possible, what it's like to eat rations as a Syrian refugee in Jordan. People may be struggling to cope with the trauma of what they've experienced. They may not know where their family is, or whether they're even alive. Most people won't know how long they'll be stuck living like this and will wonder whether they'll ever get to go home. In many cases, refugees have no choice but to share ration as there are simply not enough to go around. Therefore, the money raised by this challenge is so important.

Taking part in the challenge doesn't give us any understanding of what these other things feel like, but this small act of solidarity does give us a deeper understand over their struggle and will help create more empathy and understanding at home.

The ration pack includes 15oz of rice, 6oz of lentils, 3oz of dried chickpeas, 3.75oz of canned sardines, 15.5oz of canned kidney beans, and 12oz of vegetable oil. In the ration pack there are two food coupons for additional rice and flour. They are representative of the coupons many refugees are given by the UN or other organizations that can be exchanged in local shops for essential staple foods.

Pastor Brad has committed to participating in this challenge, and you can learn more and donate at his page, which is <https://my.rationchallengeusa.org/bradleyschutt>.