Your love and prayers let the world know that God is close to the brokenhearted - from Victoria’s family in El Salvador, to families suffering with disabilities in Ukraine.
You provide mobility, dignity, and the hope of eternity to children like Victoria all over the world. And this month, you can transform the lives and hearts of twice as many families through our May Match opportunity!

Seven-year-old Victoria was carried in an infant car seat because her parents could not afford a wheelchair for her. Victoria has West syndrome as a result of a brain injury she received at birth. She cannot walk, speak, or hold her head up on her own. Her life has been fraught with seizures. At times, Victoria had 15 seizures a day. And because of her multiple disabilities, Victoria requires a specialized diet.

“Everything is different and more complex,” says Victoria’s mother, Margarita. “We prayed to God, ‘We know she would be better in your presence. Take her with you or give us the strength to watch her suffer.’”

“We always needed help,” says Margarita with tears in her eyes. “I prayed to God because only God knew how we were feeling. Up until we met Joni and Friends, there wasn’t a single human who helped us. I made God a request in the middle of my despair, and God heard our prayer.”

It would have cost Margarita and her husband five years’ worth of wages to afford a wheelchair for Victoria. Knowing they could never provide this medical necessity for their daughter, they had all but given up hope. But when they came to our Wheels for the World™ outreach in El Salvador, they experienced victory in their tragedy, and their faith was restored.
In the month of May, you can defend the rights of the poor and needy all over the world and double your impact through our May Match initiative!

Today, right when we need it most, some dear friends who love families impacted by disability have offered to match every dollar you give to Joni and Friends this month! Now is the time, like never before, to reach out to the world’s neediest population – people with disabilities like Victoria in El Salvador – and send them real hope in the midst of their unimaginable hardships. This month, every gift given will be matched. $50 becomes $100. $100 is doubled to $200! That’s right! Your gift will be doubled and your ministry reach multiplied exponentially – sending practical help and the love of Jesus to children and adults with disabilities worldwide!

Victoria and her family received so much more than a wheelchair at our Wheels for the World outreach. They’ve become part of Joni’s House El Salvador, where they receive food, medicine, and essential hygiene supplies. Through Joni and Friends and your love, they receive hope for the future!

“Joni and Friends is the answer to my prayers,” says Margarita. “Now Victoria can sit by herself. She is fastened in and safe and has all the accessories she needs. This wheelchair is a great blessing for us and for Victoria, and she knows it!”

“Joni and Friends is the ministry God used in my life to ease my mind so I could stop feeling forgotten by God,” says Margarita.

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“Joni and Friends allows us to see God more closely,” says Margarita. “The day I met Joni and Friends, I felt my chains were broken!” This is what you’re giving to and supporting every time you donate to Joni and Friends! And in the month of May, your gift will be doubled and our ministry to families like Victoria’s will be multiplied!
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hen it comes to the needy and afflicted, the Bible constantly uses words like ‘defend,’ ‘rescue,’ ‘help,’ and ‘uphold the cause of.’ It’s what we do at Joni and Friends. We do not merely ‘remember’ the afflicted; we do something about their desperate plight.

Like in Ukraine. Just as we were beginning construction on Joni’s House Ukraine, the Russian military launched its invasion. Knowing that all-out war would crush Ukrainians with disabilities, we quickly reallocated all the lumber, concrete, and cinderblocks to barricade homes and care facilities. We went from building Joni’s House to building blockades, showing that Joni’s House is not about a building… it’s about blessing the most vulnerable with Christ-centered support!

When Russia stepped up its rocket strikes, we shifted into high gear with Galyna, our boots-on-the-ground in Ukraine (in-country partners like her are in lockstep with Joni and Friends). Galyna has her finger on the pulse of what’s happening and is ‘working her network,’ tracking down and rescuing disabled people out of harm’s way. Because when air raid sirens go off, they cannot jump out of bed, grab a few things, and make a dash for the bomb shelter. Caregivers run for their lives, abandoning the disabled. No one stands in food lines or gets water for those with disabilities. No one stays behind to change their soiled bed pads!

Truly, Ukrainians with disabilities are the people of Psalm 25:16-18 who cry out to God, “Turn to me and be gracious to me… relieve the troubles of my heart and free me from my anguish. Look on my affliction and my distress.”

Galyna sees the distress of Ukrainians with disabilities, and so she keeps working on even more evacuations – as long as Joni and Friends and our partners have strength, we will keep answering the call of Christ in Luke 14 to “go out into the streets and alleys, find the disabled, the lame, and the blind” to bring them to safety!

Today, through our May Match initiative, your gift will send food, medical supplies, and personal hygiene supplies to Ukrainian families suffering with disabilities, and the practical help you send will be wrapped in the Gospel. These families desperately need Jesus, and they need you!

Thank you for defending the rights of the poor and needy through our May Match Opportunity. You are reaching twice as many children and adults for Jesus!
Whether it’s across the ocean or right here at home, families living with disabilities share one primary need for the only true hope that will carry them into eternity. **They need Jesus, which is why the Gospel is at the heart of everything we do** – here in the United States and all over the world.

When you give to your local Joni and Friends ministry through our May Match Opportunity, your gift will be doubled, bringing the love of Jesus to twice as many children and adults struggling with disabilities through our *Family Retreats, Warrior Getaways, and Marriage Getaways*. Let God use your act of faithfulness today to multiply ministry in the lives of more and more families through all our programs - here and abroad!

You have our joyful promise that your gift will introduce thousands of poor and needy families to Jesus through all the ministry programs at Joni and Friends with this Matching Gift Opportunity! Let me hear from you today. Show the world that “The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.” (Psalm 34:18)