



## President Bush's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Directions:

1. Review the excerpt below from President Bush's 2003 State of the Union Address describing a new global health program.
2. Meet in your small group and discuss the questions below:
  - What is the main message in the speech excerpt?
  - Why does the president feel the message needs to be made to the American public?
  - What facts or statistics did the president use to support his points?
  - What other techniques were employed to support the substance of the speech?
  - What course of action is he proposing to address the problem he presents?
3. Meet back in large group to debrief the activity.

### Excerpts from President Bush's 2003 State of the Union Address

*Today, on the continent of Africa, nearly 30 million people have the AIDS virus -- including 3 million children under the age 15. There are whole countries in Africa where more than one-third of the adult population carries the infection. More than 4 million require immediate drug treatment. Yet across that continent, only 50,000 AIDS victims -- only 50,000 -- are receiving the medicine they need.*

*Because the AIDS diagnosis is considered a death sentence, many do not seek treatment. Almost all who do are turned away. A doctor in rural South Africa describes his frustration. He says, "We have no medicines. Many hospitals tell people, you've got AIDS, we can't help you. Go home and die." In an age of miraculous medicines, no person should have to hear those words. (Applause)*

*AIDS can be prevented. Anti-retroviral drugs can extend life for many years. And the cost of those drugs has dropped from \$12,000 a year to under \$300 a year -- which places a tremendous possibility within our grasp. Ladies and gentlemen, seldom has history offered a greater opportunity to do so much for so many.*

*We have confronted, and will continue to confront, HIV/AIDS in our own country. And to meet a severe and urgent crisis abroad, tonight I propose the Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief -- a work of mercy beyond all current international efforts to help the people of Africa. This comprehensive plan will prevent 7 million new AIDS infections, treat at least 2 million people with life-extending drugs, and provide humane care for millions of people suffering from AIDS, and for children orphaned by AIDS. (Applause)*

*I ask the Congress to commit \$15 billion over the next five years, including nearly \$10 billion in new money, to turn the tide against AIDS in the most afflicted nations of Africa and the Caribbean. (Applause)*

The complete speech can be accessed at

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2003/01/20030128-19.html>