



Introducing...

'Charity Begins at Home'

a 15-minute service segment for All We Can Partner Churches



Every person's potential fulfilled

Image: Cynthia Fahn, a participant in All We Can's Partner SHIFSD's literacy and vocational training courses, sits outside her home in Johnsonville, Liberia. (C) Tom Price/All We Can

Please use the PowerPoint that accompanies this resource, available at:
allwecan.org.uk/resources/intro2024

Celebrating 2023

As an All We Can partner church, we receive some additional communication and resources from the All We Can team throughout the year. Since we're still more or less at the beginning of a new year, they have invited us to spend 10 minutes or so in our service introducing their new campaign.

Last year, we journeyed with communities in Malawi who have been supported by All We Can's local partner, Eagles. And we learnt about the importance of putting local communities in the driving seat of change.

All We Can have sent us our impact certificate for 2023 which shows as a church we donated [x amount] last year, which contributed to a total of just under £50,000 that partner churches raised in total. We'll get one of these next year as well, so hopefully we can do even better this year! I'll display the certificate in [relevant place] after the service. As a final reminder and thank you from Malawi, we're going to show a prayer recorded by Jimmy Likagwa – one of the leaders of Eagles.



Show the video in the accompanying PowerPoint

Activity

Before we show another video introducing this year's campaign, we're going to see on the screen a number of bible passages that talk about 'home' in some way. Take a look at those for a moment and then have a quick chat with those around you about what 'home' means to you. That might be a place, a feeling, a person, or something else entirely.





Display the slide in the PowerPoint, allow time for conversation, and invite feedback if appropriate.

Introducing the New Campaign

We'll now show a video which will explain why the concept of 'home' is going to be an important theme this year for All We Can.



Show the video in the accompanying PowerPoint

[If doing this segment before Lent, use the below]

The first chance we get to explore stories from Liberia is with All We Can's Lent resource, which this year is entitled 'What is Mine to Do?'. The idea is to use Lent as a time of reflection and discernment on what our role is as justice-seekers all year round, rather than an isolated period where we might do something as a one-off.

We will receive three Lent packs as a partner church, so let me know if you would like one. But all of the content is also available digitally on the resources section of the All We Can website. This includes 6 postcards full of stories and suggestions, a set of 40 reflective questions for each day of Lent, and a colouring sheet with 40 sections to complete over the course of the 6 weeks.

[continue with the below, or if during or after Lent, start here]

In the rest of 2024, we will have the opportunity to explore 'Charity Begins at Home' as a church in Refugee Week, at Harvest, and in Advent. Each of which will explore not only All We Can's work in Liberia, but also what it means for us as Christians in the UK to fruitfully work with our local communities. So keep an eye out for news about those.

Prayer

As we set out on this fresh journey with All We Can, let us pray for what is to come:

Dear Lord,

Thank you for all the things that we may call 'home.' For the places, people, and things that give us a sense of security and belonging. Help us to foster and encourage these things this year.

We pray for the work of All We Can and their partners around the world, as they help communities fulfil the potential that you have already blessed them with. Thank you for the movement towards charity beginning in the homes of local people, not imposed from the outside.

We pray especially for All We Can's partners in Liberia, who we will be hearing more about this year. Bless and sustain them in their vital work to tackle injustice in their communities.

And we pray for ourselves, that we may be open and enthusiastic this year to engage with both our global and local neighbours as a church in new ways.

Amen.

