



Introducing...

'Charity Begins at Home'

a 15-minute service segment for to familiarise congregations with All We Can's new campaign



Every person's potential fulfilled

Image: Cynthia Fan, 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

Introduction

As many of you will know, All We Can is the relief and development charity of the Methodist Church, who do amazing work to tackle poverty and injustice globally by partnering with local organisations in low-income countries.

Each year, All We Can produce a number of resources that help churches like us engage with issues of global justice. These resources are tied together by a common theme, and All We Can are encouraging us to take 10mins towards the start of this year to introduce the concept behind their new campaign.

[if your church used any All We Can resources in 2023 e.g. Harvest, say the below]

Last year, the campaign was called 'Communities in the Driving Seat' and we journeyed with communities in Malawi who have been supported by All We Can's local partner, Eagles.

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.

All of the Lent content is 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 of the 40 days, and a colouring sheet with 40 sections to complete over the course of Lent.

[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.

