

TEARFUND PRAYER MOMENT

27 MAY 2018

We believe in the power of prayer and we believe in the church, Jesus' body, fulfilling his ministry on earth. This is why we know that if the global church gathers together and moves with God's spirit, we will see an end to extreme poverty. Thank you for joining with us.

Below is a suggestion of how you might incorporate the prayer moment into your meeting / service on 27 May 2018.

A MESSAGE FROM TEARFUND

This is no ordinary year for us. In 2018, we're marking 50 years of restoring lives, standing up for justice, and empowering churches to lead their communities out of poverty.

On 29 May 1968, Tearfund was formed in response to an outpouring of compassion from the UK church. The faithful prayers and support of churches around the UK meant that we could reach out to those suffering from famine in India and the Biafran war.

And over the last fifty years we have responded to earthquakes, floods, conflict, drought – following Jesus wherever the need is greatest.

We believed that we could see an end to extreme poverty and fifty years on, we are closer than ever before. But there are still many unjust policies to be challenged; war and unrest continues in Yemen, Syria and many other countries; and flooding and droughts put millions at risk of hunger and disease.

We have a vision to see all people freed from poverty, living transformed lives and reaching their God-given potential. But we can't do it without you and your prayers.

We won't stop praying for an end to poverty.

Thank you for joining us.

PLAY THE FILM

During 2018 Tearfund wants to see one million prayers raised to overcome extreme poverty. Prayer has the power to change the course of history and a commitment to end extreme poverty is a spiritual battle as much as anything else. Our prayers could turn the tide.

We are joining with other churches around the world today to pray in unity.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, has written a prayer that we will now say together. You will find it on the prayer cards you have been given / It will be put up on the screens for you to follow.

Gracious and generous God, you became poor so that we might be enriched by your love, and you gave the world's wealth and resources as a common inheritance of all human beings.

We pray you would strengthen your church to be a beacon of hospitality for the poor.

We pray that, seeing the light of Christ's love, the nations and peoples of the world may fight not to kill, but to outdo one another in care for the poor, and in actions of gracious generosity.

Through Him who for our sakes did not grasp the wealth of heaven, but instead gave all to live for us as a slave, and die for us in pain, Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.

Amen



Following Jesus where the need is greatest

100 Church Road, Teddington TW11 8QE T 020 3906 3366 E churches@tearfund.org Scotland: T 0141 332 3621 E scotland@tearfund.org
Northern Ireland: T 028 9073 0060 E ni@tearfund.org Wales: T 01437 721 139 E cymru@tearfund.org www.tearfund.org/churchresource

Registered Charity No. 265464 (England & Wales) Registered Charity No. SC037624 (Scotland) 31845-(0118)