


A photograph of two young boys with dark skin, smiling and looking out from a window. The boy on the left is wearing a striped shirt, and the boy on the right is wearing a blue shirt. They are leaning on a brick ledge. The background is dark, and there is a yellow torn paper effect in the top right corner.

God's **love.** Your **legacy.** Lasting **transformation.**

A guide to leaving a gift in your will

tearfund



‘The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor... They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of his splendour.’

Isaiah 61:1,3

📷 After years of family conflict, Telesphore (left) and Primitivo (right) from Rwanda can look forward to a future of peace thanks to counselling and training provided by Tearfund’s church partner

Photo: Marcus Perkins/Tearfund

Thank you

On behalf of everyone at Tearfund, I want to express my deepest gratitude that you are considering including a gift to Tearfund in your will. Your generosity will reach even more people around the world with the love of Christ – a love that transforms.

For more than 50 years, we've been working with supporters like you to help people lift themselves out of poverty – a strategy that works.

With a gift in your will, you can bring about lasting transformation through God's love. As a life-long supporter of Tearfund, I've also left a gift in my will, knowing this can work to shape the future of so many dealing with the effects of war, displacement and a changing climate.

Working through the local church in countries around the world, your gift will give communities the tools to leave poverty behind for good. The local church has the power to free families from cycles of poverty, enable children to access education, and empower communities to shape their own future.

You make work like this possible. I'm so grateful that you are with us on this journey.

Thank you.

Yours in Christ,



Nigel Harris
CEO, Tearfund



‘I got involved with Tearfund really early on. I’ve grown as a person because of them. They gave me an opportunity to visit all of these places of need in the world and that’s been part of my own growth, so I feel a loyalty to Tearfund.’

Cliff Richard

Tearfund: a charity of trust and faith

Looking back

For more than 50 years, thanks to supporters like you, Tearfund has helped people to break free from extreme poverty for good.

Perhaps you’ve been with us on this journey since it all started with our founder George Hoffman back in 1968. Maybe you remember Cliff Richard singing the praises of the transformative work being carried out by local churches thanks to generous Tearfund supporters. Or maybe you are just joining us.

No matter how long you’ve supported our work, now is your time to stamp your mark on Tearfund’s history with your own legacy.



Working to end extreme poverty

We know God has given people the resources in and around them to lift themselves out of poverty. We’ve seen this in the lives and communities that have been transformed through the power of the local church.





Looking ahead

Every day, we hear incredible stories of life-changing transformation. However, the needs of the world are staggering.

It's not God's plan for anyone to live in poverty, but countless people around the world are stuck, unable to provide for their family due to conflict, disaster and the changing climate.

We believe that an end to extreme poverty is possible and we have an ambitious vision to increase the amount of churches we work with.

By leaving a gift to Tearfund in your will, you will be showing God's love to the millions of people around the world living in poverty and helping to build the kingdom of God here on earth.

Poverty is not God's plan. You are.

📷 Left: A rubbish-collection project run by Tearfund's partner in the Democratic Republic of Congo helps improve the local environment and provides people with an income. Above (left to right): Sir Cliff Richard with George Hoffman, founder of Tearfund. From emergency response to access to essential needs, a gift to Tearfund in your will provides support wherever the need is greatest

Photos: Tom Price, Arlette Bashizi, Tearfund UK, Chris Hoskins, Peter Caton, Freedom Film Productions/Tearfund

The difference you can make

A gift in your will is a wonderful way for your faith to continue to help people in need around the world after you've gone. It's an investment in the future – the future of local communities, the future of the environment, and the future of people devastated by extreme poverty.

Your generosity will live on through:



Helping us respond to disasters and conflicts, supporting vulnerable people throughout the recovery process.



Enabling our local church partners to mobilise resources and lead their communities out of poverty through Transforming Communities training.



Empowering communities to rewrite their own stories and build a future filled with hope and opportunity.



Church inspiring change

Tearfund's life-changing Transforming Communities training, run through local churches, equips people to identify their needs and resources and turns hope for the future into reality.

This Bible-based training enables churches around the world to show God's love in action and bring lasting transformation through your legacy.



Whether it's through **co-operative farming, building schools, access to water, or helping people with alternative sources of income**, your gift will continue to change lives for generations to come.


Planting seeds of hope in Zimbabwe

Climate change is increasing the magnitude and frequency of droughts in Zimbabwe. The prolonged dry spells and increased temperatures meant that severe drought left more than 6 million people in need of food aid in 2024.

However, hope is not lost. After taking part in Tearfund's Transforming Communities training run through their local church, young people are setting up organic gardens to boost food production and contribute towards reversing the impacts of the climate crisis.

One area where gardens are being established is Mbire, a community in the north that regularly experiences unpredictable rainfall.

Following their training, the young people have moved towards drip irrigation, vertical gardening and planting small grains, saving space and water. It also adds beauty and character to the land, improves air quality, and increases

 **'The young people of Mbire are leading the change in their community,'**

Idzai, Zimbabwe

crop yields due to better air circulation and sunlight.

The young people have planted fruit trees including avocado, palm, guava, apple, peaches, mango, and orange. They have also grown different types of tomato, kale and maize.

And it doesn't stop there. The young people are sharing their knowledge of planting and water harvesting with the wider community, enabling more people to grow the food they need.

'The young people of Mbire are leading the change in their community,' says Idzai, Project Team Leader. 'Please pray for the Lord to stir more innovative ideas in the minds of our young people so they can address the food crisis.'

Thanks to people like you who commit to a gift in your will to support Tearfund's work, the young people of Mbire will grow up in a better world.

They've been empowered to shape their own future by identifying the God-given resources in and around them, improving their lives and the lives of their families for years to come.

📷 A drip irrigation system delivers water directly to the roots of the plants, reducing evaporation and runoff.
Photos: Tearfund



What to do next

Having a will in place gives peace of mind and makes sure that your family and loved ones are provided for, as well as giving you the opportunity to remember causes you care about.

If you're amending an existing will, we are immensely grateful that you'd consider including us within it. If you're making a will for the first time, it's simpler than you might think – and it can even be free.

We recommend that you have your will written by a solicitor or a qualified will writer who can guide you through the process to ensure that your wishes are correctly recorded.

'A legacy is a remarkable gift that people can give – for most of us we want to leave something to our family. This is about leaving something to God's family around the world.'

Nigel Harris, Tearfund CEO



Including gifts in your will

Step 1: Decide on the type of gift to Tearfund



Our will-writing partner organisations can help create or update your will for free, providing advice on your type of gift below. See the enclosed sheet for further details of our will-writing partners.

A residuary legacy

This is a share or percentage of your estate after other specific gifts and expenses have been made.



The great thing about this type of gift is that it won't be devalued by inflation.

A pecuniary legacy

This is specific sum of money, which you can ask your solicitor to index-link. This means that the number will then increase with inflation and cost-of-living changes, so that it remains an accurate representation of what you would like to give.



Remember, ask your solicitor to index-link this gift to safeguard its value!

Leaving something specific

Some people decide to leave **a particular item** such as property, shares or jewellery.

Step 2: Create or update your will



For your convenience, the templates below can be used to leave a gift in your will to Tearfund. These wordings ensure clarity and legality. Just fill in the blanks according to what you wish to gift.

I GIVE ____% of the **residue of my estate** to Tearfund, Reg. Charity no: 265464 of 100 Church Road, Teddington, TW11 8QE, for its general charitable purposes. I further direct that the receipt of the Honorary Treasurer or other proper officer of Tearfund for the time being shall be a full and final sufficient discharge for the said legacy.

I GIVE to Tearfund, Reg. Charity no: 265464 of 100 Church Road, Teddington, TW11 8QE **the sum of £**____ for its general charitable purposes. I further direct that the receipt of the Honorary Treasurer or other proper officer of Tearfund for the time being shall be a full and final sufficient discharge for the said legacy.

I GIVE to Tearfund, Reg. Charity no: 265464 of 100 Church Road, Teddington, TW11 8QE **my specific asset or item** for its general charitable purposes. I further direct that the receipt of the Honorary Treasurer or other proper officer of Tearfund for the time being shall be a full and final sufficient discharge for the said legacy.

Step 3: Let us know



Please contact us via email or phone (see contact details on page 16) so that we can thank you personally and let you know how your gift and God's love will bring lasting transformation.

What other supporters say

'God's blessed me, so it's passing on the baton of blessing to an organisation you know is walking in the way you'd want to walk after you've gone.'

Val, who has left a gift in her will to Tearfund.



'Because I wanted to know some of what I leave will go to help people - God's children - less fortunate than me and to share God's gifts.'

Anon

'I like what you do, that it is in Jesus' name and that you work with churches and organisations on the ground already.'

Jane

Contact us

Still have questions? Contact our friendly and helpful Legacy Team on legacies@tearfund.org or call **+44 (0)20 3906 3906**.

Alternatively, take a look at our website*.

*<https://www.tearfund.org/get-involved/donate/ways-to-give/legacy-gift/how-to-include-a-gift-in-your-will>

‘Mum’s Christian faith was of utmost importance to her, and this was something which never wavered. She taught me to not look in on myself and wallow in self pity but instead to look outwards and upwards and to help other people. I’m pleased her memory will live on through the legacy she left to Tearfund in her will.’

Doug, whose mum, Deidre, left a gift in her will.

Calculate your assets

No matter what kind of gift you intend to leave, a good practice is to calculate the value of your assets. The template below will give you a good idea of what you own and the value of your estate.

Click a **textbox** to start editing this page, then **save the PDF** to keep your changes.

Type value here



Asset	Value (£)
Possessions	
Property	
Vehicles	
Jewellery, paintings, antiques	
Furniture	
Other contents	
Total	
Financial assets	
Amount in current accounts	
Amount in savings	
Stocks, shares, bonds	
Pension plans	
Personal life assurance	
Other insurance policies	
Any debt owed to you	
Total	

Continues on next page

Debts

Value (£)

Debts and liabilities

Mortgage remaining

Loans outstanding

Overdrafts outstanding

Credit card debts

Hire purchase agreements outstanding

Other debts owed

Total

Total value of estate (assets, minus debts)

Now that you know the value of your estate and a breakdown of your possessions, you can decide how your estate and assets will be divided.

People or organisations you'd like to leave a gift to	% share of estate	Specific sum	Specific item

Decide who you want to be your executor(s) and, if you have any children under 18 years of age, who you would like to be their guardian(s).

Executor 1

Name		Address	
Postcode		Contact tel	

Executor 2

Name		Address	
Postcode		Contact tel	

Write or update your will for free

Whether you're updating face-to-face or online, we've partnered with **National Free Wills Network** and **Octopus Legacy** to help you write and update your will for free.

Write your will face-to-face

Our partnership with the National Free Wills Network gives you access to solicitors around the UK who can write and update a simple will* for free.


<https://mynetworkportal.org/tearfund>

Write or update your will online or by phone

We've also partnered with Octopus Legacy to help you write a simple will* for free. Getting started is straightforward and can be done from the comfort of your own home.

<http://will.octopuslegacy.com/tearfund>

The online service is only available for those living in England and Wales. If you live in Scotland or Northern Ireland and would like to talk directly to a solicitor over the phone, please call **0800 773 4014** and quote '**Tearfund Free**'.



**'Now faith is confidence
in what we hope for and
assurance about what
we do not see.'**

Hebrews 11:1

tearfund.org

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