

WE ARE \_\_\_\_

# COVID-19

COVID-19 IS A WORLD-CHANGING ILLNESS AND IT'S GOING TO PUSH PEOPLE FURTHER INTO POVERTY.



# INTRO

PAGE	SECTION	ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT NEEDED	TIME
3	Intro: Our world is changing	None	1 min
3	Game: What in the world?	None	8 mins
5	Video: Poverty and Pandemics	Poverty and pandemics video	3 mins
6	Insight: Ana's story	Read Ana's story beforehand	2 mins
7	Activity: Getting to the root of it	Paper and pen	10 mins
9	Video: What is poverty?	What is poverty? video	5 mins
10	Game: The Imagination game	Random items	5 mins
11	Bible study: What church do we want to build?	Bibles	10 mins
12	Video: What should our response be?	What should our response be video?	3 mins
13	Action: Climb that mountain	<a href="#">Click here for more information</a>	5 mins
14	Action: Instagram prayer	Access to the <a href="#">@wearetearfund</a> Instagram account	3 mins
<b>Total</b>			<b>1 hour</b>

You can use this session with a large group or with a smaller, more informal group. In some places we've given two options depending on the group size and age of the participants, so you can adapt it to work for your group – look out for the symbols below. We would recommend for smaller groups that you use online video calls, such as Zoom, as they use a share screen feature. For larger groups we would suggest live streaming where possible.



Best suited to smaller gatherings, including friends enjoying a meal together or a smaller group of students.



Best suited to a larger group such as a youth group, Christian Union, or schools work.

Our world is changing. We have felt that change in our own lives, from our restrictions on seeing our friends and family to being able to go out and visit shops and cafes. But this pandemic is something that will have a global impact, and a greater impact on those living in poverty around the world. We want to explore what that looks like, why it will impact certain people the most and what we can do to help people lift themselves out of poverty.

## GAME: WHAT IN THE WORLD?

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Questions (answers underlined):

1. In which country would you find the Eiffel Tower?
  - a. Belgium
  - b. France
  - c. Germany
2. Which country does the River Nile NOT flow through?
  - a. Egypt
  - b. Uganda
  - c. Chad
3. Which of these countries is NOT part of South America?
  - a. New Mexico
  - b. Guyana
  - c. Bolivia
4. Which continent has the largest population.
  - a. North America
  - b. South America
  - c. Oceania
5. In what city would you find the statue, Christ the Redeemer?
  - a. Brasilia
  - b. Rio De Janeiro
  - c. Salvador
6. In which English county would you find Land's End?
  - a. Dorset
  - b. Cornwall
  - c. Devon

## GAME: WHAT IN THE WORLD (CONTINUED...)

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7. Which country's flag has a picture of a dragon on it?

- a. Malaysia
- b. Wales
- c. Iceland

8. Which country produces the most amount of oranges in the world?

- a. Spain
- b. United States
- c. Brazil

9. Which large city in America is also known as The Big Apple?

- a. Chicago
- b. New York
- c. Washington D.C.

10. Which country has the lowest gender pay gap?

- a. Rwanda
- b. Sweden
- c. Iceland



Get young people to put their answer in the chat feature. Keep track of how many correct answers each person has got. The person who has the most, wins.



Get young people to answer on a live feed e.g. Instagram. Give ten seconds to answer, the first person to answer correctly gets a point.

## VIDEO: POVERTY AND PANDEMICS

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Let's dig a bit deeper on how pandemics affect people living in poverty more by watching this short video.



[Watch the video now...](#)

<https://youtu.be/-dUWP02lpBI>

## **INSIGHT: ANA'S STORY**

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Read the below story from Ana\*, a refugee who contracted COVID-19 in Colombia:



Thousands of refugees who fled the political and economic crisis in Venezuela are facing weeks with very little food after a national lockdown in Colombia.

'I don't know what I'm going to do without being able to feed my daughter,' says 24-year-old Ana\* who has a four-year-old daughter. 'If the government does not let us go out on the streets, I do not know what we are going to do to eat.'

Across the city of Barranquilla there are more than 15,000 Venezuelan families like Ana's. Most of them depend on being able to work in order to put food on the table, but now they can no longer leave their houses.

To try and stop the spread of coronavirus, the Colombian government has ordered that everyone should stay home for the next three weeks. However, relief agencies such as Tearfund and local churches have been given special permission to carry on supporting people.

Before the lockdown, our Tearfund local partners distributed food parcels to 600 Venezuelan refugee families in Barranquilla. But there are many more people still in need of food.

*\* Name changed for security reasons*



## ACTIVITY: GETTING TO THE ROOTS OF POVERTY

Work as a group to explore both the effects of COVID-19 and how the virus is more likely to spread quickly among people living in poverty. It is important to remember that no-one knows how this particular coronavirus started and so, when looking at the roots, encourage young people not to come up with theories or conspiracies.

Instead, ask them to think of some of the reasons people are more likely to be affected by the virus. For example, poor sanitation means that people have less access to basic hygiene, and place these on the roots of their tree. Then, get young people to think of the effects of the virus and put these on the branches of their tree. For example not being able to attend work, which leads to people going hungry. See the example below for help:



The leader or nominated young person creates a poverty tree using post-it notes on their wall. Feedback and build a tree collectively.



Get young people to create a poverty tree individually. They can make a tree using items in their house or just draw one. Feedback on some of the points as a group.





# ACTIVITY: GETTING TO THE ROOTS OF POVERTY

## BRANCHES:

What are the effects of the virus spreading?

Impact on people's health

Need to take up unsafe work

People have to remain in unsafe housing situations

Children have no access to education

Lots of anxiety about money

Higher risk of being trafficked

## ROOTS:

What will cause the virus to spread further because of poverty?

Lack of access to basic hygiene

The spreading of other diseases that might make people more susceptible to COVID-19

People don't get the relevant information to stay healthy

Communication from governments aren't listened to

POOR SANITATION

LACK OF TRUST IN SOME GOVERNMENTS DUE TO CORRUPTION

PEOPLE GO WITHOUT JOBS

NEED TO SELF-ISOLATE



## VIDEO: WHAT IS POVERTY?

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When we think about our world, what we're facing isn't unique. However, we know that people living in countries that face huge amounts of poverty will be affected more than us. Before we look at that, let's look more broadly at what causes poverty in this short video.



[Watch the video now...](#)

<https://youtu.be/U5qig9HIJ7k>

### Questions:

1. What causes poverty?
2. Why does separation cause poverty?
3. What is the solution to poverty?
4. Where do we see separation in our world? What issues are there?
5. Where have we seen togetherness practised really well?

## GAME: THE IMAGINATION GAME

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If we want to see an end to COVID-19 and the impact it will have on people living in poverty, we have to imagine a different kind of world. That is sometimes really hard to do when we don't see things changing. To help us get our imaginations working we're going to play the imagination game.

Young people get an item, an everyday normal item, and pretend that it is something else – the more out there the idea the better. For example a chair could become a mobile phone. They then have to use that item in that way and try to make it as convincing (and funny) as possible.



Get some young people to nominate themselves to take part. The rest of the group become voters and watch as the nominated young people use their objects. You might like to nominate some young people for 'audience feedback'. The two with the highest amounts of votes take part in an 'imagine off' where they use the same item. The audience votes again and the person with the most votes wins.



Grab items from around your room. Ask young people to imagine what each item could be – the craziest idea you read in the comments wins.



# BIBLE STUDY: WHAT CHURCH DO WE WANT TO BUILD?

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Read Acts 2:42-47 and Acts 4:32-35

## Questions

1. What did the early church do?
2. What characteristics did they display?
3. What do you think they were known for?
4. How do you think they upheld these values during such challenging times?

The early church faced incredible hardships, yet they were known for reacting differently to most. The way the community lived together meant that more people joined those who were being saved everyday. Their togetherness changed things – both when they were physically together and when they were apart.

Togetherness was a key trait of the early church, and how we practise togetherness in this time is really key.

There is another important question during this time: what kind of church do we want to be? What kind of church do we want to build? The Acts church were known for doing things which seemed counter cultural during extremely difficult times.

How can we practise things which are counter cultural during this coronavirus crisis?

## VIDEO: WHAT IS POVERTY?

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Tearfund and the global church were key in helping those living in poverty when Ebola broke out. Let's have a look at what they did and what we can do to help people living in poverty today.



[Watch the video now...](#)

<https://youtu.be/jePd-Kc-4pk>

## ACTION: CLIMB THAT MOUNTAIN

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**Join The Climb and get sponsored for the steps you take. Make the most of your lockdown and help people living in poverty who'll face the challenges of coronavirus more severely than we will. There's never been a better time to use what's in front of us to make a difference. And, as an added bonus, you'll keep fit!**

By taking part in The Climb you can raise money for Tearfund's life-saving work across the world. You can take to the stairs in your home or simply step on and off a box until you reach the top...

We recommend you climb the equivalent height of the Four Peaks (more info), Kilimanjaro if you want more of a challenge, or Ben Nevis if you want to make it slightly easier. It's up to you over how many days you choose to complete the climb. Do the maths to match your fitness level. You could take the challenge over a month, a couple of weekends or in a day if you're a seasoned climber...

**[For more information, videos and frequently asked questions, click here...](#)**

## ACTION: INSTAGRAM PRAYER

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**We want to also make sure we are praying for people that live in poverty. To help young people do this, we have put a number of prayer requests for different areas on our Instagram, [@wearetearfund](#) on our pinned stories Encourage the young people to go to Instagram and use the stories on the account to help inspire them to pray.**



### **YOUTUBE**

Subscribe to We Are Tearfund and get fortnightly videos featuring fun ideas to help those living in poverty - like the new Swedish craze: "Plogging"!

**Go now...**



### **THE TOGETHER PODCAST**

Join Chris, Emma, Dan and others for a monthly conversation exploring how to live out God's call to pursue justice.

**Go now...**



### **INSTAGRAM**

Get daily inspiration, quotes, tips, articles, videos and more straight to your timeline. Follow us at [@wearetearfund](https://www.instagram.com/wearetearfund)

**Go now...**