



FOR ALL Creation

Church Speaking Guide

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*JESUS SAID TO THEM,
"GO INTO ALL THE WORLD
AND PREACH THE GOSPEL
TO ALL CREATION."*

MARK 16:15

Introduction

Thank you for sharing Tearfund's For All Creation campaign with your church.

This short Guide has been put together to help you share the impact the COVID-19 and climate crises are having on our world's most vulnerable communities with your church and inspire them to take action.

Please email us at info@tearfund.org.au to let us know you are speaking at your church so we can pray for you and support you as you prepare.



Preparing to speak

Depending on how much time you have, you can either use the script we have written below, show the campaign video or craft your own message.

Five Tips

Here are five tips from us to help you prepare:

- Tip 1.** Make sure you get these key points across clearly:
- For the first time in decades, progress to end poverty is being reversed.
 - The twin crises of COVID-19 and climate change are hitting people in poverty the hardest.
 - God calls us to love our neighbours and speak up for them.
 - We can make a difference by signing The Call For All Creation and by praying.
- Tip 2.** If you're meeting in person, see if you can put out the For All Creation Action Postcards on seats ahead of time. Order your Postcards call **1800 244 986**
- Tip 3.** If you're meeting online, make sure you share the action link in the chat or video description: www.tearfund.org.au/forallcreation/thecall
- Tip 4.** Make sure you give people plenty of time to take action, whether that's on a card or by going to the website. Perhaps wear a watch so you can give them at least a whole minute to find the place to sign and fill in their details.
- Tip 5.** If you usually have a time of corporate prayer in your service, you could tie things together by sharing the story of Maliram and Dulki Bai with the person leading prayers that week. Find Maliram and Dulki's story at www.tearfund.org.au/stories/the-impact-of-a-changing-climate

Sample speaking script

Powerpoint slides to accompany this script can be downloaded at [tear.link/kitfac](https://www.tearfund.org.au/forallcreation/thecall)

Good morning. I would love to quickly introduce you to Maliram and Dulki Bai.

Maliram and Dulki Bai and their six children live in Kataro ka Kheda in Rajasthan, in northern India. Like many farmers in this part of the world, Maliram and Dulki are increasingly experiencing the impacts of climate change - unpredictable rainfall and water scarcity and harsh conditions - and as a result have struggled to provide for their family. Thankfully, they have received training from Tearfund's partner EFICOR about new ways of farming to adapt to the changing conditions. But before this, Maliram, like many others, was forced to migrate away from his family in search of work.

In the Bible, Jesus tells us the most important commandments are to love God, and to love our neighbours.

We've come closer than ever to ending extreme poverty but for the first time in decades, progress to end poverty is being reversed. The fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic is forecast to push some 150 million people into extreme income poverty and millions more into hunger. But climate change threatens and even greater disruption than the pandemic. Even before COVID-19, it has been making poverty and hunger worse, and threatening to displace millions of people from their homes.

If In Person:

On your seat should be a card like this one - [wave your card]. Can you wave it at me if you have one?

If Online:

In the chat/description there should be a link. Could you click it and let me know if it's working? www.tearfund.org.au/forallcreation/thecall

In response to these crises and the impact they are having on our most vulnerable neighbours, Tearfund is inviting you to join The Call For All Creation - a campaign to encourage Australia's leaders to provide the vital support and action needed to address the fallout from the pandemic, tackle the ongoing tragedy of poverty and the deepening crisis of climate change.

By adding our voices in prayer and action, we can shine God's light and be a powerful voice, calling for change that expresses God's justice and desire for all creation to flourish.

[Pause for 60 seconds]

Let's pray -

Father God, we thank you that you are a God of justice. Thank you that you know Maliram and Dulki and all those already impacted by COVID-19 and climate change. Jesus, we are sorry for the ways we've damaged your creation. Help us make changes in our own lives to love our global neighbours well.

Holy Spirit, would you stir the hearts of members of our government, guide them in all their decision-making, and inspire them to protect the most vulnerable?

Amen



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Tearfund Australia

We're working in partnership with local Christian agencies to end poverty, challenge inequality and build sustainable communities. Following Jesus, we go where the need is greatest, acting with courage to tackle injustice so that all may experience fullness of life.

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