



Jars of Change

Lent Appeal 2018

All age talk

Inspire your whole congregation to get involved in the Jars of Change appeal with this all age talk focused on hopes and dreams.



You will need:

- Children's nurse and scientist costumes. If your church runs a parent and toddler group that could be a good source of dressing up outfits.
- Two bottles of water; one clean and one made to look dirty (you could add coffee or food colouring)

Slide 1

Introduce the idea that many of us have hopes and dreams for the future. Ask some of the younger members of the congregation to share what they hope their future will hold. Do they want to achieve something fantastic? What would be their dream job?

Next, let the congregation know that you are looking for some volunteers. Explain that you need them to come to the front and dress up in the costumes you have brought. Once your volunteers are ready ask the congregation to guess which job they each represent.

Slide 2

Now, produce two bottles of water: one with clean water in, which you should give to the scientist and one with dirty water, which you should give to the nurse. Let them know that something as simple as having access to clean water is enough to determine whether someone has an opportunity to fulfil their dreams and ambitions. So this

Download the accompanying PowerPoint at www.wateraid.org/uk/lent

means that your nurse might be not be able to achieve his/her dream and get the job they want in the future. Ask the congregation if this seems fair?

Explain that during Lent many Christians give up things for God. Ask whether anyone in your congregation would be willing to give up their hopes and dreams for the future? Explain that for some children this is reality and just like the nurse they only have access to



dirty, unsafe water. These children often miss out on school because there are no taps and toilets for them to use and the water they do have makes them ill and they miss lessons. Can the congregation imagine what their school would have been like if there were no toilets and no clean water to drink?

Slide 3

Next introduce Ruqqa and Urusa. Ruqqa is 12-years-old and lives in a coastal district of Pakistan called Thatta. Ruqqa wants to become a nurse and dedicate her life to helping others. But there are no toilets and no clean water at her school. Children have to go to the toilet in the open, and have nowhere to wash their hands. As a young woman Ruqqa cannot do this and as a result can no longer attend school. She really misses it, and is desperately waiting for the day when she can return. Especially because she knows that in order to achieve her dream of being a nurse she must get a good education.

Slide 4

Like Ruqqa, Urusa lives in Pakistan and has big dreams. She hopes to become a scientist and invent something which will help others. However, unlike Ruqqa, Urusa's dream can become a reality because WaterAid, an international development charity, recently installed taps and toilets at Urusa's school. Because she is able to focus on her studies and stay well, Urusa is flourishing in her classes. Urusa knows her future depends on clean water and good hygiene which will allow her stay healthy and continue her education. Clean water is now a normal part of Urusa's life and this means she is closer



All photos: WaterAid/ Sibtain Haider
Registered charity numbers 288701 (England and Wales) and SC039479 (Scotland).



You could share the Jars of Change Lent appeal film in this session too. Download it from www.wateraid.org/uk/lent

to achieving her dreams of becoming a scientist.

Slide 5

Let the congregation know that your church is supporting WaterAid by collecting Jars of Change this Lent. By giving something up and donating what you save, your congregation can help girls like Ruqqa return to school, get the education they deserve and look forward to achieving their hopes and dreams. How fantastic is that?

To end the session you could invite someone to share the reading from Isaiah 41:17-18

Don't forget you can still request your Jars of Change resource pack from www.wateraid.org/uk/lent.

Did you know:

Since WaterAid started in 1981 they have reached 24.9 million people with clean water, 24 million with decent toilets and 16.7 million with good hygiene!