



Jars of Change

Lent Appeal 2019

Sunday School activities

Give your group an insight into life in Malawi with two thought-provoking Sunday School sessions. Inspire your young people to get involved in WaterAid's Jars of Change appeal and learn more about life for children around the world.

Activity one

Find out what the children know about Lent. You could ask questions like, how long is it? What does it prepare us for? What do people do during Lent? And other questions you feel would be at an appropriate level for your group.



No doubt, at some stage the idea of giving something up will be raised. Follow up on this idea by asking who would be willing to give up school? There may be a lot of enthusiasm for this idea but try to get the children to think about what they would miss out on if they didn't go to school. You could use some props to help with this e.g. a board game or some medicine – how would they read the instructions without learning to read at school? A picture of friends – you might miss out on meeting people. A musical instrument – who learns to play an instrument at school? A sports ball – anyone play for a school team? Some sweets with price labels attached (you could use sticky labels) – would you be able to add the prices to work out the total cost without going to school?

Explain how many children miss out on education at school or home because they have to do difficult chores instead. Maybe fewer members of your group would like the

idea of missing school if they were having to do jobs! One task that many children around the world have to do is collect water.

Explain that this year, during Lent, your church is raising money for WaterAid, helping people around the world get access to clean water close to their homes.

Use the case studies to talk about the lives of Maliya and Malita. How has Malita's life changed since she got access to clean water? Use a jerry can (ask any campers in your church to lend you one) filled with 10 liters of water (or 20 liters for older children) to illustrate the weight that children like Maliya or Malita have to carry every day.

End your session with a prayer thanking God that children like Malita now have clean water and for the difference it makes to their lives.

Visit www.wateraid.org/us/lent to download these activities and other resources.

Activity two

Explain that you are going to play a game called “magele” which many children play in Malawi.



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Rules:

Two people have a ball (use a sponge ball or a rolled-up ball of paper), and they have to throw it at a third person who stands in the middle. The third person has to dodge the ball or try to catch it and throw it as far away as possible. This person also has an empty bottle that they have to try to fill up with sand while trying not to get hit! If they manage to fill the bottle they win.

After you have finished playing the game make sure everyone washes their hands. Discuss why it is important to wash hands. Ask them what else we use water for and where we get our water from.

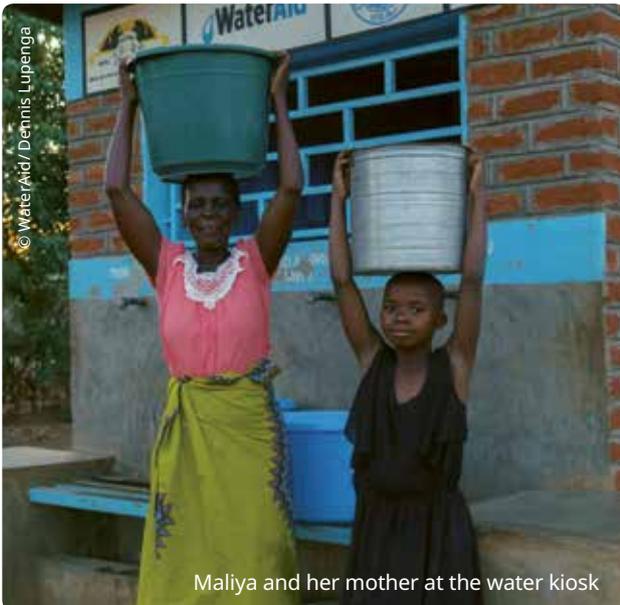
Tell your group about Malita using the case studies of Maliya and Malita (or if you have already used them in Session 1 remind them of the two girls).

Talk about how Christians believe God wants the best for us, you may want to refer to Matthew 19:13-15, Jeremiah 29:11 or Psalm 139:13. How does this make your group feel about Maliya?

Explain that you are supporting WaterAid who believes that everyone, everywhere should have access to clean water.

Talk about Jars of Change. Ask the children to decorate a jar sleeve each. They might want to include one of the Bible verses above.

Once they have finished decorating the jar sleeves, they can be fitted inside the jars.



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Maliya and her mother at the water kiosk

End the session with a prayer thanking God for clean water. You might like to get the children to take it in turns to mention one thing we use clean water for and see how many they can think of.

You could do it like a memory game, 'Thank you God for the water I can drink.' 'Thank you God for the water I can drink and the water I wash with.' 'Thank you God for the water I can drink, the water I wash with and the water I give to my plants, and so on.'

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