

PASTOR GUIDE

Dear Pastor,

Thank you so much for joining us this year for Tearfund Sunday. Tearfund Sunday is not simply another special day, it is so much more. It declares that together, in spite of the challenges of our world, we believe that God uses His church to transform lives and communities!

Our prayer is that this year's Tearfund Sunday is a blessing for your church. As polarization and division continue to dominate the headlines and our culture, we know that we have a God who crosses the divide. One who reaches out to His enemies and the "least of these" to join his family.

That's why we thought the theme **Going Beyond Church Walls** was so relevant this year. Scripture tells us that the Gospel isn't just something we do on a Sunday morning but something we do all week! When the tendency to look inward creeps in, we are reminded that we have been called to be God's representatives on Earth and blessed to be a blessing.

Through Tearfund Sunday, we have an opportunity to do just that: to reflect God's love to others. All donations made this year on Tearfund Sunday will help families like Mercy's climb out of poverty and help empower local churches to be agents of change within their villages.

Below we've listed the resources that come with your Tearfund Sunday package and some helpful advice to help you have the best Sunday possible. We're here for you. If you have any questions or specific ideas on modifying the materials, please feel free to reach out and we will happily get back to you as soon as possible.

Thank you again for joining us and being a blessing to so many around the world.



Don Miller

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Church Relations Director
(613) 371-6246

Available Resources

Tearfund Sunday – Renew comes with the following resources to help inspire and engage your congregation:

- **Sermon notes**
- **Feature Video: Mercy**
- **Congregational handout** (English, Chinese, and French versions available)
- **A poster** (English, Chinese, and French versions available)
- **Prayer Postcard**
- **Social Media kit**

All of these resources are available in a physical format or digitally to download at tearfund.ca/tearfundssunday/2023materials

To order physical copies (free of charge) please email us at connect@tearfund.ca

Leading up to Tearfund Sunday

CREATING A PLAN

Creating a plan – large or small – will help your church get the most out of Tearfund Sunday. There are many questions you could ask leading up to the day:

1. How will Tearfund Sunday fit into your sermon series?
2. How can Tearfund Sunday be used to bring a focus on missions? Is it part of a larger plan?
3. Will your Tearfund Sunday be physical, digital, or a combination of both?
4. What technology will you need for Tearfund Sunday?
5. What will be the order of Tearfund Sunday?
6. Will your congregants donate directly to Tearfund Sunday – will your church collect and aggregate the funds to send all at once?
7. Does anyone else at your church need to be involved?
8. If you're hosting a Tearfund speaker, are they going to run the entire service, provide the sermon, or just say a few words?

These are only some of the possible questions you can use as you plan your Tearfund Sunday.

GENERATING EXCITEMENT

We have provided you with a number of digital and physical promotional resources for your church leading up to your Tearfund Sunday. These resources are easily accessible through our material's online page and can be downloaded to help communicate to your congregation and build excitement.

Materials include:

- **Promotional posters** – available physically or digitally
- **Social Media resources** – Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and more
- **Digital posters for PowerPoint slides or TV screens**

The Week Before

Many congregations look forward to Tearfund Sunday and hearing about how they can join God in working in the lives of the poor. A week before your Tearfund Sunday is important to remind people that it is only one week away. This could include:

- A simple bulletin announcement the week before
- Information on your website and social media channels
- Showing the video to spur interest

On The Day

You are free to use whatever resources work in your situation and within the time allotted. Some churches choose to designate an entire service to Tearfund Sunday, while others imply show the video and take an offering. If you have a Tearfund speaker coming to your church, they will reach out to you directly to coordinate and customize the service to what works best for you. Resources for the day of include:

- **Congregational handouts**
- **A full sermon with notes**
- **PowerPoint slides**

After Tearfund Sunday

When the day is over, don't forget to:

- Instruct your Treasurer as to how best process and send the offering donations
- Take a moment to fill out the feedback form
- Consider joining the Tearfund Prayer team and receive monthly prayer updates.

Again if you have any questions please don't hesitate to reach out. Our prayer and desire is to make Tearfund Sunday as amazing and easy for you and your church. I can be reached by email at dmiller@tearfund.ca or by phone at **(613) 371-6246**.

tearfund.ca

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