

Love builds hope



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aid

Christian Aid's Climate Work

- Sustainable Development
- Community Resilience
- Humanitarian Response
- Government Lobbying
- Theological Framework

In Ethiopia, people in poverty are on the frontline of the climate crisis.



Encouraged by the long
droughts and heavy rains,
locusts are swarming.



Farmland equivalent to



has been devastated by the swarms of locusts.

A photograph showing several locusts on a plant. One locust is prominently featured in the foreground, perched on a branch with small, reddish flowers. Another locust is visible in the background, also on a branch. The background is a clear blue sky. The text is overlaid on the bottom left of the image.

In one day, one swarm of locusts can eat as much food as 35,000 people.

Borgodo saw huge plagues of locusts



'They suddenly came out of nowhere and ate every green plant in their path. They left us nothing useful.'

Bodo was about to harvest his crops

'I know what drought or flooding can do. But I have never seen such a devastating plague before.'



‘Even when we feared the worst, Christian Aid supported our village.’



We acted quickly

Thanks to funding from the Scottish Government:

We protected any surviving crops.

We planted new seeds for the next harvest.

We trained local farmers to recognise the locust lifecycle so they could intervene effectively.



The crops are growing well





Help us build hope this Christmas





ALTERNativity

Just God, Simply Christmas



*ALTER*nativity began in 1996 with a group of people who shared a discontent with the way they celebrated Christmas.

We realised that many others agreed but didn't know what to do about it.

*ALTER*nativity works with churches and communities to understand and simplify Christmas.

Just God, Simply Christmas.





**Unwanted Gifts
Wasted Food
Single-Use Plastic
Extra Carbon and Petrol
Stress and Busyness**



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ESPRESSO
CORRECTO
100% ARABICA

Bohne
Kräftig-intensiv mit leichten Noten von
Nuss-Nougat und Whiskey



KAFFEE AUS NICARAGUA
NICA ORGANICO
100% ARABICA

Bohne
Fruchtig-beerig mit einer süßen Note
von Honig



KAFFEE AUS BOLIVIEN
LA PERLA
100% ARABICA

Bohne
Weich und cremig,
mit einer angenehmen Süße



Quick Facts

- Consumers in the UK will use 227,000 miles of wrapping paper each year – over 83km² of this will end up in our bins.
- All of this wrapping paper creates a need for a lot of sticky tape as well – with some estimates putting this at around 40 million rolls!
- In addition approximately £42 million of unwanted Christmas presents are thrown out in landfill each year.

Discussion Questions

- What's the best gift you have ever received? Do you remember how it was wrapped?
- Have you ever received a gift that looked amazing, but that you were ultimately a little (or a lot) disappointed with?
- How are gifts presented in your household / the people you spend Christmas with? Could you facilitate an honest conversation about the kinds of gifts you would appreciate? How do you think that would be received?

Some ALTERnative ideas:

- Use gift bags rather than wrapping paper and keep them to use year after year.
- Give time or experiences rather than gifts that may go unused.
- Look at the disposable items you use throughout the year – cups of coffee, bottles of water, clingfilm, wrapped sandwiches. Could you cut down or stop using them and give gifts of reusable bottles, cups and food boxes?



At Christmas we celebrate Jesus coming to bring new life for all, yet sometimes our celebrations are wasteful and contribute to harming our planet.



- _____ tonnes of plastic wrapping used for food will also be discarded over the festive period.
- Brits eat _____ million mince pies. 1 million mince pie cases equates to 1 tonne of aluminium material.
- UK residents will waste _____ platefuls of food during December.



At Christmas we celebrate Jesus coming to bring new life for all, yet sometimes our celebrations are wasteful and contribute to harming our planet.

- 125,000 tonnes of plastic wrapping used for food will also be discarded over the festive period.
- Brits eat 175 million mince pies. 1 million mince pie cases equates to 1 tonne of aluminium material.
- UK residents will waste 54 million platefuls of food during December.



Discussion Questions 2

- Will COVID restrictions have an impact on your Christmas meal this year? Could this be an opportunity to prepare the meal with less waste?
- Could you have a Christmas that avoided single-use plastic and disposable items?
- If you tried to have a less-waste Christmas, how do you think your family and friends would react?

A Perfect Christmas?



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Discussion Questions 3

- Are your Christmas celebrations the way they are because you enjoy them or because that's "how it's always been" and that's what everyone expects?
- What are your favourite bits of the Christmas celebrations? What are your least favourite bits? What would your ideal Christmas look like?
- How could you maintain the surprise and delight of Christmas this year despite the circumstances?

Prayer

Mysterious God, may we never lose our sense of wonder about the surprise and delight of Christmas.

may we seek it out even in the midst of our less than perfect lives.

Forgive us when we have been wasteful with the Earth's resources too intent on our own ease of use rather than what is sustainable.

Lord God, you created this planet to nourish and sustain us all.

Lord of all people, help us to make wise decisions and make us aware of how we may influence others

Help us to think about the choices we make and how we can tread lightly on the Earth.

Amen

