



# All-Age Service Ideas

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## All Age Talks

This pack contains five talks and a listening exercise to inspire you as you prepare your all age service.

- **The Worry Jar** (Luke 12:22-27 or Matt. 6:25-33)
- **How Much is Enough?** (Luke 12:16-21)
- **Life in a Lunchbox** (John 6:25-35)
- **Surprising Seeds!** (Matt. 13:31-32)
- **Climate Postcards** (Mark 9:33-37)
- **Listening Exercise: 'Let the little children come to me'**

## Prayer Activities

In our **Harvest Prayer Pack** you'll find lots of activities that can be adapted for all age services, including our 'Field to Fork Prayer Chain'.

Don't forget to download and print your **Harvest placemat**, with activities for adults and children. This can be used during a meal or a service.

## A Harvest Prayer

God we thank you for delicious food!  
Thank you for farmers and people who cook for us.

Please help anyone who is hungry, and teach us how we can be helpers.  
We pray for places where it is getting too hot, too rainy or too stormy, to grow the food that people need.

We pray for powerful people to step up and take action on the climate crisis.  
Show us how to be kind to one another and how to love the world you have made.

**Amen.**

## Harvest Songs

[Global Neighbours](#) (Fischy Music).  
Created in partnership with Christian Aid.

[In Our Lives Plant Seeds of Hope](#) (Carol Dixon).

[Let Justice Roll Like a River](#) (Fischy Music) Created in partnership with Christian Aid.

[The Servant Song](#) (Richard Gillard)



## Anok's story - For children and young people

*You can download the Harvest of Hope Order of Service Presentation from [caid.org.uk/Harvest](http://caid.org.uk/Harvest)*

*This includes pictures of Anok that you can share in your service.*

This is Anok. She's a mum with seven children. She lives with her husband Deng and her children in South Sudan in Africa. Many families in South Sudan face big challenges. Only 1 out of every 10 people there have access to a flushing toilet and clean water to wash their hands. Fighting has meant that families have had to leave their homes. South Sudan is also being affected by climate change, which makes the weather more unpredictable and makes life harder for farmers.

Anok and her family are facing both droughts and floods. These are made worse by climate change. Anok keeps cows and grows vegetables. In times of drought it is very hard to grow food to eat. When the floods come they wash away Anok's crops and damage the family's home and the shelters for their animals. Flooding can also spread diseases as germs get into the water supply. Anok says that there are many times when her family has not had enough food and her children have become ill from drinking unsafe water.

With the support of Christian Aid's partners, Anok's family are learning new ways to grow crops during the dry season so that they have more food. Her community have also been building a specially designed trench that will divert flood water away from their homes.

Anok says that before the project with Christian Aid's partners 'life was so difficult'. Now her family have more food. She grows pumpkin, okra, onions and beans and keeps chickens. She is able to sell what she produces to pay for her children's school fees.

Did anything surprise you about Anok's story? What do you think about the challenges Anok and her family are facing? What could we do together this harvest time to support Anok's family and all of our global neighbours?



## All-Age Talk 1: The Worry Jar

You will need:

- Two large glass jars
- 3 or 4 rocks that will fit in one of the jars. Stacked on top of each other the rocks should reach the top of the jar.
- Some small gravel (aquarium gravel is a good option) in a jug or cup that would fill approximately  $\frac{1}{4}$  of one of the jars
- Some sand in a jug or cup that would fill approximately  $\frac{1}{2}$  of one of the jars
- Small pieces of paper/post-its and pens

*Ahead of time, distribute the paper and pens around the space where you are meeting so that everyone gathered can easily access a piece of paper and something to write with.*

### Gospel Reading:

#### Luke 12:22-27\*

##### NRSV Updated Edition

He said to his disciples, "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. For life is more than food and the body more than clothing. Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life? If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest? Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these.

### International Children's Bible

Jesus said to his followers, "So I tell you, don't worry about the food you need to live. Don't worry about the clothes you need for your body. Life is more important than food. And the body is more important than clothes. Look at the birds. They don't plant or harvest. They don't save food in houses or barns. But God takes care of them. And you are worth much more than birds. None of you can add any time to your life by worrying about it. If you cannot do even the little things, then why worry about the big things? Look at the wild flowers. See how they grow. They don't work or make clothes for themselves. But I tell you that even Solomon, the great and rich king, was not dressed as beautifully as one of these flowers.

**\*This talk can also be used with Matthew 6:25-33**



*Set out one of the jars, rocks, gravel and sand on a table.  
Read the passage from Luke's Gospel above.*

In today's reading, Jesus tells us not to worry. Do you ever worry? I know that I do. (*Give a light-hearted example of something you worry about*)

It's not easy to avoid worry. Lots of us have quite big worries - about the future, about our families and friends, about ourselves and whether we're good enough or clever enough. We worry about how we're getting on with people at school or work.

Some people worry about being hungry - about what they will eat for their next meal. Sadly this is true for people in this country and for people around the world. Every day there are people who don't have enough nutritious food to eat and there are children who don't get the vitamins and minerals and all the other things they need from their meals. Every day there are farmers who worry about the next harvest and about how climate change is making it harder for them to grow their crops.

So you might be thinking - doesn't Jesus know all this? Why is he telling us not to worry when there are so many things to worry about? Jesus makes it sound like God the Father is going to come and fix all these problems. But when we look at the world around us it doesn't seem as though that has happened.

I want you to try something with me that might help us understand Jesus' message about worry.

*Show one of the jars, the stones, gravel and sand.*

I want to fit all of this into this jar. I'm sure I can do it. What shall I start with, the stones, gravel or sand? (*Take suggestions from the children and young people but make sure to start with the sand. Say you agree or disagree with them depending on what they suggest.*)

I think I should start with the sand - that will fill up the jar nicely.  
*Pour in the sand.*

Now I'm going to add the gravel.  
*Pour in the gravel. By now your jar should be  $\frac{3}{4}$  full.*





Great! Now I can add the rocks.

*Start adding the rocks. You realise only one or two will fit in.*

Uh-oh, I can't get everything into the jar. Because I started with the sand, the jar was already pretty full up by the time I got to adding the rocks, wasn't it? Could I do this differently?

*Remove the rocks and pour the gravel back into one cup or jug and the sand into another (they may mix together but that's okay).*

This time I'm going to put the rocks in first.

*Add the rocks to the jar, then pour in the gravel, then the sand. You should be able to fit all or almost all of the materials into the jar.*

When Jesus tells people not to worry and to be more like the birds and the flowers, he also says one more important thing: 'Seek God's Kingdom'. The problem with worrying is that it can become the first, or even the only, thing we focus on. Like putting the sand in the jar first, worry can take up the space that we need for other things. It takes up space that could be filled by joy and connection with other people. Worry can make us feel very lonely. Jesus tells us that when worry becomes a priority we can miss out on space for the biggest and most important thing of all - God's Kingdom. Our biggest rock. Our strongest foundation.

If we start with the Kingdom, worry probably won't go away entirely. But we will have a new perspective on it. We will see the ways that we can take action to show God's love to others and ease their worries. We will be inspired to help take away the causes of worry for our neighbours by tackling hunger and poverty. We will see ourselves in a new light - as people who are loved by God just as we are and who are welcome in God's kingdom.

To be part of God's creation is to have faith in the one who made us and loves us. That is our starting point for everything we do in life.

This Harvest we are giving to [*details of any local causes you are collecting for*] and we are also taking a collection for/fundraising for Christian Aid to support our global neighbours who are pushing back against poverty and hunger. Let's show that we are seeking God's Kingdom of justice and love through our actions.





And here's how we can handle our worries differently. *Take out the second jar.*

We're going to use another jar to hold our worries. This is also something you could do at home if you find it helpful. And we're going to make God's Kingdom our priority by handing over those worries to God in prayer.

*Invite those present to write down or draw a picture of a worry they have for themselves, their loved ones or the wider world on a piece of paper. Either play some music whilst people place their paper in the jar or invite them to add their paper to the jar later in the service or at the end as they leave.*

Let's pray together.

Jesus, help us to give our worries to you.

Renew our faith and trust in your loving kindness.

Remind us that you are our rock, our secure foundation.

Show us how to build your Kingdom of justice and love here on earth.

Amen.



## All-Age Talk 2: How much is enough?

You will need:

- A shopping bag, a rucksack, a small suitcase/holdall and a large suitcase
- Tins and packets of food (to be donated after the service)
- A packet of sweets/chocolate to share with the children and young people
- An alarm clock or kitchen timer

## Gospel Reading: Luke 12:16-21

### NRSV Updated Edition

Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."





## International Children's Bible

Then Jesus used this story: "There was a rich man who had some land, which grew a good crop of food. The rich man thought to himself, 'What will I do? I have no place to keep all my crops.' Then he said, 'I know what I will do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones! I will put all my grain and other goods together in my new barns. Then I can say to myself, I have enough good things stored to last for many years. Rest, eat, drink, and enjoy life!' "But God said to that man, 'Foolish man! Tonight you will die. So who will get those things you have prepared for yourself?' "This is how it will be for anyone who stores things up only for himself and is not rich toward God."

*Invite the children and young people present to gather round.*

*Explain that you are going on a day trip. Check your watch. You need to leave to catch your train in 5 minutes! You're sure everyone can manage the rest of the service without you.*

*Now you need some more volunteers to help you pack. You're taking a lot of food and snacks with you in case you get hungry. Show the children the food and the shopping bag.*

*Ask one volunteer from among the children and young people to keep an eye on the time for you and give them the alarm clock or kitchen timer set to 5 minutes.*

*Bring out the shopping bag and ask the children to start filling it with the food.*

*You quickly decide that bag isn't big enough for all the snacks you want to take and pull out the rucksack. Ask the children to transfer the food over and add more.*

*Then you decide the rucksack isn't big enough, etc., working your way up to the suitcase. At some point before you've finished the alarm goes off! You're not packed and you're going to miss your train!*

*Explain to the children that it's okay you can take the trip another time. Ask them what you could do differently next time. Do they think you need all those snacks and food for a day trip?*



In our reading today Jesus told a story about a rich man who owned land. On the land the people who worked for him grew food. The land grew lots of crops. One year, the man's harvest was bigger than ever before. He had more food than he knew what to do with. He had so much food that it wouldn't fit inside the barns on his farm.

The man had to choose what to do with all those crops and all that food.  
What could he have done?

*Give time for the children and young people to answer.*

What he chose to do was to build even bigger barns and to keep all the food for himself, just in case. Jesus' story tells us that there's a problem here. Firstly, a bit like me when I'm packing for a journey, the rich man didn't recognise that he already had more than enough, more than he needed. He already had enough food to fill his barns to overflowing. Second, the rich man focused only on himself; he didn't think about other people. And third, he forgot what it means to be really 'rich'.

Have you ever heard the song 'Love is like a magic penny'? The words go: 'Love is something if you give it away, You end up having more. It's just like a magic penny, Hold it tight and you won't have any, Lend it, spend and you'll have so many, They'll roll all over the floor.'

The rich man held on tight to what he had and by doing that he missed out on the chance to share with his neighbours. He missed out on the chance to see what sharing could do, the change and growth it could bring for his community. When we share and help one another - that's when we find real riches.

Jesus tells us not to 'store up treasures' for ourselves but to be 'rich towards God'. How do we do that? By listening to God's word and by being generous, loving, and open-hearted with one another. Elsewhere in the Bible, Jesus says that everyone will know who his followers are by the love we show one another. That is what marks us out as Jesus' disciples. We are 'rich towards God' when we follow God's commandments to love God and to love each other. Your challenge for this week is to think about whether you have more than enough, more than you need. What are you doing with the surplus, with the extra? Are you building bigger barns, holding on to things tightly, and keeping what you have to yourself? What could you do differently?

One step might be sharing our food [as we are doing through our harvest offering today]. Or it could be donating toys or clothes, sharing our time by volunteering to help someone, or sharing our love by seeking out someone who needs support and kindness.





This Harvest Christian Aid is asking us to share our hope with our global neighbours - families in other countries where it can be hard to grow crops and for people to get all the food they need. [Optional: Use Anok's story here]. [Our collection today will be donated to Christian Aid's Harvest Appeal/You can make a donation by going to [caid.org.uk/harvest](http://caid.org.uk/harvest)]

As we celebrate Harvest today, let's remember those who do not have enough and consider what we can do to be 'rich towards God' and one another.

*Explain that now you have learnt to think about what is enough you are going to take a different approach to packing next time. And you are going to share some of what you have with others. The food will be donated to a local charity and you are going to share some of the sweets/chocolate with the children now!*

## All-Age Talk 3: Life in a Lunchbox

You will need:

- A lunchbox
- A variety of foods suitable for a lunchbox
- A couple of tins or packets of food featuring a 'use by' date
- Sticky labels or post-its and a pen

*If you have audio-visual equipment, start the talk by showing some or all of the BBC Newsround report on children's experiences of food poverty. You can find this on YouTube here: <https://youtu.be/UhtOK-Q6kHA>*

### Gospel Reading: John 6:35

#### NRSV Updated Edition

Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

#### International Children's Bible

Then Jesus said, "I am the bread that gives life. He who comes to me will never be hungry. He who believes in me will never be thirsty.





Many children in the UK and around the world don't have enough to eat every day. Some children go to school with empty lunchboxes. [*We've just heard on that video how food poverty affects children.*] In other countries too, children struggle to get the nutritious varied diet that they need to grow up healthy. More than 700 million people in the world are hungry and many more experience food insecurity, meaning they don't have reliable sources of nutritious food day to day.

Jesus says, 'Whoever comes to me will never be hungry'. Here Jesus doesn't seem to be talking about the hunger we feel in our bodies, the hunger that makes our stomach rumble. Instead he appears to be talking about hunger we might feel in our heart or our soul. When we feel this kind of hunger, we are often looking for answers to some of the biggest questions. Why are we here? What matters the most in life? How can we live a good life?

Jesus tells the crowd listening to him that there is more to life than the next meal. He reminds them that food and other material things don't last forever. He tells them they should 'not work for food that perishes but for food that endures' (v. 26).

*Invite the children to have a look at the tins and packets of food. Can they find a date anywhere on them? What does that date tell you? Explain it is a 'best before' or 'use by date'.*

One of the messages of our reading today is that the nourishment God offers to us doesn't have a use by date. God's love and guidance keep feeding us all through our lives and beyond. The 'bread of life' never goes off. And that's why Jesus says we'll never be hungry with him. He will always sustain us with his love for us.

But what has this got to do with the physical hunger that we see in our country and across the world?

Let's imagine for a minute what it would be like if Jesus had a lunchbox. Show the children the lunchbox. What do you think he would put in it? *You may get the answer 'crisps' or 'chocolate'!*

We've already mentioned one of the things that would go in Jesus' lunchbox: love. Write love on a post-it/label. Stick it to one of the food items and get a child to put it into the lunchbox.





What else? *Possibilities could include: justice, faith, hope, kindness, generosity, patience, care, compassion, joy, peace, gentleness, selflessness. Keep going until the lunchbox is full of labelled food items.*

When Jesus tells the crowd and us that he is the bread of life, he isn't *just* saying that he will feed our hearts and our souls. He's also telling us that this bread will *transform* us into people who are filled with all these things. The bread of life fills us up with love, a desire for justice, gentleness, kindness and compassion.

When we are filled up with these qualities, we become people who take action in the world to make it a more just and compassionate place. This is what Jesus is calling us to. What can we do about the problem of hunger? We can come together, as followers of Jesus, filled with God's love and make change happen in our world.

We're doing that in our harvest service today by [*donating food and/or joining in Christian Aid's Harvest of Hope campaign to raise funds for families in South Sudan*].

## All-Age Talk 4: Surprising Seeds!

You will need:

- A range of different fruit and vegetable seeds and the fruits or vegetables that they grow into (e.g. lemon, tomato, pepper, carrot). You could also include cocoa beans (actually a seed - not a bean) and a bar of chocolate.
- Black mustard seeds (optional).

### Matthew 13.31-32


#### NRSV Updated Edition

Jesus put before the crowd another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

#### International Children's Bible

Then Jesus told another story: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed. A man plants the seed in his field. That seed is the smallest of all seeds. But when it grows, it is one of the largest garden plants. It becomes a tree, big enough for the wild birds to come and make nests in its branches."





*Give the children and young people time to look at and handle the seeds. Don't let them see the fruits and vegetables (or cocoa and chocolate) at the beginning of the talk.*

*Read the passage from Matthew above: the parable of the mustard seed.*

Isn't it surprising that tiny seeds can change so much once they are planted? Ask those present if they know what each of the seeds you have will grow into. Bring out the selection of fruits and vegetables to help them guess.

*Now bring out the cocoa beans and ask them if they know what this seed can turn into (eventually!). Allow the children present to smell it if they need a clue.*

Yes - that's right! Chocolate! Mmm! For us to enjoy chocolate we need people to grow and harvest cocoa plants.

So you can see that seeds are bursting with surprises!

They start so small and then grow into all kinds of different plants and fruits, lots of which we can eat and cook with

Jesus told a story about a tiny seed (*show the black mustard seeds if you have them*) that would grow into a plant that could be as much as two metres tall! That's taller than some grown-ups! Jesus' story reminds us that plants are not just valuable for humans to eat but are part of a whole ecology. They provide places for birds to make their homes, as well as food and shelter for all sorts of other creatures.

*Ask if anyone present has tried growing something to eat in their garden or window box. If you have farmers or gardeners in your community, ask them about how much work they need to put in to make sure things grow.*

Seeds don't grow if we leave them in the packet. What do they need? Soil, water, light, and often quite a lot of care and nurturing.

Jesus' story was not just about a seed; it was about his kingdom. Jesus' kingdom is a place of justice - a place where things are fair. It's a place where no one goes hungry. It's a place full to the brim with love: the love of God and our love for each other. And Jesus tells us that this isn't just some future place we will get to see one day. If we follow him, we can make that place a reality in our world, here and now.



Just like our surprising seeds, if we start small we will be amazed by what we can grow in our world. We can make life better for people who are struggling. We can stop the unfairness that leads to poverty. We can share what we have with our global neighbours. We can make our world more peaceful.

And just as seeds can't grow if they are left to themselves in seed packets, likewise we won't be able to see change grow unless we surround ourselves with the right things. Our soil might be our community and our church family, embracing and supporting us as we all work together. We need to find what gives us energy, what brings light into our lives, what gives us fuel to keep going (maybe a square of chocolate helps from time to time!). Most of all, we need God with us.

The great news is that Jesus has promised exactly that - he will be with us, guiding us, inspiring us, as we work together to show God's love in action.

That's why Christian Aid is calling this season 'Harvest of Hope'. When we see the size of the problems in our world, it's sometimes easy to feel like giving up. But God will always be there to give us hope. Jesus tell us that the kingdom of justice, peace and love can grow from a tiny seed. So don't be afraid of taking a small step. Don't give up hope that you can be part of a big change that will transform our world.

## All-Age Talk 5: Climate Postcards

You will need:

- Blank postcards/index cards or A5 sheets of paper
- Pens and pencils

### Gospel Reading: Mark 9.33-37

#### NRSV Updated Edition

Then they came to Capernaum, and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." Then he took a little child and put it among them, and taking it in his arms he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."





## International Children's Bible

Jesus and his followers went to Capernaum and went into a house there. Then Jesus said to them, "What were you arguing about on the road?" But the followers did not answer, because their argument on the road was about which one of them was the greatest.

Jesus sat down and called the 12 apostles to him. He said, "If anyone wants to be the most important, then he must be last of all and servant of all."

Then Jesus took a small child and had him stand among them. He took the child in his arms and said, "If anyone accepts children like these in my name, then he is also accepting me. And if he accepts me, then he is also accepting the One who sent me."


Harvest is a time for celebration and thankfulness. We are thankful for the food we have and those who work hard to grow, transport and prepare it. We are thankful for the natural world and all that it produces for us.

But when we think about what is happening to the natural world today, we know that there is a serious side to our celebration. We need to remember how dependent we are on nature. We need to challenge and question priorities, as we see the devastating effects of the climate crisis.

In our reading from Mark, it's interesting to see how two incidents are put together. First, the disciples are arguing over who is going to be the boss, the greatest, the most important. When Jesus asks them what they are talking about they are embarrassed and don't want to answer. You can imagine them looking down at their sandals or trying to change the subject!

As adults, we like to think that our concerns and goals are very important. We like to think of ourselves as reasonable people whose opinions have value. But I want to ask the adults here - be honest with yourselves - how many times in last month, or even in the last week, have you had a disagreement with someone over something that didn't really matter? And what is it that makes you keep going in an argument like that?

I think that often we don't want to give up on our pride or our power when we're in an argument. We want the validation of winning, of prevailing in a disagreement. We want to show, even if only for a moment, that we are the greatest, the most sensible, the cleverest - whatever it may be.



The second incident that happens in our reading from Mark is that a small child is placed at the centre of the discussion.

Now another thing that grown-ups tend to do (sorry grown-ups!) is to tell children to be quiet, to wait, to be patient. We say 'I'm busy', 'Not now', 'In a minute'.

Of course, grown-ups can't always be in listening mode. They have to look after us and teach us, and they can't do that easily if they are interrupted all the time.

Nonetheless, as a society we can be pretty bad at listening to children and young people and their concerns. This is especially true when it comes to young people's concerns about the climate and the future of our planet.

In 2021, UNICEF organised a debate on the climate crisis, involving 46,045 children in the UK. More than 9 out of 10 children said they were worried about climate change. 8 of 10 said they didn't think they were being listened to.

In Jesus' time children were often right on the margins of society; they weren't expected to have a voice. How much has changed today? If we look at who today lives in extreme poverty, we will find that more than half of those people are children. And it is people already living in poverty who are most affected by the natural disasters and food shortages that climate change makes more likely.

When Jesus placed a child in the midst of the conversation he was having with his disciples, he was turning our grown-up ideas about pride and power on their heads. He was challenging us to consider who we listen to, who we make room for and where our priorities lie. Adults, there's no getting around it. You have a big responsibility to take on and it's one that God is calling you to. You need to ask God to help you let go of disputes about power and status. And you need to make more room for listening. Especially listening to the voices of the children and young people in your community and communities around the world.

So let's start right now. *Invite everyone present to take their pens and postcards and to write or draw a message on them. The adults should write down what they are going to do to become better listeners or what other actions they are committed to taking to address the climate crisis. The children and young people should write down or draw something that they want the adults to hear about the future of the world.*

*Collect the postcards and invite the children to speak about some of the things they have written or drawn. Display all the postcards somewhere in your church or meeting space to remind the adults of their commitments and show the children that their concerns are taken seriously.*



## Listening Exercise: ‘Let the children come to me; do not stop them’ (Mark 10.14)

*Christian Aid offers resources for churches, schools, and youth groups engaging with climate justice. This listening exercise comes from our [Letters for Creation](#) resources pack.*

Climate justice doesn't only affect those on the frontlines of the climate crisis. Many children and young people are experiencing eco-anxiety at the prospect of inheriting a world affected by climate change.

The climate crisis is an intergenerational issue. Young people can feel isolated in their concerns, adding to their anxiety. Older generations may also be anxious, defensive, or feel a loss of hope for the next generation.

There are a number of places in the Gospels where Jesus stands up for children and urges adults to make room for them. Use a verse such as that from the Gospel of Mark above to prompt adults in your congregation to think about the ways we stop children from sharing their views or speaking up.

Invite the congregation instead to listen to one another – especially the young people. Use these questions as prompts:

- How does climate change make you feel?
- Do you feel that other people take climate change seriously?
- Is there anything that makes you feel worried? Why?

You could do this in small groups or invite people to write down their responses and then share some of what they have written (for a version of this exercise incorporated into a talk see below).

Next, ask those present what gives them hope for the future.

At the end of the conversation take a moment to pray together considering:

- Is there anything you would like to say to God about climate change?
- Is there anything you would like to give over to God?
- Is there something that you will commit to doing with God?