



Enough is Enough

Secondary Harvest Assembly

Resources:

PowerPoint presentation

Aim:

To consider what we need as humans

To reflect on what and how we could give to others

Introduction

Introduce yourself to the pupils and welcome them to their Harvest assembly.

Activity

Who here would like to be rich one day?

It's normal in our culture to want to have more money. People want to have money so they can buy the things they want - the latest clothes, latest computer console or the latest phone. Some of you might want to be rich not for yourself but so that you can look after the people you love, buy them a nice car because theirs is unreliable or a house so they don't have to worry about rent. You may want money to help people who don't have as much as you do.

Whatever your reasons might be for wanting to have more money, I think we all agree that on its own money will not give us happiness.

Mother Teresa, a Catholic nun who spent her life caring for others said this:

'Even the rich are hungry for love, for being cared for, being wanted, for having someone to call their own.'

There are other things that we need as humans to thrive, other than money. I'm going to show a few things on the presentation and I would like you to put your hand up if you think you need it to get the most out of life. So remember we're not just talking about surviving, we're talking about getting the most out of life and being the best you can be. What do you need to thrive?

Go through each one. You may want to ask students to share why they think humans need / don't need it to thrive.





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- 1) People who love you and you love them back
- 2) Catching the rare Pokémon that you know has got to be close by
- 3) Enough food to eat
- 4) Somewhere safe to live
- 5) A constant supply of warm doughnuts
- 6) Freedom to do the things you enjoy
- 7) People who will do whatever you ask and never challenge you
- 8) Opportunities to learn new things
- 9) Taking opportunities to help others when you can

I believe that in there were some of the things we need to live life to the full.

Henry David Thoreau was an American philosopher and poet, and he said this:

‘Wealth is the ability to fully experience life.’

People who don't have the things we looked at can struggle to thrive; they struggle to be all that they can be. They're struggling to get the basic things they need, so they are unable to live out their dreams and passions. Poverty might not always be about money or food; sometimes it's about not having the freedom and opportunity to fulfil your potential.

That's why at The Salvation Army we try to help people who don't have the basic things they need. This may mean sharing food with someone who is hungry, or being a friend to someone who is lonely, or even providing a work training opportunity for someone who is unemployed.

One example of someone who was struggling to thrive is Andrew. Andrew lost his job as an IT engineer and eventually became homeless. He had no money and no food. He came across The Salvation Army when they offered him some food.

He said: ‘The Salvation Army are so helpful. They don't judge, they just help. There are clothes, there is food. They gave me advice and companionship. Now I have a job in IT again. I don't know where I would be if it wasn't for them.’ Andrew needed some help from others to get back on his feet.

In the Bible it says:

‘You can be sure that God will take care of everything you need’ (Philippians 4:19 *The Message*).





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As a Christian church we believe that God gives us what we need, just as it says in that verse. But sometimes this means those who have more than enough sharing with those who don't have what they need. It's about saying, 'I have enough and can be content with what I have.'

When we practise things like generosity and look to better our community, this enables us to learn what it means to be truly human. To understand what others go through and to want others to be rich in all aspects of their lives helps us learn how to be compassionate people.

Reflection

We are going to take a few moments of silence to reflect on what we can do to say enough is enough in our own lives. That might mean donating some food today to a local food bank, or it might mean being a friend to someone who is alone, or even just deciding to look into what the needs of your local community are.

Prayer

Dear God,

Thank you for all that we have. Thank you that you give us all we need, and that when we are content with what we need we learn what it is to live life to the full and have joy every day. We pray that you would teach us to care more for others, to be more compassionate and generous to those in need. We pray that you would protect and provide for those in our communities who don't have what they need to live life as it should be.

In Jesus' name,

Amen

