

An Eye-Opening Sunday with Christian Blind Mission

**Church
leader's
guide**

Thank you for requesting this guide to hold an 'eye-opening' Sunday in your church.



We hope that the free resources available will make it easy for your church to **learn** more about Christian Blind Mission and be **inspired to pray and give** to help children with sight problems in Kenya.


The resources are designed to be flexible so you can include Christian Blind Mission in your worship and activities in a way that suits you and your church.


However you get involved, we hope that your church will choose to hold a collection, make a donation, or undertake some fundraising activities to support CBM's work.

Ideas for using these resources


You could show the **inspiring short film**  or use the **presentation**  or **photo gallery**  to show how CBM's partners are transforming the lives of children who struggle to see.

Hold a collection for CBM's work using **Gift Aid envelopes** , which enable CBM to claim 25p for every £1 donated by taxpayers, or take inspiration from the other **fundraising ideas** .

Use the **worship, prayer and sermon ideas**  in your Sunday worship, or encourage small groups in your church to use the material. Links are provided to useful readings and other relevant Bible passages.

Encourage your **children's and young people's groups**  to get involved: ask them to come up with wacky fundraising ideas to raise money to support young people with vision problems.

Display **posters**  and provide **leaflets**  to tell people more about CBM.

Give a **prayer bookmark**  to every member of your congregation, and take a moment to say the prayer together during your service.

Invite a **CBM speaker** to talk in your service or over a fellowship lunch. Please contact us as soon as you can if you would like to request this.



Printed resources are available to order for free by calling CBM on 01223 484700 or visiting www.cbmuk.org.uk/church-resources



Electronic resources are available to download from www.cbmuk.org.uk/church-resources. If you do not have internet access, please call us on 01223 484700 and we can send you a printed copy.



Scan here to see the materials on your mobile right now

What difference will our support make?

Your church's support could help children in Africa with poor vision to see the way to a brighter future:

£20

would buy a **special telescope** to enable a child to see the blackboard at school.

£39

could pay for a **pair of glasses** to open up the world for someone with poor vision.

£100

can help **train a teacher** how to support children who struggle to see.

£190

can pay for **surgery to remove cataracts** from a child blind in both eyes and give them their sight back forever.

Every pound given will be put to good use. Last year, 81% of CBM's outgoings were spent on charitable activities.

What should we do with the money we raise?

Please gather together all the money you raise through your collections and fundraising activities. If you have used Gift Aid envelopes, your Church Treasurer or another responsible person should open the envelopes, checking that the amount given is filled in on each envelope and that each person has completed their full name and full address legibly.

Please bank all cash enclosed and write a cheque for the total cash donated. Send this, along with any cheques and charity vouchers that individuals have written payable to CBM, and all the empty used Gift Aid envelopes, to CBM with the completed Response and Donation Form attached. **Thank you!**

“Open my eyes, that I may see wonderful things.”

Psalm 119:18

In the world's poorest places, if you struggle to see, life can be incredibly difficult. And it's especially tough if you're a child. Imagine trying to learn at school if the words on the blackboard are a distant blur, or you can't read a textbook. And without education, your chances of escaping poverty are slim.

But the good news is that simple, low-cost support can make all the difference to children with poor vision. Through its partners in Kenya, East Africa, Christian Blind Mission (CBM) provides eye tests, glasses and other magnifying devices, and trains teachers and health workers how to help children with sight problems.

CBM reaches out to people who others leave behind, transforming the lives of people with blindness and other disabilities in the poorest places of the world. Driven by Christian values, CBM treats and prevents conditions that lead to disability and works with disabled people to tackle stigma and change attitudes.

A prayer for your Eye-Opening Sunday:

Loving God,
Open our eyes
To see the world as you do.
Open our eyes
To each person's immense potential.
Open our eyes
To the needs of all your children.
Open our eyes
To opportunities to make a difference.
Open our eyes
And help us to see the way to your glorious Kingdom.
Amen.



Joy, 11, loves to draw. But eye problems in early childhood left her with very limited vision, and she has been beaten and teased at school by people who don't understand the support she needs. Her mother says, "It makes her feel that she is not whole. I would like her to have a bright life. When you show her love, she can do things."

Your support will help children like Joy to see the way to a brighter future.

England: Oakington Business Park,
Dry Drayton Road, Oakington,
Cambridge CB24 3DQ

Scotland: Conference House,
152 Morrison Street, The Exchange,
Edinburgh EH3 8EB

Northern Ireland: The Mount
Business Centre, 2 Woodstock Link,
Belfast BT6 8DD

www.cbmun.org.uk
Tel 01223 484700
info@cbmun.org.uk



All images © CBM/Eshuchi

Registered charity no. 1058162 (England and Wales); SC041101 (Scotland)

Please detach and return

Response and donation form

I enclose a cheque/cheques payable to CBM for £.....

This donation is a result of:

- a church collection
- a gift from church funds
- a fundraising event
- other (please state)

We would like a receipt by post by email
(please tick as appropriate)

Title First Name

Surname

Address

..... Postcode

Email address

Phone number

Name of church

Position in church (e.g. minister, treasurer)

We'd love to keep you informed about our work and how your support is transforming lives. If you're happy to hear from CBM UK by phone or email, please let us know your details:

Email address

Phone number

If you'd rather not receive updates by post about the work you support, please email leave@cbmun.org.uk or call 01223 484700

Please turn over

Please use the space below to provide any comments about the resources you think we will find useful:



.....

.....

.....

.....

Please return this form, with your cheque and any Gift Aid envelopes, to:

Freepost Plus RSKK-HXAX-CYGZ, CBM, Oakington Business Park, Dry Drayton Road, Oakington CB24 3DQ

Thank you for your support.



Joseph, 10, had vision problems which caused him pain. He struggled to help at home and his performance at school suffered. Eventually teachers noticed the problem and advised his family to take him to an eye hospital supported by CBM in Kenya. Now Joseph has glasses for everyday use and a telescope to see the blackboard at school. As a result, he's gone straight to the top of his class, and dreams of becoming a doctor.

