

Eye-Opening Sunday

Children's activities

We hope that these resources will make it easy for your church to learn more about Christian Blind Mission and be inspired to help children with sight problems in the world's poorest places.

These resources are designed to be flexible so you can incorporate information about Christian Blind Mission into 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, or undertake some fundraising activities to support CBM's work. Below are some children's activity ideas for leaders, aimed at primary aged children, for you to print and copy.

Children's presentation

This could be used as part of an all-age church service, or during a Sunday School or Junior Church session.

- 1) Put six oranges in one bowl and six apples in another in front of the area where you will be giving the talk. Ensure the area around them is clear of obstacles and hazards. Also have available four smaller plastic bowls and two blindfolds.
- 2) Invite four children forward and explain they are going to represent children in Africa. The fruit represents four things that we all need – the tangerines are food and water, and the apples are education and healthcare. You need to get an apple and a tangerine from each of the large bowls. The only problem is- half of you are going to be blindfolded.
- 3) Blindfold two children and give each child a bowl to put their fruit in. Explain that because people who are disabled are often at the back of the

- queue, the two without blindfolds will go first.
- 4) Give the children a minute or so to try and get the fruit, and then remove the blindfolds and look at what each child has got in their bowl.
 - 5) Thank all the volunteers and allow them each to choose an item of fruit to take back to their places with them.

Activity Explanation

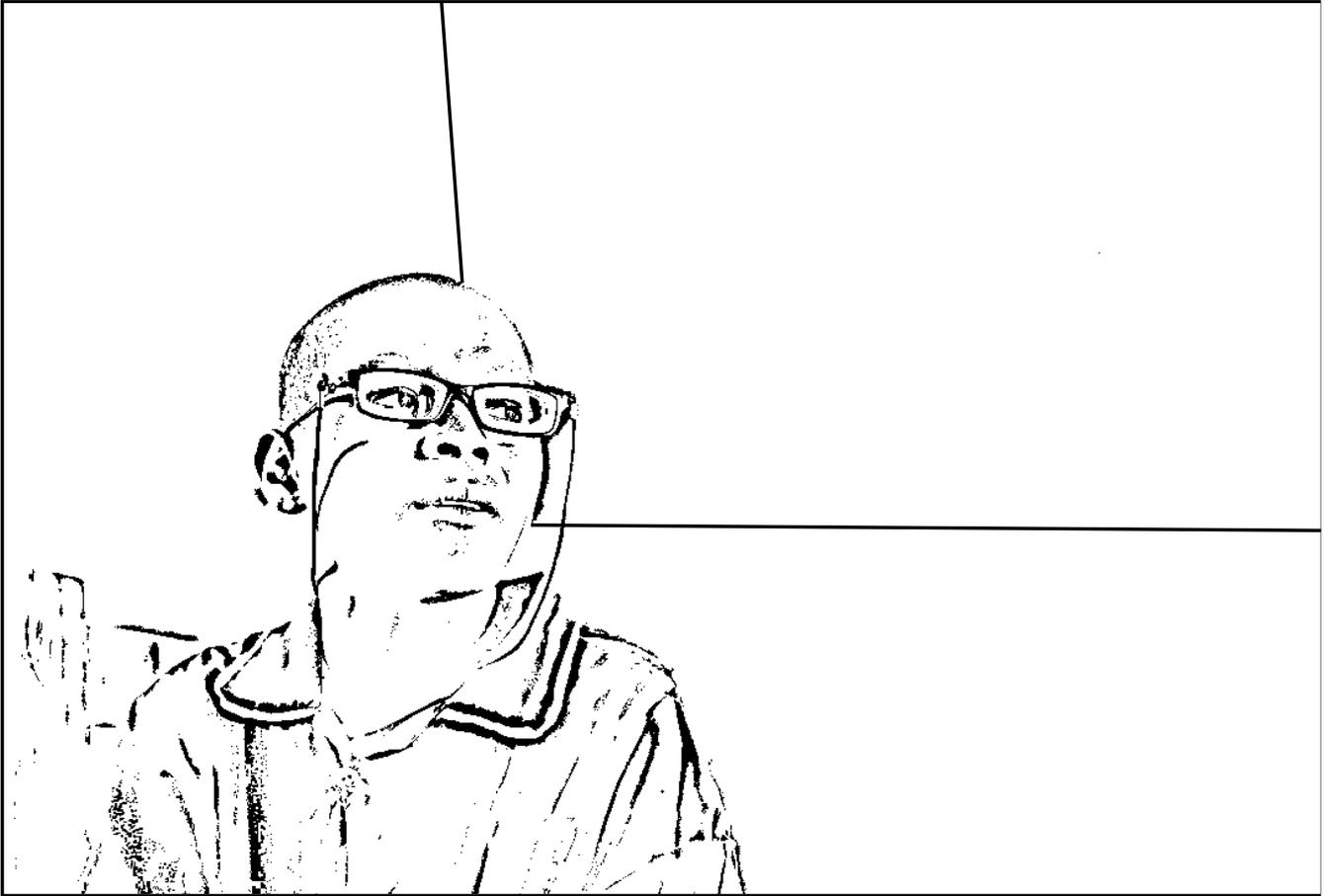
Point out how it is particularly hard if you are blind or partially sighted and in a poor country. You might not get the support that blind or partially sighted children in this country get, and you might end up not getting on at school, if you even get there at all.

Talk about one of the children who Christian Blind Mission has helped in Africa using the stories found in the Eye-Opening Sunday presentation, or by showing the short film available from the CBM website. A downloadable photo gallery is also available.

Because CBM is helping children like Joy, Joseph or Christine with glasses so they can see their work, and special telescopes so they can see the board at school, they are getting a better chance in life.

When Jesus was talking about what was important to him, and God, one of the things he said was that he came to give sight to people who were blind. He also said that we should love our neighbours. That means that those of us who are Jesus's friends and followers should also be especially trying to help our neighbours who have problems seeing, like Joy, Joseph and Christine in Kenya. We can do that through praying for them and also by raising money for organisations like Christian Blind Mission who help them.

Meet Joseph



Colour in the picture of Joseph at school. What do you think he has been learning about? Put your ideas on the board.



Joseph is 10, and he lives in Kenya, East Africa. He's had problems with his eyes since he was young, which meant he found it hard to learn at school. Eventually the teachers noticed the problem and Joseph got help at an eye hospital supported by the charity Christian Blind Mission in Kenya. Now he has glasses and a special telescope to see the board at school. As a result, he's gone straight to the top of his class.

Wordsearch

G	N	I	N	I	A	R	T	G	U	X	I
Y	M	K	N	G	D	O	M	Y	O	Q	B
T	N	X	O	X	Q	M	M	B	B	P	T
I	C	V	I	B	R	A	N	S	H	T	K
L	H	E	S	L	S	G	Q	D	S	T	S
I	A	G	I	I	E	N	W	E	S	H	I
B	R	I	V	N	S	I	T	I	S	G	R
A	I	H	N	D	S	F	Q	Q	O	I	C
S	T	H	I	N	A	I	L	W	U	S	V
I	Y	Y	T	E	L	E	S	C	O	P	E
D	E	Y	E	S	G	R	Z	Z	T	D	V
F	N	E	N	M	G	W	U	P	S	B	I

Words to find:

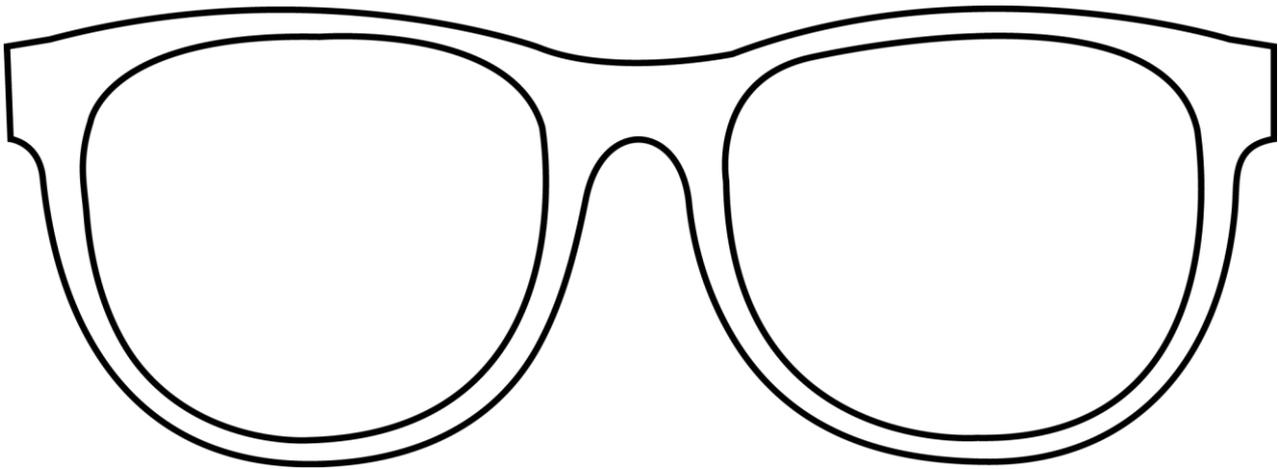
EYES
GLASSES
VISION
TRAINING
SIGHT
TELESCOPE
BLIND
CHARITY
TEST
MAGNIFIER
DISABILITY

Put a tick next to five different ways that Christian Blind Mission helps children with vision problems like Joseph.

Just imagine...

In the Bible, Psalm 119 includes the prayer to God: "Open my eyes, that I may see wonderful things." (Psalm 119:18).

Imagine you hadn't been able to see, but then you were able to. What wonderful things would you be most excited to see? Draw them in the glasses below. You could decorate the frames, too.



When you've finished, say a prayer to thank God for all the wonderful things you have seen in your life.

About CBM

CBM transforms the lives of people with disabilities, their families and communities in the world's poorest places. Driven by Christian values, we prevent blindness, improve health and help people with disabilities go to school, earn a living and play active roles in their communities.

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