



A WORSHIP GUIDE

HUNGER AND POVERTY

For Reflecting and Praying for Those Experiencing Hunger and Poverty



PHOTO COURTESY OF CRAIG THOMPSON, DISCIPLE DESIGN



PHOTO COURTESY OF CATCHLIGHT PICTURES

| SCRIPTURES

ISAIAH 58:10

"If you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday."

PSALM 146:7

"He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets prisoners free."

MATTHEW 25:35

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink."

LUKE 4:18

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor."

JAMES 2:15–16

"Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and well fed,' but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it?"



PHOTO COURTESY OF CRAIG THOMPSON, DISCIPLE DESIGN

SCRIPTURES

FOR HOPE & PEACE

MATTHEW 6:31–33

"Do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' ... Your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

JOHN 6:35

"Then Jesus declared, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'"

ROMANS 15:13

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

| SERMON STARTERS

EXODUS 16:1–30 | MANNA IN THE WILDERNESS

God provided daily bread for the Israelites. How might this story encourage those struggling with hunger today? What does it teach us about trust and sharing resources fairly?

MARK 6:30–44 | JESUS FEEDS THE FIVE THOUSAND

Jesus blesses and multiplies the offering of one boy. How can we trust God to multiply our acts of generosity to meet the needs of the hungry?

LUKE 21:1–4 | THE WIDOW'S OFFERING

Even the smallest gift can be an act of great faith. What does it mean to give sacrificially to help end hunger and poverty?



| PRAYERS

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

God of abundance, we bring before you the millions of families around the world struggling to find daily bread. Strengthen those who are hungry. Encourage farmers and laborers. Empower leaders to create systems of justice. Stir us to live generously, so that none may go without. Amen.

GRACE BEFORE A MEAL

Loving God, thank you for this food. As we eat, we remember all who hunger tonight. Bless those who labor in fields and kitchens, and bless us to be your hands, sharing food and hope with others. Amen.

PRAYER AFTER A MEAL

God of mercy, we have eaten and are filled. May this nourishment move us to compassion. May we remember those who go without and commit ourselves to your work of justice and love. Amen.

PRAYER BEFORE A SPECIAL COLLECTION

Lord of provision, you fed your people in the desert and taught us to pray for daily bread. Receive these gifts, that they may relieve hunger, restore dignity, and bear witness to your kingdom of abundance. Amen.





LITANY PRAYER

L: For the children who cry themselves to sleep from hunger,

P: Lord, hear our prayer.

L: For the parents choosing between food, medicine, or rent,

P: Lord, hear our prayer.

L: For those living without clean water or nourishing meals,

P: Lord, hear our prayer.

L: From greed that hoards and systems that oppress,

P: O Lord, deliver us.

L: For generosity to share fairly the world's resources,

P: O Lord, empower us.

All: God of abundance, open our eyes to injustice, open our hearts to compassion, open our hands to give freely, that hunger and poverty may be no more. Amen.

PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for the more than 700 million people worldwide living in extreme poverty.
- Pray for children who suffer from malnutrition and stunted growth.
- Pray for communities struggling with drought, disaster, or conflict that robs them of food security.
- Pray for governments and leaders to act with justice and fairness.
- Pray for the Church to be bold in witness, proclaiming good news to the poor.
- Pray for hope, dignity, and strength for all who hunger.



CALL TO WORSHIP

L: God is our provider, giving food to all flesh.

P: Let us give thanks and share God's abundance.

L: Christ is the Bread of Life, who satisfies our deepest hunger.

P: We come to be fed, that we may feed others.

L: The Spirit moves us to justice, compassion, and generosity.

P: We open our hearts to God's call.

All: Come, let us worship the God who fills the hungry with good things!



HYMN SUGGESTIONS

FOR EVERYONE BORN, A PLACE AT THE TABLE

Shirley Erena Murray

WHEN THE POOR ONES

Cuando el Pobre

GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS

WE COME TO THE HUNGRY FEAST

Ray Makeever



PHOTO COURTESY OF NICOLAI CERVENCOV