

CHRISTIAN AID REFLECTION FOR SUNDAY, 17 MAY 2020

There are those of us who have been fortunate enough to have lived in total security for our entire lives and we are currently facing unprecedented uncertainties, restrictions and anxieties.

We are comforted by our awareness of God's love - and fervently pray that those who are suffering hardship, illness or heart-breaking loss may also be able to feel some comfort from His presence.

There are parallels as we come to the end of Christian Aid Week with those who are already living face to face with difficulties beyond our imagining.

We need to remain inside our comfortable homes – there are those with only ruins or makeshift tents in which to shelter.

We need to limit our walks to perhaps one hour – there are those who have to walk for days and weeks in the hope of finding a safe haven.

We were anxious about the lack of toilet tissue – there are those who have no access to sanitation.

We are directed to keep washing our hands – there are those who walk for hours to find a bucket of germ ridden water.

We temporarily cannot buy flour or sugar – there are those who are permanently hungry as crops fail due to climate change or pestilence.

We are concerned about the needs of our National Health Service – there are those who have to walk for hours to find a doctor or travel for days to reach a hospital.

We cannot meet with our loved ones - there are those who have no idea where their loved ones may be or even if they are still alive.

There is a huge upsurge in the awareness of the common good in our country – and may we still support the work of Christian Aid as it continues to bring its message of awareness and hope to all humanity

LOVE NEVER FAILS

Even in the darkest moments, love gives hope.

Love compels us to fight against coronavirus alongside our sisters and brothers living in poverty.

Love compels us to stand together in prayer with our neighbours near and far.

Love compels us to give and act as one.

Now, it is clear that our futures are bound together more tightly than before.

As we pray in our individual homes- around the nation and around the world - we are united as one family.

So, let us pause and find a moment of peace, as we lift up our hearts together in prayer.

Wendy Bate