



RESPONSIVE PRAYER

GIVE WATER, GIVE LIFE

Have a jug of water and cups available at the front. The leader will also need a jug of pure water with a glass, as well as a jug of dirty water and another glass (this could be made by stirring a small amount of soil into the water).

The prayer below is also available on a PowerPoint presentation in the ACTION PACK.

You could use this prayer to lead into one of the videos in the ACTION PACK or a collection to make a donation to WATERSHED. It can also be used as part of a WATERSHED service. More resources are available in the ACTION PACK to help you with this.

Leader: Father God, we rejoice that you are the water of life.

All: When we are spiritually thirsty, we thank you for refreshing us with your Spirit.

Leader: Thank you that we live in a part of the world where plentiful supplies of clean water are available.

All: When we are physically thirsty, we thank you for providing all we need.

[Leader pours clean water into the glass and takes a drink]

Leader: We pray for our brothers and sisters around the world who do not have access to clean water.

All: We remember now that one in eight people still do not have access to safe drinking water.

[Leader pours dirty water into a glass and prepares to drink, but refuses]

Leader: Father, forgive us when we complain because there is a hosepipe ban and we can't wash our cars or water our gardens. And forgive us when we complain that there's too much rain and we can't enjoy the sunshine.

All: Forgive us when we waste water and forget about parts of the world where there is a lack of clean water.

Leader: Give us compassionate hearts and turn our tears of sadness into rivers of joy.

All: Speak to our hearts about the investment we can make into making changes in our world.

Leader: Thank you that in the last 20 years more than 2 billion people have gained access to improved water sources.

[Leader holds up a glass of clean water]

All: (loudly) Thank you.

Leader: Thank you that since 2006 the number of people without clean water has fallen from 1.1 billion to 783 million.

[Leader holds up a glass of dirty water]

All: But 783 million people without clean water is too many.

Leader: O Lord, we pray for all who wait for the day when they will have access to clean water.

All: May that day come soon.

[Everyone is invited to come and take a cup of water]

Leader: As we hold this water in our hands we realise again that this is a precious commodity.

All: Thank you for this water which we can drink safely and which satisfies our thirst.

Leader: Father God, we rejoice that you are the water of life.

All: When we are spiritually thirsty, we thank you for refreshing us with your Spirit. Amen.

