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**Children’s Address B**

**Items (or pictures):**

Hand whisk

Tape measure

Spanner or other tool

Phone or laptop

Garden trowel

*Hold each item up in turn, asking for ideas of who would use a tool like this in their job? Eg Baker, Joiner, Mechanic.*

Today we are thinking about those around the world who are most impacted by changes in our Climate. Many of these people are farmers, some of whom we’ll see and hear from today. But they wouldn’t use tractors, or combine harvesters that we might see in fields here - they are much more likely to farm will hand tools, just like this trowel. For many of them, just like **Tigest in Ethiopia,** it has become harder and harder to grow a good harvest. The climate has changed - there is less rain year after year, or when the rain does come it is too much rain and causes floods. It becomes harder and harder to grow less and less. And for many, the situation will continue to get worse and worse as changes to the climate continue. People like **Tigest** don’t go to Tesco to buy their lunches and dinners - what they grow is often what they eat and so if they can grow less and less then they can eat less and less - and that just doesn’t seem fair sure it doesn’t?

In Matthew 22:37-40, Jesus tells us that God’s greatest commandments are to love God and to love our neighbours. As Christians we know that our neighbour isn’t *just* the person who lives next door or down the street. We have a world that is full of our *global neighbours.* Not just those on our street, but people right across Ireland, and right across the world. In fact, Jesus taught his disciples that our neighbour is especially those people who don’t look like us, who don’t speak like we do and who don’t do things the same way we do. Anyone in need, right across this world, is our neighbour, and so we have a special job to do to look after them - to love them, because Jesus told us to.

**How do we love them?**

**We can pray.** We can pray for those who are in need. It’s great to be able to pray by name for people so why don’t you remember someone you hear from in this service and start today by praying for them. I’m sure you’ll have a big lunch today, and that’s a good time to remember those for whom it is harder and harder to grow enough food to eat.

**We can give**. Just like we have global neighbours we are also part of the global church, and we have this amazing privilege of being able to give to the global church as they love their neighbours. The grown-ups will be thinking about this later, but maybe when you go home you can think as a family about how you could each give a little. When we give even a little in Jesus’ name, he can do a whole lot more.

**We can act** - we can do something. If you think it isn’t fair that some people go hungry, and that the changing climate makes it harder and harder for some people to have enough to eat, then as followers of Jesus we get to speak up, we get to say out loud ‘That’s not fair’, and we get to do something about it. Maybe as a family, or as a church, there is something you can do to help reduce the impact of climate change on others around the world ­­– (and boys and girls - sometimes the grown-ups need reminding by little people like you, sometimes even grown-ups can forget about our global neighbour, so it might be your job to help the church here do something about it!)

**Photographs of Tigist Melese at work and with family:**







