

# Prophetic – Week 1

## Act on Poverty

### Ask Ahead: a question to consider before this session

Who would you consider to be a modern day prophet?

### Scripture Reading: Amos 5.11, 21-24

Therefore because you trample on the poor  
and take from them levies of grain,  
you have built houses of hewn stone,  
but you shall not live in them;  
you have planted pleasant vineyards,  
but you shall not drink their wine.

...  
I hate, I despise your festivals,  
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.  
Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,  
I will not accept them,  
and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals  
I will not look upon.  
Take away from me the noise of your songs;  
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.  
But let justice roll down like water  
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.



88% of UK adults think more should be done to tackle poverty.

Source: Yougov poll for Christians Against Poverty, March 2023

3.8 million people in the UK experienced destitution in 2022.

Source: Joseph Rowntree Foundation

More than 1 billion people in the majority world live in poverty.

Source: Global Multidimensional Poverty Index 2023.

### Reflection

### Listen In: Ashleigh May, Mums on a Mission – (8 mins)

Hear from Ashleigh May, one of the founders of Mums on a Mission, a not-for-profit organisation that supports and empowers families to break free from the cycle of generational poverty.

Ashleigh shares her own experience of poverty, homelessness, mental ill-health and developing her voice as a community organiser.

## Listen In: Bryer Mlowoka, Evangelical Association of Malawi (6 mins)

The Evangelical Association of Malawi is an umbrella group for more than 110 church denominations and Christian organisations in Malawi. Hear from Bryer Mlowoka, Head of Programmes, about how faith is at the root of EAM's development and advocacy work.

## Get Inspired: Margaret's Story (short film 5 minutes)

Meet Margaret Robinson, a long-time supporter of Christian Aid, living in North Devon, UK. Margaret is the first to acknowledge that she is not a natural orator. Nonetheless, she felt she had to respond to God's call to speak up for justice. Hear about how Margaret got involved in campaigning in her local area.

## Discussion Group topics

1. What do you think when you hear Ashleigh's story of her experience? Have you had the experience of your life taking an unexpected direction following a call from God?
2. Bryer quotes from another prophetic book, Micah, and says that 'where there is injustice, the church needs to speak.' What do you think about this? What do you think the church is called to do about issues like poverty? Do you think the church today is answering that call?
3. Ashleigh, Bryer, and Margaret are all using their skills and passions to seek change in their communities. They also believe we can speak out and influence those who have power, locally and globally.

## Closing Prayer