

Changing The World Eucharist

Sometimes we wish we could change the world but the task seems just too enormous. This Eucharist faces the frustration we often feel in the face of huge international disasters (and particularly arose out of our children's response to the massive earthquake in Haiti) but recognises that we can do our own little bit, often on a very local level and celebrates that together we can make a difference; together, little bit by little bit we can change the world.

This draws heavily on the stories in the news for that particular week so would probably need some adaptation to make it relevant to what is happening in your week!

I want to change the world
I want to make a difference
But what can I do
I'm too small!

And we see the pictures
Of the days following
The earthquake in Haiti
Of people needing rescuing
Of people needing hospitals
Of people needing shelter
Of people needing food and water
And we feel helpless...

But we can help change the world for a few people
We can make a difference to some people's lives
We can bake cakes and sell them
And give the money to the earthquake appeal.

I want to change the world
I want to make a difference
But what can I do
I'm too small!

There's been yet another oil spill in Texas
As an oil tanker collides with a barge
The news report states there were no injuries
But in our minds-eye
we can see the oil floating on the water
with fish lying dead on the surface
we can see the shore-line polluted
and birds struggling as oil soaks their feathers.

But we can help change the world for a few people
We can make a difference to some people's lives
We can reduce the amount of oil we need
By recycling, turning off lights and walking to school.

I want to change the world
I want to make a difference
But what can I do
I'm too small!

And we hear more news
of continued fighting
and ongoing conflict
In Iraq and Afghanistan
Soldiers dying a long way from home
Local people killed in suicide bombings
Children fearful of going out to school
Food and water and energy scarce...

But we can help change the world for a few people
We can make a difference to some people's lives
We can welcome children who are new to our country
And help by being their friends at school.

I want to change the world
I want to make a difference
But what can I do
I'm too small!

Its not in the news much now
But dig a little and the stories are there
Of droughts and famine in Darfur and Chad
Pictures of cattle lying starved
The last source of food for people gone
And the long trek to feeding camps
Just another chapter in the story
of the rains that didn't come....

But we can help change the world for a few people
We can make a difference to some people's lives
We can do our bit to stop climate change
Plant seeds on our allotment and buy local food.

I want to change the world
I want to make a difference
But what can I do
I'm too small!

I wonder if Jesus thought this
As he grew up and became an adult
As he took the scroll in the temple
and began to read
The spirit of God is upon me
To bring good news to the poor...

To release the captives
And bring sight to the blind...

But Jesus did change the world for people
Jesus did make a difference to many people's lives
Jesus healed people and touched them
And made friends with those who were lonely.

I want to change the world
I want to make a difference
But what can I do
I'm too small!

And Jesus shared a meal with his friends
And spoke about how he would suffer and die
Because he had tried to change the world
And the world didn't want to change
He took bread and gave thanks and said,
This is my body, given for you
He took wine and gave thanks and said,
This is the wine of new life and my promise to be with you.

[Share bread and wine]

Jesus changed the world for many people
Jesus still makes a difference today
For Jesus walks with us
And helps us bring good news to the poor.

I want to change the world
I want to make a difference
There is a lot that I can do
And I'm not too small!

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