



# Will power to help end injustice and poverty

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**A guide to leaving a gift in your will**



PICTURE Helen Manson

## Faith in Action

**Motivated by Jesus, Tearfund encourages Kiwis to act for justice to relieve poverty among the world's most vulnerable people.**

It's a privilege for me to be part of the work of Tearfund. This work could not be achieved without the support of many generous donors throughout New Zealand.

My partnership with Tearfund over the years, both as a donor and as a member of the Tearfund Board, has reinforced just how blessed my family is to live in New Zealand. It has also shown me that we can make a tangible difference to others around the world in less fortunate circumstances.

Tearfund's vision is to see individuals and communities around the world transformed by hope, opportunity, and dignity. We provide a range of programmes and initiatives, allowing donors to support the ones they most identify with. For my family, this has been anti-trafficking, empowerment, and disaster relief. We also have a Christmas tradition of each buying a Tearfund Gift for Life as a gift to Jesus, giving to those close to His heart.

My family believes in spending our lives, talents, and money on what endures. Because of this, we've made Tearfund a beneficiary of our wills.

A bequest to Tearfund enables you to leave a future gift which will provide life-transforming benefits in the lives of those most in need and provide lasting positive change for future generations. Like me, leaving a bequest may be another way you can support the fight against injustice and poverty well into the future.

Would you consider leaving a bequest to Tearfund in your will?

With blessings,



Gary Agnew  
Chairman of the Board

## Who will benefit from my gift?

People like Arutsothy (pictured right). After a brutal civil war ending in 2009, people in North Sri Lanka returned home to nothing. The war took their families, livestock, and local employment opportunities.

Arutsothy says:

“In 2009, we had to flee our home because bombs were going off and army tanks were firing here...

When we first arrived home from the displacement camp, I thought to myself, why did we bother? Why did we come back?

I was sitting in a corner, just desperate. Before we left we had forty cows, and we returned to nothing. No house. Nothing.

Once we rebuilt, my income was low. I had to do the hard labour on the farm because my husband was sick.

Tearfund’s partner gave me a cow and training on how to improve

my milk production. Now with the extra income from the milk, I am able to hire farm hands to do the hard labour.

My extra income allows me to help children in the neighbourhood—some who don’t have a father, and others who have lost both parents.

I want to thank Tearfund’s partners for their support. They helped me to increase my income and changed our lives. Now I feel that we are valuable people.”

**When you empower communities, you’re investing into a poverty-free future.**



**“Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow.”**

Isaiah 1:17 (NIV)



## Why leave a gift to Tearfund?

You can be confident that leaving a gift in your will to Tearfund can do more than you ever thought possible.

- Established in 1975, Tearfund has been committed to finding lasting solutions to poverty and injustice in developing countries for more than 40 years.
  - We are a leading faith-based, non-profit, aid and development organisation. Motivated by Jesus, we encourage Kiwis to act for justice to relieve poverty among the world's most vulnerable people. Our vision is to see individuals and communities around the world transformed by hope, opportunity and dignity.
  - Our key distinction and strength is our partnership model. We combine the inventiveness of our local team with the expertise of international partners to achieve lasting, positive change in the lives of those most in need.
  - We nourish communities with life's essentials. We protect the vulnerable from exploitation.
- We restore hope and peace when disaster and conflict strikes. We sponsor children in need, and empower people to help themselves.
  - We are a registered charity of the NZ Charities Commission.
  - We are a member of the Council for International Development, ensuring that Tearfund acts in accordance with the code of conduct set for New Zealand aid organisations.
  - Our accounts are audited annually and are available to you on request. Our Annual Report can be downloaded at [tearfund.org.nz](http://tearfund.org.nz).



## Supporter testimonies

### Why I made a gift in my will.

“I’ve had the pleasure and the privilege of being involved in child sponsorship with Tearfund through my local church and also personally. I have sponsored children through Tearfund for many years and I am involved in a monthly garage sale at my church. Some of the money raised is used in our regular sponsorship of a child in Ethiopia. I’m also very supportive of Tearfund’s Protect work, which seeks to compassionately combat human trafficking, slavery, and the exploitation of poor and vulnerable people.

**I support Tearfund as I believe the financial funding raised through donations and bequests is well stewarded and administered wisely. Both of these things are very important to me.**

I decided to leave a bequest to Tearfund as I believe their work is making a difference in fighting injustice and alleviating poverty around the world. They are putting faith into practical

action and achieving results that transform lives and local communities. I know anything that I leave them will be well used and help those in greatest need.”

Kate Turner

“Since 2008, I have regularly supported Tearfund’s Empower cause as I have a keen interest in micro-enterprise for struggling women living in difficult circumstances and for helping the most vulnerable to build a poverty-free future.

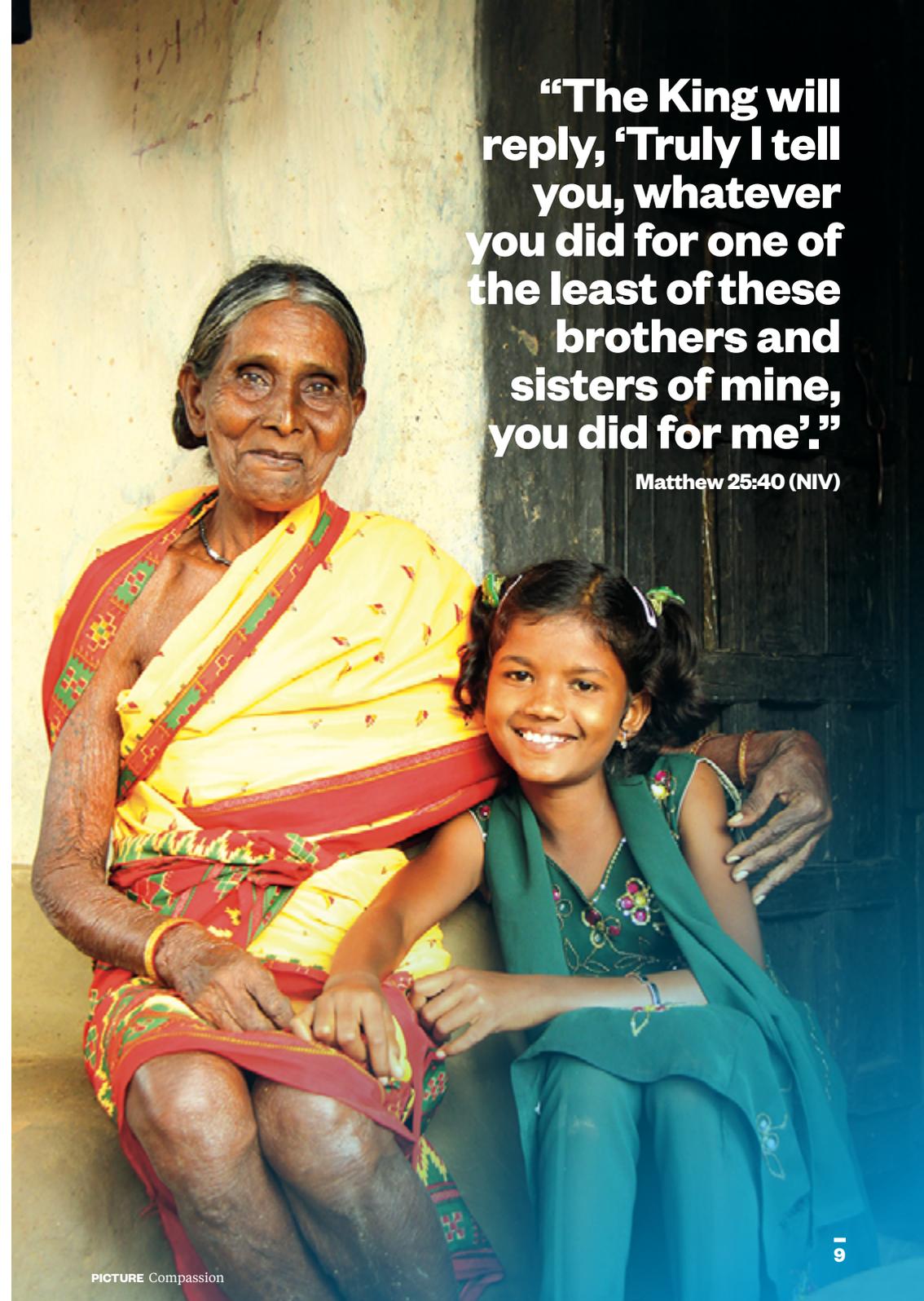
**I believe that a small donation to one person can make a huge difference.**

I trust Tearfund to use resources wisely and that my bequest will empower women to create income opportunities for themselves and their families.”

R.J.

**“The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’”**

Matthew 25:40 (NIV)



## Things to consider when making your will

**We strongly recommend you seek professional assistance when writing or changing your will.**

A solicitor, the Public Trust or a trustee company will ensure that your wishes are correctly recorded and that you achieve all you wish for your family and others through your will. Your solicitor can advise you on matters such as Trusts, Guardians, asset valuation, tax planning, and Power of Attorney. The New Zealand Law Society or your local Citizen's Advice Bureau can help you find a solicitor if you don't already have one.

Your will is a record of how you want your estate to be distributed when you die. A signed, correctly worded will brings peace of mind, knowing that you have remembered your loved ones, as well as the charities you choose to support after your death. You can also nominate an Executor, name Guardians for taking care of any dependants, and express your wishes regarding your funeral.

Advisors recommend that you review your will when your

circumstances and/or intentions change, e.g. relational or financial. Your review is an ideal time to add an addition (a codicil) to include a future gift to Tearfund.

### **Family**

It's important that you provide for your loved ones before including a charity in your will. It's recommended that you share with your family your desire to leave a bequest to a charity. This can prevent personal and legal struggles if your will is challenged.

### **What happens if I don't have a will?**

If you die without a valid will, the law dictates how your estate is distributed. This means if you have no next of kin, your estate will pass to the Crown. If you do have relatives, they may disagree about what should happen with your estate. Where there's no will, your estate will be distributed according to the rules laid down in the Administration Act 1969.

## Frequently asked questions

**Tearfund has found that people often have similar questions about leaving a gift in their will. The information below answers some of these questions.**

### **How will my gift be used?**

Your gift will help Tearfund plan, fund, and manage its future strategic projects with confidence. It will allow Tearfund to continue its life-giving work with communities, implementing holistic aid and development programmes.

Your generosity will enable Tearfund to respond quickly to those in urgent need and provide long-term, locally run, sustainable solutions to the underlying causes of injustice, poverty, disasters, and emergencies.

### **What if I want to support a project with my gift?**

Since Tearfund is unlikely to receive your gift until far into the future, it's most beneficial to those we are helping if its terms are as general as possible given that needs, priorities, and projects change over time. Your gift would allow Tearfund to

apply it to the areas of greatest need. Contact us to discuss any specific wishes you may have.

### **Do I need to make a new will to include Tearfund?**

No, you can amend your existing will by adding a codicil to include your gift. We strongly recommend seeking legal advice when drafting, updating or amending your will to include a gift to Tearfund.

### **Do I need to tell you that I have included Tearfund in my will?**

We'd love to hear if you've chosen to include Tearfund in your will. This will enable us to thank you personally in your lifetime and allow us to keep you informed of any relevant bequest information and changes that you should be aware of. It will also help us keep you connected to the work your gift will make possible. If you wish to remain anonymous, your request will be honoured.



**“And let the Lord our God favour us and give us success. May He give permanence to all we do.”**

Psalm 90:17 (TLB)



PICTURE Nikki Denholm

## How to make your gift

Leaving a gift in a will is called making a bequest.

Bequests are for everyday people just like you and can be as much or as little as you wish.

Your legal advisor will clarify what best suits your wishes and circumstances.

- **Percentage** – a percentage of the value of your estate
- **Residuary** – a gift of the remainder of your estate after provision for your loved ones
- **Pecuniary** – a specific sum of money
- **Specified bequest** – a particular item such as property, shares, stocks, a vehicle or a house

A gift left to a charity says a lot about your values and sends an important message to your family and friends. It's simple to do, doesn't impact on your current financial situation, and gives assurance knowing that your future gift and passions will live on, bringing hope and transformation to the next generation and beyond.

### Checklist

- **Choose** your charity
- **Contact** your charity to request information on leaving a gift
- **Speak** with your solicitor/ trustee company about making a will or changing your will
- **Tell** your family and friends about your decision

### A gift in your will

You may choose to include one of the statements below in your will:

I give and bequeath:

- .....% of my estate
- The residue of my estate
- The sum of \$.....
- Description of assets or property

To The Evangelical Alliance Relief Fund (Tearfund), PO Box 8315, Symonds St, Auckland 1150, Registration CC21725 for the general purposes of Tearfund. I declare that the official receipt of the Chief Executive or other duly authorised officer shall be full and sufficient discharge to my Trustees.

## A gift in your will

If you already have a will, you can make a simple addition to benefit Tearfund.

Here is an example of codicil wording:

I \_\_\_\_\_ (full name)  
of \_\_\_\_\_ (address)

Declare this to be a \_\_\_\_\_ (first/second) codicil to my will dated \_\_\_\_\_

In addition to any legacies given in my said will, I give to The Evangelical Alliance Relief Fund (Tearfund), PO Box 8315, Symonds St, Auckland 1150, a charity registered in New Zealand (Registration number CC 21725) a share of \_\_\_\_\_ (percentage) of my estate or the residue of my estate, or the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to be used for general purposes and I declare that the receipt of the duly authorised officer shall be full and sufficient discharge.

In all aspects, I confirm my said will and all other codicils thereto.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signed by the above named in our presence and witnessed by us in the presence of him/her and each other.

**Witnessed by:**

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Witnessed by:**

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Planning for the future

Please consider remembering Tearfund in your will. Tick the statement relevant to you below and post back to us in the Freepost envelope provided. We truly appreciate your support of Tearfund—thank you.

I would consider including Tearfund in my will and would like more information

I intend to include Tearfund when I next revise my will

Yes, I have already mentioned Tearfund in my will

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

If you have any questions, would like further information or to discuss your wishes in confidence, please contact:

**E** info@tearfund.org.nz

**P** 0800 800 777



**“The great use of a life is to spend it for something that outlasts it.”**

William James



Thank you for choosing Tearfund, and having the ‘will power’ to help end injustice and poverty.

Ian McInnes  
CEO

**0800 800 777**  
**tearfund.org.nz**  
**enquiries@tearfund.org.nz**

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Auckland 1150, New Zealand  
64C Stoddard Rd, Mt Roskill

Tearfund is a registered charity, Charities Act 2005 registration **CC21725**.

The logo for Tearfund, featuring the word "tearfund" in a bold, lowercase, sans-serif font, with "Faith in Action" in a smaller, lowercase, sans-serif font below it. The logo is contained within a white circular shape.

**tearfund**  
Faith in Action