



ARISE AFRICA

Children's Talk:

Our World, Their World

PREPARATION

You can do this in different ways:

- You can get a volunteer from the audience and get them to hold or to wear all the items mentioned in the talk.
- Or you can simply have the items on a table next to you.
- You can also have everyone mime the various activities that we mention.

This talk can be combined with the [Arise Africa All Age Service Ideas](#).

If so, you can start by having the children find some of the items during a scavenger hunt. They then bring them to the front and you can use them for your talk.

The script is just to give you an idea. You don't have to learn it by heart!

If you are using the physical objects, you will need:

- A flannel
- A toilet roll
- A paper plate or bowl
- A toothbrush
- Some bottled water
- A backpack or satchel for school
- A TV remote
- A football
- A Bible

You will also need to [download the Arise Africa All Age slides](#) if you are using them.

SCRIPT

If you are using a volunteer, call up a child from the congregation.

I want you to imagine it's first thing in the morning. And we're just waking up. So you have a yawn.

(Get everyone to mime having a yawn)

Rub your eyes.

(Mime: rubbing their eyes)

And jump out of bed.

(Mime: jumping)

Now. What's the first thing you do in the morning? You have a wash.

'Wash' the volunteer's face with the flannel.

(Mime: washing)

You go to the toilet.

Give the volunteer a toilet roll. (Maybe be careful with the mime on this one!)

Have breakfast.

Give the volunteer the paper plate or bowl.

(Mime: eating breakfast)

Then you brush your teeth.

Give the volunteer the toothbrush.

(Mime: brushing their teeth.)

Then you get ready for school.

Give volunteer a backpack. (Mime: putting on a backpack)

And you go to school.

You could send the volunteer round the church to go to school. (Mime: walking on the spot)

And what do you do at school? You do your schoolwork.

Give the volunteer a pencil. (Mime: writing)

You play games.

Give them a football to hold. (Mime: kicking a football)

Then you have lunch.

Eat from the paper plate again. (Mime: eating)

Then you come home and perhaps you watch TV or play on the computer.

Give the volunteer a remote control or a games controller. (Mime: playing a video game)

Then you have your tea.

Eat from the bowl or plate. (Mime: eating)

By now the volunteer should be holding quite a lot of stuff! They can always put some of it down, or you can lay it out in front of you.

Then perhaps you pray and read your Bible before going to sleep.

Give them a Bible. (Mime: praying)

And at the end of the day, you go to sleep.

Give the volunteer a pillow. (Mime: going to sleep and snoring)

That's a lot of things we do during the day. And we haven't even counted the half of it. We have lots of ways to keep ourselves amused and to learn and we keep ourselves clean and healthy.

But what if you couldn't do any of that? What if you didn't live in your house, with all your toys and a bathroom and toilet and kitchen.

What if you lived in a tent, in a refugee camp?

Do you know what a refugee is? A refugee is someone who has had to run away from their home to be safe. And refugees often have to live in tents, in refugee camps.

This is what has happened to millions of Christians. They can't live in their homes. They have had to leave, forced out by people with guns and bombs. These people don't like Christians and don't want them to live in their country. So they attack them.

The problem is especially bad in Africa, where loads and loads of children live in refugee camps.

I want to tell you about a boy called Elijah. That's not his real name, but he is a real boy.

Here he is.

Show [powerpoint picture of Elijah](#).

Elijah lives in Africa. In a country called Burkina Faso.

Use the Arise Africa floor map. You could always get two other volunteers to hold it up. Find Burkina Faso on the map.



This is it, on the map. His father is called Pastor Soré. And as well as Elijah and his sister, Pastor Soré looks after seven other children who have lost their parents. So there are lots of people in their family!

And Elijah's life looks a bit different.

In this section, if you have used a volunteer with real objects, you can take them away, one by one. If you have just got people miming you can just run through the rest of the talk straightforwardly.

You can also show a photo of the camp where Pastor Soré lives.

Elijah and his family had to leave their home because they were attacked by people who

didn't like Christians. He had to leave a lot of his possessions behind.

Now he lives in a camp. He doesn't even have his own bed. He has to sleep in a tent with a lot of other children.

Take away the pillow and the Bible.

He doesn't have a computer or a TV or anything like that.

Take away the controller or remote.

And when they first came to the camp, he didn't go to school.

Take away the bag and the pencil.

They had nothing to eat.

Take away the paper plate/bowl.

And no proper toilets in the camp and no running water.

Take away the toilet roll, the toothbrush and the flannel. By now the volunteer should have very little.

Imagine that. And there are millions of people, grown-ups and children who have found themselves in this position.

So that's a very different life. But some things are the same. Elijah and his family help with cooking and cleaning as best they can. And they love to sing and dance.



But they still don't have a lot of things that we take for granted.

But there is some hope. Thanks to churches and supporters all over the world, Open Doors is able to help.

One by one, give back the items.

Together, we can give them water to drink and to use for washing, and food to eat. We can pay for them to go to school, so they can still get an education.

And in lots of places we give children their own Bibles so that they can read it and pray with their family.

The one thing that is really difficult to do is to give them their home back.

But that's what we're trying to do through *Arise Africa*. That's why we're asking grown-ups to sign a petition and ask the government to help. And we want everyone to pray and to give what they can.

They need our help – and we can send help from our world to their world.

But that's the thing: it's not really two worlds. It's not us and them: we all live in one world.

And the Bible tells us we are all one big family. In the Bible, Paul says that we all belong to the family of believers.

*You can show the verse on a slide:
"Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers." (Galatians 6:10)*



Way bigger than even a family with nine children.

So we're going to pray for them now.

*Either lead in prayer for children in camps.
Or if you are using [the all-age service ideas](#), you could now encourage the children to take the objects to the tent and use them to pray.*