

# MAKE POVERTY HISTORY

## STAND UP and TAKE ACTION 2008 – How to Stand Up at your Church

In 2008, you can take a stand. You can take action.

You can **MAKE POVERTY HISTORY**.

On October 17, 18 and 19 join thousands of Australians taking a stand against poverty, calling on our leaders to take action now.

We encourage you to be involved in Stand Up this year. Your church can participate in this year's global STAND UP action. Join millions around the world taking action against poverty. You can participate in Stand Up at or after church service on Sunday October 19 or hold your own STAND UP event in your community or youth group anytime between 9am Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October – 11.45pm Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2008.

### How to STAND UP at your church:

1. Register at your STAND UP at [www.makepovertyhistory.com.au](http://www.makepovertyhistory.com.au)
2. Put aside 5 mins for Stand Up in your service or at coffee time afterwards
3. Show the Micah Challenge DVD or the new MPH DVD during the service or the week before so people know what STAND UP is all about
4. Pray for the poor and for our response to the injustices we see in our world
5. Count the number of people who STAND UP
6. Encourage people to sign the Micah Challenge call sheet (you can download copies at [www.micahchallenge.org.au](http://www.micahchallenge.org.au) )
7. Record your STAND UP participant numbers by email to: [standupastralia@gmail.com.au](mailto:standupastralia@gmail.com.au) or by phone (03) 84862157 no later than 11.55pm on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October
8. Make sure you check the world total before church the next week so you can tell people the total number of Stand Up participants around the world (Australian and global total numbers will be announced on Thursday 23 October

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## Church Bulletins

Please feel free to circulate the below bulletins in your church bulletins or newsletters

### **Notice for your church bulletin on Sunday October 12**

Next week we are going to take 5 minutes to Stand Up together to declare that we want to see action on global poverty. Around the world from Friday 17 to Sunday 19, tens of millions of people will be involved in this world record attempt. Churches around Australia are involved because we want to support the Millennium Development Goals which aim to provide basics like clean water, health services, primary education and proper housing as well as tackling the unjust systems that keep people poor. Join in next Sunday.

Please pray for the 200 Christians in Canberra this week who are visiting politicians to ask for action to meet the MDGs. Pray for them to be bold, positive and insightful. Pray that politicians will have listening hearts.

### **Notice for your church bulletin on Sunday October 19**

Today our church is involved in Stand Up, a massive global action by millions of people who want to stand up and say No to desperate poverty and injustice. The Bible encourages us to "Say No to wrong, learn to do good, work for justice, help the down-and-out, stand up for the homeless and go to bat for the defenceless." Isaiah 1:17. We can take one small action today.

Please pray that Stand Up is more will be effective in raising public awareness. Pray that leaders around the world will listen to our message. Pray that as individuals and as nations we will not forget the poor and the vulnerable.

# MAKE POVERTY HISTORY

## Prayer during your Stand Up event

Lord God,

We celebrate you who offers healing and hope - spiritual, physical, emotional and social healing for all people.

We thank you for the example of Jesus who appreciated and valued the poor and those who were at the edges of society.

Be with the hungry and homeless who cry out to you.

Be with parents who work long hard hours toiling for their families. Give them rest.

Be with those who are ill and tired from overwork and disease. Restore them to health.

Be with mums and dads who dream that life will be better for their children. May their hopes not be in vain.

Be with all who live fearfully because of violence and war. Protect them.

Help us to work for justice for the most vulnerable ones in the world. Help us to stand up and speak out for the defenceless.

In the name of Jesus, our example and our Saviour,  
Amen.

## Bible passages for use during Stand Up

Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,  
whose hope is in the Lord their God,  
who made heaven and earth,  
the sea and all that is in them;  
who keeps faith forever;  
who executes justice for the oppressed;  
who gives food to the hungry.

Psalm 146:5–7

Speak up for those who cannot speak,  
for the rights of all the destitute.  
Speak out, judge righteously,  
defend the rights of the poor and needy.

Proverbs 31:8–9

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me  
to bring good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives  
and recovery of sight to the blind,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.”

Luke 4:18–19