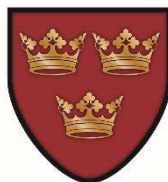


# Morning light

The Bishop of Ely's Lent Appeal 2019

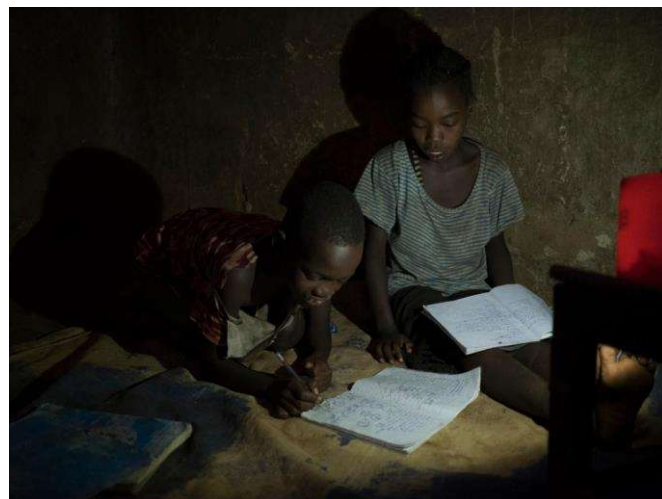


The Church of England  
Diocese of Ely

## Bible study

'Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.'

*Isaiah 58:6-8 (NRSV)*



*Aberash's children Testaye and Nigiste do their homework by the light of a solar lamp.*

Read the whole of Isaiah 58 together.

- What do you notice immediately? Which words stand out for you?
- People rarely fast during Lent these days, but many will give something up or see it as a time for self-reflection. What might God be saying to us about Lent through this passage?
- What does it mean to 'loose the bonds of injustice' (v6) in today's world?
- Are there other passages of scripture that this one reminds you of?
- Try reading the passage in two different translations – what do you notice?
- Which verses challenge you most?

## Pray together

God of justice, Lord of light,  
We thank you for the warmth  
of the sun, giving life to  
creation.

Thank you for the solar energy  
projects bringing dignity and  
empowerment to women  
like Aberash. Bless the work of  
Christian Aid and all those  
who will benefit from it.

Through Jesus Christ, light of  
the world,  
Amen.