



# WHAT IS POVERTY?

## Resources needed:

- Youth SVP Prayer book
- Youth SVP prayer cards
- Worries sharing sheet (1 per person)
- Poverty Map

## Aims:

- For Young People to explore what Poverty means.
- To consider how poverty might present itself in the local communities.
- To be challenged to ask the community what they think the need is.

## Opening Prayer:

Invite one of the young people to read a prayer from the prayer book. ([Link shop](#))

## Reflection:

A story from an SVP Conference. Read it and then take a few moments as a group to explore what you as a group could learn in the work and help you will give.

One of our Young Adult Conferences were doing an evening of meeting rough sleepers and handing out Vinnie Packs. During this time they got talking to a gentleman who was resident in the shop siding of a closed high street shop. He was grateful for the friendship and welcomed any support they were able to give. The Vinnie Pack of useful materials drove him to tears and the members were moved at the impact of these small actions. As they spoke they noticed that he slept in a children's sleeping bag which was thick with mildew and asked him if they could help him with a new one. Through a combination of WhatsApp to get permission from the Conference and Amazon Prime they were able to scroll through many options and the man was able to select one which would be most useful for his needs and a waterproof sheet for rainy evenings.



## What is Poverty?

One of the primary aims of the society

## Sharing with one another & 3 Point Contact

This exercise starts in the group with them reflecting on the following questions:

I've joined the Youth SVP because...

My inspirations are? People, Quotes etc

What are the things that concern you the most?

What are the things people in your community are most concerned about?

Each member will have a sheet with a Cross where there is space to record their answers.

[Click here for the resource sheet.](#)

After a time of sharing and making note of these things, the young people are invited to go away and ask 3 people in the community, of varying ages, the same questions. The answers are brought back, and the group can begin to see where the need in the community might be eg. Litter, homelessness, mental health.

**Closing Prayer: Invite all the young people to pray together the prayer from their prayer cards.**