



Faith Engagement Talking points

How to talk about Habitat for Humanity to your congregation

- Habitat's Christian foundation is based on the desire to give tangible expression to the love of God through the work of eliminating poverty housing.
- Habitat brings diverse groups of people together to make affordable housing and better communities a reality for everyone.
- Habitat provides an opportunity for people to put their faith and love into action.
- Habitat has an open-door policy that welcomes all who desire to be a part of this work, regardless of race, religious preference or background.
- Habitat is a partnership founded on common ground, bridging differences by putting love into action.
- Together, the donated labor of construction volunteers, the support of partner organizations and the homeowners' sweat equity make Habitat's house building possible.
- Habitat is dedicated to eliminating substandard housing and homelessness worldwide, and to making adequate, affordable shelter a matter of conscience and action.
- Habitat was founded on the conviction that every man, woman and child should have a simple, decent place to live in dignity and safety.
- Habitat for Humanity is a Christian homebuilding organization that builds simple, decent homes in partnership with people in need who are living in substandard conditions.
- Habitat's vision is a world where everyone has a decent place to live. As a Christian housing organization, it seeks to put its faith into action by bringing people together to build homes, communities and hope.
- Since 1976, Habitat has served more than 600,000 families without regard to religion, race, gender or nationality by constructing, rehabilitating or repairing homes; by advocating for sound housing policies; and by providing training and financing to help families improve their shelter conditions.
- Habitat for Humanity works with community groups and volunteers to build simple, decent homes. Habitat relies on donations of labor, building materials and land to help keep the cost of the houses down.
- Habitat for Humanity selects homeowners based on their need for adequate housing, their ability to repay a no-profit mortgage and their willingness to partner by helping to build their home and the homes of others in the program.
- Habitat is not a giveaway program. In addition to a down payment and monthly mortgage payments, homeowners invest hundreds of hours of their own labor, or sweat equity, into building their Habitat house and the houses of others.
- Once Habitat for Humanity sells a home to a partner family, the family owns the home just like any other mortgage holder. Their monthly no-profit mortgage payments go back to Habitat and are part of a revolving fund to help build even more homes.
- Each Habitat affiliate or national organization is a community-led organization managed by local leadership and governed by its own board or steering committee. These organizations work in partnership with Habitat for Humanity International.