I SHOULD BE SO LUCKY

*Game adapted from CAFOD*

This game helps young people explore how the unequal distribution of wealth affects people’s experiences and aspirations. It will raise questions about fairness and justice. Encourage the young people to express how they feel and share what they learned.

The scenarios on the cards are inspired by real-life injustice and privileges that people around the world experience every day. To read more about the injustice people are facing in the world and what Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand is doing to alleviate poverty and injustice in the countries where we work, have a look at our website [www.caritas.org.nz](http://www.caritas.org.nz)

Choose a food item to use in the centre of the room to experience unequal distribution. Whatever items you choose make sure it is produced in a fair trade environment. You may like to ask participants to bring a donation to cover the costs of the food item. To explore injustice further, you could even charge some participants more than others to participate in the game.

Possible food items *(could be incorporated into your Caritas Challenge meal)*:

- A big bowl of rice with a serving spoon (give participants a cup they can fill up)
- Fairtrade chocolate broken up into pieces
- Fairtrade lollies
- A big bowl of hot chocolate with a ladle (give participants a cup they can fill up)
- Pieces of fruit (apple or oranges work well)
- Corn chips

*Game adapted from CAFOD*
**INSTRUCTIONS**

Sit in a circle with a bowl filled with your food item of choice. Place the cards face down in the middle of the group. Invite the group to go around the circle and one by one pick up a card and read it out loud in front of the rest of the group. Carry out the action that the card describes.

Repeat this process until everyone has had a turn and all the food has gone.

Debrief: it is important to debrief with the group so that the impact of the game is realised and discussed.

**DISCUSSION POINTS**

What did your card say?

Did you get much to eat playing this game in comparison to other players?

How did you feel about that when you compared to what other people were getting?

How was it decided who got what of the share of the food?

How many servings of food do you think there were to begin with?

What did it feel like to get more/less than other people in the group?

Is there a way that the food could have been shared out fairly?

In your opinion, how does the game link to real life?

What countries do you think these stories came from? Why do you think this?

What makes some people richer and some people poorer than others? Is there anything we can do about this?

Finish with reading the biblical passage from James 2:14-17 and reflect on the message we are given from these words.
JAMES 2:14-17  FAITH AND DEEDS

Share this biblical reading from James with your group after you have played the ‘I Should Be So Lucky’ game.

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them?

Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and well fed,” but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it?

In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.
A mudslide after a flood has destroyed your family home and crops and you don’t have any money to buy food.

You don’t get any food.

Through the efforts of an international aid organisation, your village now has a good supply of water to help grow crops in the fields.

Take one serving.

Your family owns and runs a small company. You have all worked hard, business has been good and you have done quite well.

Take 4 servings.

Your parents are both sick with tuberculosis so you need to work to earn money to support your family. You will never learn to read or write.

You don’t get any food.

Your mum has a good job and has helped a big company to buy a piece of land where they want to open a mine.

Take 8 servings.

You are a 12 year old girl and have just completed your school education. You have been lucky enough to get a job in a factory but all your money is needed to send your brother to school.

You don’t get any food.

There was such a bad drought this year that the crops on your family farm could not grow properly. You cannot eat them, or sell them for extra money.

You don’t get any food.

Wealthy countries are consuming more grain which means there is a shortage in your country and prices are high.

Take two servings but eat only one. Give your second serving to the person who got the most.

Fighting between government soldiers and rebel groups means your life is in danger. You must leave everything behind and flee in the middle of the night.

You don’t get any food.

Your dad has just lost his job making shirts. The company has decided to move its factory to a country where they pay workers less.

You don’t get any food.
You have worked 11 hours in a dirty factory in the city making clothes. You didn’t get any breaks and your employer decided to only pay you half of your wage and keep the rest for himself. Take one serve.

You were able to use the knowledge you learnt at school to help your family grow more vegetables this year. Take one serve.

Your family received a goat as part of the Caritas gifts programme. You family now has fresh milk to drink and sell and you are all much healthier. Take 3 servings.

All your family income this year was used to cover hospital bills when you broke your leg, as there is no free healthcare and you do not have medical insurance. You don’t get any food.

Your Dad owns a shirt-making factory that has moved to another country where he can pay people less. He gives himself a big bonus with the savings. Take 7 servings.

Things that happened during the war in your country have left you feeling hurt and confused. A project has been set up near where you live to help you cope. Take two servings.

You have harvested a big crop this year. You would be able to afford 3 servings of the food if the farm was yours, but you have to give two thirds of your income to the wealthy land owner. Take one serving.

A mining company from a wealthy country has come to mine on your ancestors’ land. The company pays the government to use the land but your family doesn’t get anything. You don’t get any food.

You are a nurse. Due to instability in the economy, your wages do not cover the cost of transport to your work every day. Take one serving but give it to the person next to you.

It is cyclone season and your village has just been hit by a massive typhoon that has destroyed all the homes. You are in an isolated area with no access to fresh food or water. You don’t get any food.