



Assembly

## Using your talents

### Aim:

To explain that God has given us talents to help ourselves and other people

*This assembly is for presentation by two people – these could be two adults, or two pupils.*

### Introduction

#### E. coli

1. Well here we go again.
2. What's that then? You can't mean the football season – that doesn't start till August. Do you mean the exam season?

1. No.
2. Could you be talking about the test cricket?

1. No, not that either.

2. Well, what then?

1. The media stirring up panic and pandemonium about some health issue.

2. Oh! You're talking about the outbreak of an E. coli infection in Germany. Well, it sells newspapers, and people have a right to know what dangers there are out there.

1. Well, yes, but it also panics people and has all sorts of implications.

2. What do you mean?

1. When the first cases were reported at the end of May, someone, without the correct information, blamed Spanish cucumbers.

2. So?

1. Well all over Europe, that's a population of 857 million, people stopped buying Spanish cucumbers and Spanish tomatoes and Spanish lettuce, in fact, any fresh salad or vegetables from Spain. So now the European Commission is looking at giving compensation to the Spanish salad producers.

2. I guess the media just need to be a bit more careful about the information they have, and check it for accuracy.

### Looking Deeper

#### Finding solutions

1. The other day I heard someone say, "Well if you say that God is so powerful why doesn't he stop all these infections and diseases that kill people, like this E. coli outbreak in Germany?"

2. I've heard Christians say that God has given us 'free will' and the talents to resolve problems, so a cure for this infection is ours to find, with the talents that God has given us. So we should not expect that, when every little thing goes wrong, God will come in like a super hero and sort it out. WE have to get on with it.

1. That's harsh.





# Current Affairs Assembly

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2. Not really, when you think about it. Do you know what Polio is?
1. Yes. It's a highly infectious virus which is spread from person to person. It used to be very common in this country in the 1940s and 1950s. It causes paralysis and in a few cases can cause death. However, with the introduction of a vaccine and a programme of vaccination in 1955 it is almost unheard of and since 1998 there have been no cases in the UK. But in Nigeria, India, Pakistan and Afghanistan it remains a serious problem.
2. I thought so. Hasn't Bill Gates, the Microsoft boss, put millions of his own personal money into eradicating polio world wide?
1. Yes, and it's succeeding, using the skills that have been given to people.
2. So, humankind is getting on with eradicating Polio?
1. Yes, and we'll do the same to this E. coli outbreak, as people use their talents to find out more.
2. It's about using what we're good at for everyone, not just to make money.

## Prayer

Lord God  
When you created humankind, you gave us free will. You have also given each of us special and unique talents. Help us to use these gifts for what is good and right in your sight.  
Amen

## Key words:

E. coli  
Media  
talents

## Reflection

Hide not your talents. They for use were made. What's a sundial in the shade?

Benjamin Franklin

