



# Let love speak louder



As we journey through Advent, many of us will be planning where to spend Christmas this year and how we can make the most of the time with the people we love.

With temperatures dropping and winter setting in, we're also reminded of all those who don't have a safe, warm home to retreat to or family to celebrate with. We're reminded too of God's Son, who became a child refugee and had nowhere to lay his head.

Without the support network of friends and family, many people who have sought safety in the UK are being forced to risk their lives sleeping outside. Rahel, who was previously supported by the Boaz Trust, described the experience of arriving in UK as a disorientating and traumatic time:

"I didn't know anything about the country, the people, the language and even where to go. You want someone to encourage you, to hug you. You want to feel that there are people around you."

It is love that Rahel identifies here as what she needed when she arrived in the UK and ended up facing homelessness. It's the security that comes from knowing you have people around you who rejoice when you rejoice, but will also be there to sit with you as you weep.

Love is powerful. And this Christmas, you can help make sure love wins. In Jesus, we see love made manifest. We see love choose to come down and dwell, not in palaces or penthouses, but with us - among those on the margins, those the rest of society shunned. He came physically to live an embodied life of eating, drinking, sleeping, crying, loving and dying.

Following in his footsteps, we can also reach out across boundaries in welcome and solidarity this Christmas. Together we can make sure love speaks louder than hostility.

You can find out more about our Christmas Appeal by visiting [boaztrust.org.uk/christmas](https://boaztrust.org.uk/christmas)

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*Housing and support for people seeking safety*

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