

This provides an update on World Vision's efforts to end extreme poverty by 2030 through Economic Empowerment.



MAY 2018

Greetings!

World Vision is delighted to send you our Executive Briefing for Economic Empowerment. You are an integral part of our work to end extreme poverty by 2030, so we want to keep you updated on our progress!

Empowered Worldview

Christopher Shore, Chief Development Officer, Economic Empowerment



Most people never think about their own worldview (most people do not think about breathing, either). How do I know what I know? What is knowable? Who controls my destiny? What is my relationship to nature? Why do I think I can improve my life? Does my life matter?

World Vision's goal in our work is to see people move out of extreme poverty and vulnerability to fullness of life – able to provide for themselves and their children and communities with dignity and hope. To make that transformation, people need to believe that they can and should make that move. In confronting profound dis-empowerment and dependency for improved well-being upon spirits of ancestors or spirits of rivers or forests, or upon governments or organizations like our own, World Vision has discovered that it is imperative to help people understand the Biblical foundations of an empowered worldview.

In North America, a Biblically-based “Empowered Worldview” is challenged by secularism. In Africa and other parts of the world, the challenge comes from animism (click [here](#) for more information).

The “Empowered Worldview” is a curriculum which addresses some critical and core issues related to worldview. These include:

- **Who am I?** This is the probably most critical set of issues. This is the core of the Empowered Worldview. Most of this is found in the first few chapters of Genesis. You are created by God. You are so valuable that God has redeemed you. You belong to God. You are an image bearer of God. You are gifted by God. You are accountable to God – for yourself, for your marriage and your family, for your community, for caring for creation. You are therefore capable, creative, productive, and have agency.
- **What is my vision for myself, my family, and my community?** This deals with people living together in harmony and community. It deals with benefiting from the fruit of my labor without being trapped by greed, exploitation, or oppression. It deals with God's concern with the poor. It deals with the benefits of working hard. It deals with creating wealth and

opportunity, and providing for oneself. It addresses the spiritual roots of poverty and how it can be confronted.

- **Why is showing compassion to others important?** Since God sees the world with compassion, as image bearers of God, showing compassion allows us to be our real selves. Treating the poor and marginalized with compassion, acting on their behalf, and using our wealth to help others reflects God's image in our lives.
- **How should I treat others?** Seeing the world as God sees it lets us treat people the right way. This begins with myself, but extends to how we treat the poor, women and men, and the outcast. We treat them as we would want to be treated and as people made by God and in God's image.



The “Empowered Worldview” is the foundation of a “quartet” of social and spiritual empowerment tools that World Vision uses with faith leaders and churches, families, and community groups holding government accountable and responsible. These include Celebrating Families, Channels of Hope, and Citizens’ Voice in Action (click [here](#) for more information).

The “Empowered Worldview” is resulting in profound changes in individuals, families, and communities, as people realize that as a person created in the image of God, they have been gifted and empowered by God to work hard and lift themselves out of poverty. They have power. They can create a loving family. They can help their neighbors. They can become all that God intends them to be. They can THRIVE!

Celebrating our Empowered Worldview Work Webinar

Join us on May 30 at 9:15am PT for our next



Webinar. You can join [here](#) (select "join as a participant") or by calling in on the numbers below.

Join by phone

Meeting number (access code): 826 033 706

1-877-668-4493 Call-in toll-free number
(US/Canada)

1-650-479-3208 Call-in toll number
(US/Canada)

[Global call-in numbers](#) | [Toll-free calling restrictions](#)

Upcoming Calendar Events

- **Vision Trips** (please contact your World Vision representative about participating, or cshore@worldvision.org or kbarta@worldvision.org)
 - Malawi (July 13-20, 2018) with Christopher Shore
 - Zambia (November 3-10, 2018) with Christopher Shore and Bob & Sandy Hoover
- **Fork to Farm SEEP Event** – 30 September, 2018 – Washington, DC – a chance for prospective and current donors to meet World Vision's global Economic Empowerment leaders ahead of the annual SEEP conference.
- **Strong Women Strong World** – 30 November, 2018 – New York, New York
- **South Florida Economic Empowerment Summit** – January 25-26, 2019 – Naples, Florida
- **Every Last One Conference** – March 8-9, 2019 – Carlsbad, CA
- **THRIVE / Building Secure Livelihoods Forum** – April 1-5, 2019 – Lilongwe, MALAWI

Prayer Requests

PRAISE

- For the announcement of major gifts for THRIVE Rwanda.
- For the recent presentation that our friends at GAFCo made at an Information and Communication Technology for Development conference in Lusaka, Zambia, and for the opportunities that are coming as a result.
- For the appointment of long-time VisionFund staffer Adrian Merryman as the Chief Development & Impact Investment Officer of VisionFund.

REQUESTS

- **For Mali – pray for peace and security in this vast and sparsely populated country where violence is growing.** Following the collapse of central government in next door Libya, jihadists and other extremists entered northern Mali and destabilized parts of the far north of the country. Now, in central Mali, jihadists have been exacerbating the rather normal conflict between farmers and nomadic herdsman, and there is now an

unprecedented number of civilian casualties. There are a significant number of people who have been displaced from their homes because of the conflict.

- **For Mali** – in an area so far unaffected by the conflict, we are implementing the Eco-Agriculture Project, which is THRIVE in all but name. ***Please pray for the significant fundraising needed to raise the match funds*** (every \$1.00 raised becomes \$4.00 in new funding).
- **For World Vision USA Economic Empowerment Staff** – *for wisdom as funding for THRIVE is not keeping up with the program growth needs.*
- **For World Vision USA Economic Empowerment Staff** – *for wisdom and insight as we complete annual plans and decisions for our field work, marketing, and fundraising efforts.*



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Forward

World Vision is a Christian humanitarian organization dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities worldwide to reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice. World Vision serves all people, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, or gender.

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