

WHERE MOST NEEDED FUND

» ANNUAL REPORT: October 2018 through September 2019

CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

GLOBAL SUMMARY

Thanks to your support during fiscal year 2019, World Vision expanded and deepened our work with children, youth, and their support structures—church ministry leaders, parents, and caregivers—to help every child grow in relationship with Jesus and encourage them to help others do the same.

Our Christian Discipleship Program—including Celebrating Families, Channels of Hope, and Raising Children with Tenderness—reached nearly 1.7 million people during the fiscal year, helping to nurture the spiritual growth of children and youth, and their families. Our International Bible Fund provided families and churches with access to 28,663 Bibles, helping 143,315 people (mostly children) to nurture and grow their faith through the study of God's Word.

In Central America and the Philippines, the Christian Discipleship projects spearheaded groundbreaking events. At the Growing with Jesus event, more than 200 church leaders in Central America gathered to determine ways to strengthen ministry efforts for children and their families. In the Philippines, hundreds of children gathered at the National Children's Summit to testify about the impact of the Christian Discipleship Project on their lives, to build community, and to invoke greater discipleship efforts.

As you read this annual report, we pray you are encouraged to learn of the wonderful impact you are helping to make worldwide.



Children cannot truly experience fullness of life unless they have had the opportunity to experience and deepen their understanding of God's love. Your gifts helped make possible the Christian Discipleship Program to equip churches to help nurture the spiritual growth of children.

GLOBAL UPDATE

3.5

MILLION PEOPLE benefited from ministry activities since October 2015, including 1.69 million people during fiscal year 2019. This includes children, parents/caregivers, and community members benefiting directly and indirectly.



313,933 children and youth directly participated in discipleship activities, including 134,194 new participants during FY19.



20,666 pastors and church leaders were trained in theology and children's ministry, including 3,485 new participants during FY19.



3,173 churches engaged in Christian discipleship of children and youth, including 566 new churches during FY19.

INTERNATIONAL BIBLE FUND*

124,264 Bibles provided (28,663 in FY19), benefiting 631,320 people (143,315 in FY19)



Seven-Year target: 400,000

GOAL AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES

Five-year program goal through fiscal year 2021: Provide access to activities that strengthen the faith of children and youth for:

2.5 MILLION PEOPLE*

*Includes children, parents/caregivers, and community members benefitting both directly and indirectly

Expected outcomes:

Empower children's workers to facilitate spiritual nurture of children

Strengthen households to provide a loving and caring environment for children

Improve capacity of faith leaders to address spiritual and socioeconomic challenges in their communities

Our Approach

Christian Discipleship: Our proven Christian discipleship programs equip and empower children, young people, and the influential adults in their lives.

- Celebrating Families and Raising Children with Tenderness programs use biblical principles of raising children, forgiveness, and healthy relationships to equip parents to be loving contributors to their children's faith.
- Channels of Hope for Child Protection Program provides training for Christian leaders, equipping them to lead a Christian response in addressing vital community issues that affect children and in doing so, nurture the spiritual growth of parents and children.

Additionally, we partner with churches and schools to develop or strengthen age-appropriate programs. For example, World Vision provides materials for Sunday schools, Vacation Bible Schools, Bible clubs, Youth Ministry, church camps, and training for leaders and youth mentors.

International Bible Fund: World Vision provides Bibles to families to grow in knowledge of God and relationship with Him. This is done in partnership with local churches using our International Bible Fund.



GLOBAL OUTREACH

World Vision Christian Discipleship (CD) Program and International Bible Fund (IBF) Program locations:





THE AMERICAS AND CARIBBEAN

BRAZIL (IBF)
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC (IBF)
EL SALVADOR (CD, IBF)
GUATEMALA (Planned IBF)
HONDURAS (CD, IBF)

AFRICA
BURUNDI (IBF)

ESWATINI (IBF)
ETHIOPIA (CD)
KENYA (CD, IBF)
MOZAMBIQUE (Planned IBF)

ZIMBABWE (Planned IBF) (CD) ZAMBIA (IBF)

ASIA

PHILLIPINES (CD)

EUROPE

ABKHAZIA REGION (IBF) ARMENIA (IBF) ROMANIA (IBF)

Note: Planned IBF indicates location for future Bible distributions pending finances.

CENTRAL AMERICA



In El Salvador and Honduras, churches represent a light of hope for the protection of children and help to reduce the challenges faced while living in fragile, often violent, communities.

Gabriela Galicia (pictured at left) cares for children affected by violence in San Salvador. Recently, she and 69 ministry leaders were trained by World Vision to serve as trainers to children and youth. "The [Vacation Bible School] methodology learned in the workshops helps me to show a tender God who accepts [the children] as they are." In FY19, these trained leaders ministered to more than 660 children. Other key accomplishments from World Vision's Christian Discipleship Project include:

 Organized and facilitated the "Growing with Jesus" event for more than 200 church leaders across the region, encouraging peerto-peer sharing of best practices and challenges of the Christian Discipleship model and church commitments to prioritize ministry to most vulnerable children.

• Helped nurture the spiritual growth of 26,148 children, adolescents, and youth from 420 communities in Honduras through interactive activities such as Vacation Bible School and Bible story-telling, and Bible distribution through the Bible Fund. Already, in three years we have exceeded our five-year goal of reaching 25,000 people.

Please continue to pray for the spiritual well-being and growth of children and their families, for the protection of all people living in Central America, and for strength for our ministry partners.

58,993 children and youth directly participated in discipleship activities, including 30,656 in FY19.

4,039 pastors and church leaders were trained in theology and children's ministry, including 1,394 in FY19.

436 churches engaged in Christian discipleship of children and youth, including 122 in FY19.

Five-Year Target: 75,000

79%

Five-Year Target: 2,200

184%

Five-Year Target: 600

73%

Midterm Evaluation Shows Effectiveness of the Christian Discipleship Project

During FY19, a midterm evaluation was conducted to assess the long-term impact the Christian Discipleship Project has had during the initial three years of its five-year project. Findings showed:

- More children and youth are participating in Christian discipleship activities in World Vision project areas—the number of participants increased from 55% to 89% over three years. More youth (13-18 years old) were trained to mentor others in practical ways to embody and promote life values and hope—trainees increased from 51% to 77%.
- The percent of parents or caregivers who help nurture the spiritual growth of children has risen from 75% to nearly 90% during three years. Notable changes were seen in the way they corrected their children (avoiding physical punishment and adopting new parenting patterns), and in the way they treated their children through expressions of affection (using phrases such as "I love you", and hugs and kisses).



ETHIOPIA



The Christian Discipleship Project in Ethiopia made great progress in FY19, reaching more than 23,000 children and youth through discipleship activities. FY19 highlights include:

 Provided nearly 3,000 children with opportunities to experience and express the love of God through child character formation trainings and participation in services. Some children led worship and performed dramas. "I feel very happy because I [can] serve God and [His] people with spiritual songs," shared Nahom Teame, 13, who attends a church that partners with the Christian Discipleship Project in the Wukro area program (AP).

- Trained 2,302 youth on leadership, mentoring, and life skills, equipping them to serve as agents of peace in their communities.
- Engaged II,456 parents, caregivers, and faith leaders in activities where they learned to nurture the spiritual growth of children, disciple youth, and foster spiritual formation and

growth. One activity offered was a Celebrating Families training in Kolfe Keraniyo AP. A participant shared, "... [It] teaches a life in which the center is Christ, [and] a family that glorifies Christ. I [also] learned how lack of forgiveness is like a cancer and how forgiveness renews life."

 Equipped church leaders on children and youth ministry management to encourage thriving children's ministries, and provided leadership training for women.

Please pray for children and youth who are drawn to street life and exposed to drugs and abuse. Although they and their caregivers received life skills training, they have limited job opportunities.

72,538 children and youth directly participated in discipleship activities, including 23,603 in FY19.

1,885 pastors and church leaders were trained in theology and children's ministry, including 462 in FY19.

207 churches engaged in Christian discipleship of children and youth, continuing on from previous years.

Five-Year Target 3,000

Five-Year Target: 140

Five-Year Target: 30,000

148%

242%

Pastor Moya Rejoices as World Vision Training Helps Transform His Church and Life

"The impact of the [different trainings facilitated by World Vision]—both on my personal life as family head and pastor of a church, and on my church teenagers and youths—is beyond imagination," said Pastor Belay Moya of Sholaminch Kale Hiwot Church in Ethiopia. "... Now, I have periodic family discussion[s] and every one of [my] family members [are] include[ed]. ... Furthermore, [it] allowed me to develop positive relationship[s] with the children of my church. Teenagers of the church, in consultation with me, facilitated the Sunday program, including sharing the Word of God. ... In addition, the youth empowerment training enhanced the culture of supporting needy members of the church. The youths supported five needy people during the whole day. [Also,] two very needy individuals have been supported among whom one lives with her child [after] being separated from her husband due to her Christianity, and the other is a woman who lives without income, but gave birth to twin children."



KENYA



During FY19, World Vision in Kenya supported children's ministry leaders in organizing worship rallies and monitored the results of trainings provided in prior years. Monitoring visits identified gaps in participants' knowledge and skills, offered insight on church implementation, and provided the basis for future planning.

Some key accomplishments in FY19 include:

- Held more than 15 worship rallies, having a dramatic impact on participants. For example, four boys who quit school pledged to serve Christ after seeing skits on obedience. Now, they attend school.
- Conducted a monitoring visit in the Mweiga program area, learning easy-to-understand lessons resulted in more children attending Sunday schools; and churches are constructing dedicated areas for Sunday school and including breakfast to help children better concentrate.
- Trained 720 youth as peer educators, equipping them to lead Sunday

- schools and Bible clubs; and 1,856 parents learned to create loving homes for their children through Celebrating Families workshops.
- Conducted a midterm evaluation of the Christian Discipleship Project for its initial three years. Finding included both children and adolescents showed improvement in how they experience God's presence in their lives (such as through prayer and knowledge of Bible verses), and youth (ages 12 through 18) expressed stronger feelings of connection and caring with their parents/caregivers due to the project's emphasis on family relationships.

Please pray for wisdom in ministry to reach mixed-faith communities.

60,195 children and youth directly participated in discipleship activities, including 23,190 in FY19.

2,458 pastors and church leaders were trained in theology and children's ministry, including 437 in FY19.

838 churches engaged in Christian discipleship of children and youth, including 89 in FY19.

Five-Year Target: 75,720

79%

Five-Year Target: 2,050

120%

Five-Year Target: 750

112%

Celebrating Families Heals and Restores

For children to understand God's love, they need to experience a similar love from their parents. Celebrating Families workshops encourage parents to reflect on their own childhoods and on how to create a loving environment for their children. Celebrating Families also uses parables from the Bible to illustrate its teachings. Gladys Lasoa of the Free Pentecostal Fellowship Kenya church participated in a Celebrating Families workshop in FY19. She shared, "In this seminar, I learned several things about being a wise builder. ... [F]or my family to stand, I must build my home in a strong area ... I can overcome all the storms, and more so, my foundation should be strong as well. It's not a must to [spank] my kids in order for them to



change their behaviors. The best solution is [to] sit with them and talk one-on-one ... In Isaiah 54:2, I learned that I should bless them."

PHILIPPINES



World Vision continued to expand our ministry to parents and caregivers, offering 24 Celebrating Families workshops in FY19. One participant said, "... I've learned a lot from this seminar. I can hope to correct my mistakes toward my family. Hopefully, this will eventually

be the way to restore my family."

We also engaged 1,919 parents/ caregivers in weekend family retreats and workshops on parenting techniques, such as disciplining children with love rather than physical punishment.

Other key FY19 Christian Discipleship Project accomplishments include:

 Equipped 141 children and youth to lead Bible studies and youth ministries using Scripture Adventure materials (helps younger children understand and learn to share Bible stories), and Dare to Discover workshops (helps teens explore their identity in Christ).

- Conducted four radio shows that featured children and youth telling of how the project helped them grow in their faith and ability to make godly decisions, reaching hundreds of thousands of listeners.
- Organized the National Children's Summit that welcomed more than 200 children and adults, including government representatives from the Department of Education and the National Youth Commission. Children demonstrated how the project helped them learn to care for others and equipped them to take action on community issues.

Please pray for families affected by the eruption of the Taal Volcano in January.

67,944 children and youth directly participated in discipleship activities, including 31,260 in FY19.

1,221 pastors and church leaders were trained in theology and children's ministry, including 353 in FY19.

347 churches engaged in Christian discipleship of children and youth, including 43 in FY19.



Five-year target: 300

407%

Five-year target: 300

116%

Jonalyn Finds Affirmation in Her Journey as a New Christian

Attending church was simply another routine activity for Jonalyn. "I was just attending, but leaving [there] with an empty heart and mind," she said." But three days at a Christian retreat would soon change her life. There she committed her life to Jesus—a decision initially opposed by her family. She later attended the Christian Discipleship Project's Dare to Discover workshops to learn to grow her faith and self-confidence. "We had several activities focusing on God's love, blessings, and how we, as children, are the closest to His heart," said Jonalyn. With a newfound confidence, Jonalyn boldly lived for Christ, positively impacting her home and church life. "My mother told me, and it was the first time I heard her say it, that she is blessed to have me as a daughter. ... [Also,] I am a youth teacher in our Sunday school, handling other children."



ZIMBABWE



While families in Zimbabwe continue to be impacted by a failing economy, hyperinflation, and unemployment, the Christian Discipleship Project helps to bring hope. "All the time I had a negative attitude toward the economic situation, yet the problem of my struggling was the

result of my mindset," shared Rofhiwa who participated in an Empowered Worldview training provided by World Vision. "... [I] am now ready for transforming my life economically."

In FY19, 110 youth in four program areas completed the Empowered Worldview training that covered topics such as God's plan for all people, exploring community empowerment, and assetbased community development. Other FY19 accomplishments include:

 Engaged 81 young people in Dare to Discover workshops in Old Pumula and in Limpopo, teaching them to explore their identity in Christ, God's purpose for their lives, and to wisely utilize resources to reach goals.

- Monitored 24 schools with Bible clubs. Students learned to preach and pray at assembly gatherings, disciple their peers, and complete community service projects.
- Facilitated Christian men's forums for 979 participants who discussed parenting, Christian upbringing of children, and ways to combat harmful norms for women and girls.
- Led local church leaders through mapping exercises to determine children and youth served through ministry, and additional leaders to be trained by World Vision.

Please pray for the strength of the people and economy of Zimbabwe, and ministry efforts to serve them.

30,790 children and youth directly participated in discipleship activities, including 25,485 in FY19.

Five-Year Target: 69,521

44%

1,360 pastors and church leaders were trained in theology and children's ministry, including 839 in FY19.

Five-Year Target: 424

(321%)

415 churches engaged in Christian discipleship of children and youth, including 312 in FY19.

Five-Year Target: 394



World Vision Helps Churches Better Serve People with Disabilities

During the reporting period, in the Buhera AP, World Vision initiated the first meeting between local church leaders involved in the Christian Discipleship Project and people with disabilities (PWD). Church leaders were encouraged to prioritize the welfare of vulnerable groups such as PWD and orphans. PWD leaders worked with churches to ensure church activities were inclusive and catered to the most vulnerable. Church and community leaders also were called to educate people that children with disabilities are not a curse from God.

The meeting was held at a district level, but will also be offered in wards as the long distances to travel is a deterrent to participation.



INTERNATIONAL BIBLE FUND



During FY19, with your support, the International Bible Fund provided God's Word to families and churches in the following countries:

Armenia

In FY19, World Vision provided 4,200 children's Bibles in all 14 program areas where we work. Partnering with churches and schools, these Bibles enabled some of the most vulnerable children to have the chance to read God's message of hope for themselves.

The International Bible Fund also provided 300 adult Bibles to participants of our Channels of Hope-Child Protection workshops that help church and local leaders understand the Bible's call to actively protect and care for children.

Honduras

For impoverished families in Honduras, owning a Bible is a luxury. The International Bible Fund provided more than 24.000 children's Bibles to churches, especially those participating in World Vision's Christian Discipleship Project. The colorful illustrations and

simple language help children better understand the stories. And in many cases, parents with poor reading skills also are finding the children's Bibles to be a fresh way to understand the redemptive power of lesus.

Guatemala/Zimbabwe/El Salvador/ Mozambique

Despite delay with the publisher in FY19, World Vision purchased 30,000 New Testaments for distribution in Guatemala in January 2020. As additional funds become available for the International Bible Fund, our next purchases will focus on Zimbabwe, followed by El Salvador and Mozambique.

Please pray for the people receiving Bibles that they will read, understand, embrace, and grow to love God's Word.

124.264 Bibles made available since July 2016 (28,663 in FY19).



33 By reading the Bible, I understood that all people should be kind, caring, and help each other."

-Mher, age 12, Armenia

"Christianity is our religion; we should read [the] Bible and have [a] deeper knowledge about our religion. Being Christian is not only going to church, but it is also about reading [the] Bible and living with Christian values."

—Gor, age 12, Armenia





Pastors participated in group discussions during their theological training course in the Kirindon program area.

If World Vison did not recruit me into this course, we could not have saved many young lives and made them know about God."

—Pastor Paul Kiplangat Kimeto, theology student at Scott Christian University

PASTOR'S MINISTRY FLOURISHES AS TRAINING SOWS SEEDS

Pastors in Kirindon discover that formal theological training equips them to better respond to God's call in their ministry.

Following God's call to ministry is a sacred trust that is taken seriously by pastors in Kirindon. So when Pastor Paul Kiplangat Kimeto learned of the opportunity to attend the Christian Discipleship Project's theology course through Scott Christian University, he was overjoyed. He now could learn how to better serve and grow his local congregation, focusing specifically on outreach to children.

"I thank God because He has come through for me to get a university education," said Pastor Paul. "I used the skills and knowledge received through the Child Evangelism course ... to start a new Sunday school within my home."

Pastor Paul now has a class of 20 children ages 2 through 13. With his newfound skills of using activities and games, he engages their interest and the children are excited to attend class each week.

But Pastor Paul's ambitions don't stop there. "The passion to utilize my skills has made me to look out for all unchurched children [to lead] them to Christ," he said. He now plans to open a branch church and invite adults to attend, too.

Pastor Paul's enthusiasm for outreach is contagious: "Children are our greatest evangelists as they are always inviting their unchurched parents to come experience God in the church."

Other pastors also have realized the value of the theological training and how it can enhance their spiritual life. Pastor Terer Kipkoech said he's learned spiritual disciplines such as prayer, meditation, and daily quiet times. "My life is filled with the Word of God and I am now a better servant of God."

Pastor Paul agrees. "The knowledge has helped me serve my community through proper sharing of the Word of God. ... My wife and I thank God for World Vision and we consistently pray for our donors for God's providence for their support in changing lives."

CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP PROJECT PROGRAM-TO-DATE SPENDING

\$9,625,269 program-to-date funding

\$9,356,773 spending to date

97%



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. Motivated by our faith in Jesus Christ, we serve alongside the poor and oppressed as a demonstration of God's unconditional love for all people. World Vision serves all people, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, or gender.

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