Are you leaving your legacy to chance?

Take steps to provide for your loved ones—and change children's lives for years to come

Creating or updating your estate plan is one of the most important decisions you can make—because it ensures your loved ones, and the causes dear to your heart, will be provided for as you wish after your lifetime. It's one of the best ways to wisely steward your God-given blessings. And it guarantees you'll leave the legacy you desire.

Request your FREE resource

World Vision's Legacy Planner offers valuable insights for creating or updating your estate plans. To request your FREE copy or to learn more about building a meaningful legacy, call us today at 1.888.852.4453, e-mail giftplanning@worldvision.org, or visit www.worldvision.org/legacyplanner.
WORKING IN THE WORLD JESUS CAME TO SAVE
How the Christmas story inspires today’s ministry to the poor.

On the Cover: DISPOSED IN DARFUR
Sanctuary for children in war-torn Sudan.

SEVEN WAYS TO PRAY IN 2007
Using daily activities as reminders to pray.

FROM THE PRESIDENT
The light of the gospel pierces the darkness of evil.

FRONTLINES
Daring assignment in Afghanistan; fashion show stars the homeless; former child soldier advocates for peace; and more.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?
Sponsorship gets a school dropout back in class.

INSPIRATION
Remembering World Vision’s president emeritus, Ted Engstrom.

IN MEMORY
A word of wisdom from a former World Vision president.

IN EVERY ISSUE
Building a better world for children
Have you noticed that any source of light looks brighter and more powerful at night? The darker the darkness, the more dazzling a light appears. I've found that the same is true of the light of the gospel. It shines most brilliantly when it pierces the world's darkest corners.

I had the chance to witness this phenomenon in March when I met two boys, David and Daniel (names changed to protect identities), in Gulu, northern Uganda. They are about 16 years old and are former child soldiers of a guerrilla group known as the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA).

Regular readers of this magazine will know something of what this means. To replenish their troops, the LRA abducts children. These “recruits” are taught to kill or be killed. To complete their moral disorientation they are often ordered to return to their own villages and murder their relatives. Sometimes they are forced to beat to death young comrades who try to escape. Northern Uganda is the darkest place I have ever visited.

I met David and Daniel after they had been captured by the Ugandan army and brought to World Vision's Children of War Center. The center has what may seem like an impossible mission—to rehabilitate these children so they can resume a normal life.

"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined." —Isaiah 9:2 (RSV)

As the vehicle bringing the boys pulled through the gates of the World Vision compound, singing began. I don’t think I have ever heard music so beautiful. It did not come from an immaculately trained choir backed by a magnificent organ; it came from a rag-tag band of about 50 kids using crude, metal drumsticks to sound out rhythms on hollow gourds. Children whose lives had been filled with brutality sang songs of praise and welcome as they encircled the vehicle.

The boys looked wary as they stepped from the vehicle. David’s left arm was withered—the result of a gunshot wound sustained in a firefight. But it was the expression on their faces that haunted me. Their eyes reflected the inner torment of those who have seen unspeakable things. There was fear there, too. Many of their former comrades might have reason to want them dead.

For years David and Daniel had experienced terror to a degree most of us would find difficult to even imagine. But here they found themselves surrounded by a sea of friendly faces; they began to smile again. I saw the light return to their eyes.

Two days later, I was asked to preach a chapel service at the center. I spoke on Jesus’ parable of the prodigal son. I talked about how the father celebrated his lost son’s return, embracing him and forgiving every transgression unconditionally, slaying the fatted calf—restoring his son and welcoming him home.

David and Daniel smiled as they listened to this parable. Instead of receiving hostility and condemnation, they had found forgiveness, reconciliation, and love—just like the son in the parable. When it was time to sing, their voices reflected newfound joy. I borrow a phrase from Isaiah, “Those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.” And, indeed, on that day surely did shine.

If this story validates one thing, it is the power of the gospel to bring healing and reconciliation is astounding—and the world cannot help but notice when it sees it. Let this thought encourage us as we work together to shine Christ’s light among the poor and disenfranchised in the world’s darkest corners.
Imagine the thrill for a sponsored child to be reminded that someone in a far-away part of the world is thinking of them. But how does World Vision get mail to children such as Karia, whose village in Mali has no postal service?

Like Rebecca Stark (see story, page 9), you already may be experiencing the joy of sponsoring a child. Here is an easy way to share that joy with a loved one. Please see the reverse side of this card.

**I love being a child sponsor**

because you see the material benefits, but it also deepens your own faith. It answers the call God gives us to take care of one another.”

« Rebecca Stark in Lesotho with her sponsored child, Kutloelo
Have you noticed that any source of light looks brighter and more attractive to you? Many, if not most, of us would say yes. The same is true of the human spirit. When the light of hope pierces the world of despair, it is felt immediately and deeply.

I had the opportunity to meet two boys, David and Konca (names changed to protect their identities), in Gulu, Uganda. They are former child soldiers in the Lord's Resistance Army and our Child Sponsorship program.

Regular readers will know this means. To these young men, it means freedom.

These "recruits" were forced to fight, to witness moral disorders, to see family and friends killed in their own villages and, perhaps worst of all, to be forced to beat to death anyone who might not be "loyal" to their Ugandan army commanders.

I met David and Konca at the Uganda Center. The center provides mental health care and a place to rehabilitate children.

"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in the land of deep darkness now see light; those who were blind have eyes; those who were deaf have ears; those with secret heartbreaks now have hope; those who were beaten down have peace of mind."

Yes, I want to help build better lives for children!

I want to sponsor a child for $30/month.
Gender: □ Boy □ Girl
Living in: □ Africa □ Asia □ Latin America □ Middle East □ where most needed

Please place this card in an envelope and mail to:
World Vision, PO. Box 70081, Tacoma, WA 98471-0081
Or call: (888) 852-4453.

"If you tell the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."
—Matthew 25:40

(To receive periodic updates about the impact of your gift)
You’ve Got Mail

Imagine the thrill for a sponsored child to be reminded that someone in a far-away part of the world is thinking of them. But how does World Vision get mail to children, such as Karia, whose village in Mali has no postal service?

Here’s how: Packets arriving at World Vision’s Mali office in the capital, Bamako, are sorted, then shipped to regional offices. Letters are translated into French, Mali’s official language. Local volunteers deliver letters by bicycle to children in the villages and verbally translate the letters from French to the local language. The child writes a reply, which is translated to French. At the project office, the reply is translated from French to English. Letters are then sent from Bamako to the United States.

Sound like a lot of fiddling around? Sure, but Karia thinks it’s worth it.

Tangara, Karia

Yuri
Mali
du Parrainage
2347
Bamako, Mali
West Africa
LEBANON | AID REACHES WAR ZONE » World Vision delivered aid, including food, blankets, and medicines, to about 40,000 people in Lebanon during and following Israeli air and ground strikes. After the ceasefire, World Vision distributed posters, leaflets, and teacher training kits warning children of the dangers of unexploded ordnance.

INDIA | PRESIDENT PRESSURED ON CHILD LABOR » Former child laborers and World Vision representatives met with Indian President A.P.J. Abdul Kalam to present him with the book My India—a compilation of pictures and writing by Indian children. The event coincided with the release of World Vision’s strategy for countering exploitative child labor in India.

AFGHANISTAN | GIRLS LOVE SCHOOL » Girls’ school attendance has reached nearly 17,000 pupils in World Vision-supported schools—almost double the number recorded two years ago. World Vision provides teacher training, equipment, and food to schools in Ghor and Badghis provinces. During the Taliban era, girls’ education was banned.
**FACT:** Americans gave $260 billion to charitable organizations in 2005, a $15 billion increase from the previous year. Source: Giving USA Foundation

**ANGOLA | CHOLERA KILLS DOZENS EVERY DAY** World Vision provided medical supplies and engaged in public education campaigns to counter a cholera epidemic killing dozens every day. Overcrowding and poor sanitation in the country’s slums are blamed for the rapid spread of the disease.

**UNITED STATES | NEW WHEELS FOR DISABLED** Free Wheelchair Mission has partnered with World Vision to provide more than 16,000 wheelchairs to disabled recipients around the world. Wheelchairs are shipped from Shanghai, China, directly to World Vision development programs. Donors can support the venture by purchasing a wheelchair from the gift catalog found between pages 16 and 17.

**CHILE | FLOODS CAUSE HAVOC** Following heavy rains, devastating flooding in central and southern Chile left thousands isolated. World Vision trucks battled waterlogged roads to bring food, mattresses, and clothing to those affected. The organization plans to work with other organizations to repair thousands of houses.

**LESOTHO | ORGANIC PROVES BETTER** World Vision programs to promote organic agricultural methods in Nthabiseng helped farmers achieve their best yields ever at the lowest cost. Farmers ditched expensive imported seeds and chemical fertilizers in favor of indigenous seeds and manure. The improvements in production are expected to slash child malnutrition rates.

**SUDAN | WAR INCREASES HUNGER** World Vision boosted food aid distributions in Darfur to reach an unprecedented 250,000 people after renewed fighting resulted in more people needing assistance. An ongoing militia terror campaign has displaced about 2.5 million people in the region.

**CHINA | THOUSANDS FLEE FLOODS** Torrential rains followed by floods and landslides led to the evacuation of hundreds of thousands of people from several southern provinces. World Vision distributed rice and clothes to 8,000 affected people. Many villagers lost their entire rice crop, leaving them short of food for six months.

**PAPUA NEW GUINEA | NEW SYSTEM ENDS WATER SLIDE** A new water catchment system will mean women and children from Eltupan village on Buka Island will no longer have to slide down a 300-foot cliff, hanging onto vines and tree roots, to access water. Currently the village’s only fresh water source comes from a spring at the bottom of the cliff. World Vision will install a system that uses tanks to catch rainfall.

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**G8 REPORT CARD**

| Debt Relief | A- | Shows remarkable improvement. Debt relief is underway for 19 of 44 eligible countries. On target for the 2010 goal of relieving debt for the world’s poorest countries. |
| Trade | F | Must try harder. Commitments to developing fair trade are vague and unclear. There is no clear indication how fair trade will be achieved. |
| Development Assistance | C- | Shows some potential, but lacks commitment. The target for this year was a $3.5 billion increase in aid but only $1.6 billion was achieved. |
| HIV/AIDS | B | Shows improvement, but more effort needed. Access to treatment is up from 100,000 in 2003 to 810,000 in 2005. But to meet targets, the rate of increase must double. |

*Analysis derived from The DATA Report 2006. “Grades” assigned by World Vision magazine editors.*

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Building a better world for children
Battle-scarred Student Interns at World Vision

A former child soldier brings frontline experiences to advocacy role.

Students serving internships can bring lots of enthusiasm to the job, but are often handicapped by a lack of experience.

But when Grace Akallo, 26, took a break from college to take on an advocacy role in World Vision’s Washington, D.C., office, she brought a level of understanding that decades of work experience would find impossible to match.

When she was 15, Grace was abducted by rebels of the Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA) and forced to fight against the Ugandan government. Grace learned how to clean and use a gun, suffered abuse from rebel commanders and witnessed the killing of children who tried to escape.

Grace made a successful bid for freedom following a Ugandan army attack on a rebel outpost. She returned to school, and eventually secured a scholarship to Gordon College, near Boston, where she is studying communications.

She has testified before Congress on the anguish of children threatened by the LRA and given numerous media interviews on the issue. "They were painful experiences, but I don’t get tired talking about it because children are still suffering and they need help," she says.

She adds that devastating experiences should never be considered a disadvantage in life. "We go through those experiences so we can see in a new way how to help other people. If we just live in peace, we forget other people are suffering."

Scott Souders, 18.
Warrenville, IL
Student
Team World Vision

Scott triumphantly unfurled the Zambian flag when he reached the summit of Mt. Rainier, Wash., marking the successful completion of a fundraising effort to help drill wells in a water-starved area of Zambia. He was among a team of eight from Wheaton Academy who vowed to raise one dollar for each of the mountains 14,410 feet. The team beat their goal, raising nearly $20,000.
Battle-scarred Student Interns at World Vision

A former child soldier brings personal experiences to advocacy role.

Students serving internships bring lots of enthusiasm to the work, but are often handicapped by a lack of experience.

But when Grace Akello, who took a break from college to take an internship role in World Vision’s advocacy program in Washington, D.C., office, she brought with her an experience few others could match.

Every child is precious to God. Help World Vision bring healing and hope to children in crisis.

See the insert between pages 24 and 25 for details.
change \textbf{AGENT}

The idea was to combine two passions—the passion for climbing mountains and the passion for building wells and saving lives.” — Scott Souders

For more ways to change your world, visit \url{www.worldvision.org/change}

\section*{why \textbf{I} love \underline{BEING A CHILD SPONSOR}}

Rebecca Stark struggled to climb up a long, steep goat track to meet her sponsored child, Kutloelo, in Mapoteng, Lesotho. But the delighted warbling of village women purled her on.

On arrival, she was treated to lots of hugs, kisses, and a show of traditional songs and dances enthusiastically performed by Kutloelo and her sisters. During the festivities, Kutloelo joyfully accepted gifts of dolls, clothes and coloring books while her grandmother asked Rebecca to pray with them.

“I feel Kutloelo and her family are part of me and I will never forget her,” said Rebecca after the visit.

Rebecca says although AIDS created havoc in the impoverished community and turned hundreds of children into orphans, she was struck by the people’s optimism. Community members spoke enthusiastically about the creation of schools, vegetable gardens, and even pit latrines—projects made possible by funds provided by child sponsors.

One project that especially impressed Rebecca was a women’s tailoring class that makes uniforms for AIDS orphans, so they can go to school.

“I love being a child sponsor because you see the material benefits, but it also deepens your own faith. It answers the call God gives us to take care of one another.”

\section*{Tell us your story}

Why do you love being a child sponsor? Write the editors at wvmagazine@worldvision.org.

\begin{itemize}
  \item Rebecca and her sponsored child, Kutloelo.
\end{itemize}

\section*{INSPIRING Christmas Gifts}

The Son of God is Dancing: Thoughtful funny man Adrian Plass and his wife, Bridget, take a look at a serious subject—AIDS in Zambia.

Devotions for the Soul Surfer: Reflections from champion surfer and shark attack victim Bethany Hamilton.

A Guide to Acting on AIDS: How young people can address the great humanitarian challenge of our time.

Faith in Action Study Bible: Translates the ancient truths of God’s Word into practical action for today.

To order, visit \url{www.worldvisionresources.com} or call (888) 852-4453
Assignment Afghanistan »

Recently, a remnant of Taliban militants in Afghanistan beheaded a school principal for teaching girls. But Texan Tim Pylate, who leads World Vision's education program in Afghanistan, remains resolute and optimistic. He discusses the personal trials and triumphs of working in one of the world's hottest hotspots.

How did you end up in Afghanistan?
I was interviewed for the job and tried to convince World Vision I was in no way qualified. But they felt that I was right for the position. It was like God saying, "Go to Nineveh." So off to "Nineveh" I went. I did not want to get swallowed up by a whale [laughs].

How tough has it been?
You have an explosion here or a car bomb there, but we have faith that God is blessing our work, and he has put us where he wants us to be.

What are the rewards?
When you see how God has helped us to double girls' attendance in schools; when you see kids who are going to school who have never gone to school before; when you watch teachers' sense of pride as they receive a certificate of completion for their teacher training; when you see a young woman who's never been able to read in her life pick up a textbook and read—her chin is held high, and she smiles. That's what makes it all worthwhile.

Sounds like a revolution is taking place. Does everybody appreciate it?
In some areas, people have posted letters on walls and lampposts. They say, "Don't send your girls to school" and things like that. We have had incidents where girls were kidnapped from schools and incidents where schools were burned. But this comes from a small minority. One of the reasons we've been successful is that before we introduce our programs, we go to the Shura—the village elders. In most cases, if you show respect to the elders, they are encouraging.

What keeps you going?
We have a great group here in Afghanistan—a very eclectic group of Christians. We do a lot of praying for each other.

What do you miss from home?
Oysters on the half-shell with lots of Tabasco and horseradish.

» FYI: World Vision builds 10 new schools and trains about 1,000 teachers every year in western Afghanistan. The organization also conducts adult literacy classes and provides food for students and teachers.

» Prayer Point: Pray that extremists will be prevented from burning down schools and persecuting teachers who support girls' education in Afghanistan.

» Editor's Note: At press time, Tim was completing his tenure in Afghanistan but World Vision's education programs will continue.
A n excited audience roared its approval when single mom Lonette Robinson stepped out on the catwalk for World Vision's "Where Success Begins" fashion show, held in Los Angeles.

The theme of the event was "I am royalty because my father is king." Former graduate and featured speaker Robbie Thomas explained how she had learned this lesson through taking part in a previous show.

"The people involved in this event taught me how to stand tall and walk proud, putting me in the royal position that we belong to in Christ," she said.

Lonette modeled five of her new outfits, including a two-piece business suit, evening gown, and a pink summer dress.

Women who graduate from the program can select new outfits from World Vision's Storehouse to build a wardrobe suitable for job interviews, church, or evenings out. The fashion show allows women to show off their new clothes, which are supplied to the Storehouse by Dress Barn.

Graduates started rehearsing for the event three weeks in advance, learning the correct way to walk, maintain good posture, and achieve quick changes of outfits.

Lonette, 28, said the energy generated by the audience, which included more than 150 women from various shelters and rehab centers, was overwhelming. She said the previous year and a half had seen her life turned upside down following the unhappy breakdown of her marriage. She and her four children became homeless and were forced to take refuge in a transitional shelter.

"Participating in the show was like finding a piece of paradise in the middle of a storm. It was very uplifting," she said.

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THE LIGHTS, CAROLS, AND CELEBRATIONS of Christmas fill our homes and hearts FOR ONLY A FEW WEEKS EACH YEAR. But how do the dramatic events of Jesus’ birth GUIDE WORLD VISION TO CARE FOR the poor and oppressed AROUND THE WORLD ALL YEAR LONG?
From the time the Son of God took upon himself our flesh, he began the work of our salvation. The foot of the cross isn't merely set in the stones of Golgotha; the cross rests deep in the straw of Bethlehem's manger. God so loved the world that he gave his only Son—to suffer the worst dimensions of human life from the moment of his birth.

This news is so good and so true that it penetrates humanity's deepest needs, then and now. Through the Christmas story, we see the glory of God pressing down into all the hard places of life. We realize that today's world—its suffering, poverty, and injustice—is still the world "God so loves"—the world Jesus came to save.

This truth has propelled World Vision into places of suffering throughout its 56-year history. We follow Christ into the pain of this world. Our calling is clear: to walk with Jesus as he carries and redeems people from the ravages of poverty, violence, and neglect.

BY TIM A. DEARBORN
NO ROOM AT THE INN

Not only did God submit to the fragility of infant flesh, utterly dependent on the care of Mary and Joseph, but there was no room in the world to welcome his birth. Instead of castle walls protecting this prince, Jesus’ bed was straw, and his birth attendants were barn animals. He entered into the depth of human vulnerability by being born homeless.

Millions of today’s homeless—those not only affected by the storms of nature but also by human exploitation—can find in Jesus a Lord who fully understands and shares their plight. As followers of Christ, we heed his call to care for these who are “left out.”

Throughout Europe, the Roma people (also known as Gypsies) have been marginalized and treated with disdain and persecution. They are chronically homeless and shunned as little better than human garbage littering the countryside.

Helping the Roma—in part by changing attitudes toward them—is an enormous task. But there are signs of progress. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, World Vision pushed past government and local opposition to build brick houses for 55 Roma families—for many, the first permanent homes in their lives. To overcome societal disdain toward the group, World Vision also set up a business with the Roma to clean trash from government offices and from the riverbanks at the heart of Sarajevo. Removing trash may not be a prestigious job, but for the Roma it has restored their dignity as they lead the city of Sarajevo in a recycling program. Once those for whom societies had no room, the Roma are now helping return Sarajevo to a beautiful city for all to call home.

A SCANDALOUS BIRTH

Scripture is restrained on the scandal surrounding Jesus’ birth. Learning of Mary’s pregnancy, Joseph was tempted to quietly end their engagement. However, an angel warned him in a dream that this pregnancy was from God and he should bear the public scandal with Mary. Imagine the gossip-filled whispers and judgmental glances that followed them. To the modern Christian, the message is clear—we are called to respond to unwed mothers and their children with tenderness and respect.

In Gulu, northern Uganda, 16-year-old Rose would have every reason to resent her first child, as he was conceived from sexual abuse by rebels of the Lord’s Resistance Army. At age 5, Rose was abducted into their ranks, and as a young teen she gave birth to a boy. To express her grief, she named him Okwera Kilama, which means “rejected and cursed.”

But Rose loved her child, and when she was separated from him during a skirmish...
But Rose loved her child, and when she was separated from him during a skirmish between the rebels and Ugandan government troops, she was devastated. “That was one of the worst moments in my life,” said Rose. “I was sure the soldiers killed my innocent baby.”

Rose had two more children by the rebels, to whom she also gave names expressing her despair. Later, she managed to escape to World Vision’s Children of War Rehabilitation Center, where staff have created a welcoming community for former child soldiers. In the crowd, Rose glimpsed a little boy who disinterestedly looked on as she greeted the others. It was Okwera.

“I thank God every day for leading him to World Vision,” Rose said. Now she is choosing new names for her children—for God has turned her despair to joy.

THE OUTCAST WORSHIPERS
Among the first to give “glory to the newborn King” were, interestingly, night-shift shepherds. They lived on the bottom rung of society, paupers unwelcome in the company of kings. But they were drawn to the infant Jesus because he, too, was born a pauper, somewhat of an outcast.

On a recent trip to India, I met a group of outcasts who were thriving in the knowledge of Jesus’ special love. The residents of a poverty-shrouded village in the Gingee district were born of a low caste, and they barely subsisted as field laborers. But God had given their children a dream.

These poor families began to imagine a different future. For more than a year, they met weekly to pray for the transformation of their village. They dreamed of water wells, irrigated vegetable gardens, a playground, a library, and wheelchairs for the physically disabled. Rather than submitting to their caste-nurtured destitution, they had come to believe that God wanted more for them. And already, it was becoming real, with World Vision’s help.

Crammed into a dusty, one-room school, I celebrated with all 120 village children as their parents smiled with joy from the doorways and windows. These children sang praises to Jesus to dedicate their new garden and well, their 50-book library, and the gift of a dozen wheelchairs. In Jesus they found the God who understands their life of poverty and leads them to a better future.

THE GENOCIDAL TYRANT
The holy night wasn’t all that “silent” shortly after Jesus’ birth. Hearing rumors of a rival king, the tyrant Herod ordered the murder of all male babies in Bethlehem about Jesus’ age. The streets of Bethlehem were filled with screams as children were massacred. It was a small-scale genocide.
The “little Lord Jesus” couldn’t remain asleep in the manger. Already homeless, he soon lost even the shelter of a stable when an angel warned Joseph to flee with Mary and the baby for their lives. They became refugees in Egypt.

The Christmas story reads like a spell-binding thriller—a strange birth, even stranger night-time visitors, a child-murdering tyrant, a tiny family fleeing as refugees. What an unlikely birth story for the Lord of the Universe. Yet this story offers hope to those who live under tyranny and violence. God himself has walked their way. God suffers with those who suffer today.

Certainly that includes the hundreds of thousands of people uprooted in war-torn Darfur, Sudan—too many of them innocent children. Brothers Musa and Ali, aged 13 and 9, were found atop their donkey outside World Vision’s food distribution center at Kalma. Their village had been attacked, looted, and set ablaze by armed militia while they were working in the fields. They rode to a camp for displaced people, hoping to find their mother. “We want to know if she is alive. We are her only children,” Musa said.

Darfur is a difficult place for humanitarian workers to serve—kidnappings and robberies are common, and some workers have been killed. But World Vision is there for children like Musa and Ali, to provide temporary shelter, food, safety, and healing. Along with these tangible acts of compassion, World Vision prays that families in Darfur can know the Prince of Peace—who, like Musa and Ali, rode a donkey as a refugee. We are reminded of another time Jesus rode a donkey, entering in triumph into Jerusalem, to carry our sin and suffering so that we might have life.

“...SO SEND I YOU”

The complex truths of Jesus’ arrival into our world deepen our joy and hope at Christmas. God so identifies with unwed mothers that he was born of one. God understands the desperation of homeless refugees because he was one. God isn’t surprised by the arrogance of political tyrants or the terror of oppressive governments—Jesus was born under one. In these unexpected aspects of the Christmas story, we see the depth of God’s love and the wonder of his sovereign power.

After Jesus’ resurrection, after he had borne all our sin and sorrow through death into new life, he said to his followers, “Receive the Holy Spirit. As the Father has sent me, so send I you” (John 20:21).

Christians are sent into the world by the same Spirit that sent Jesus. Because of what began at Christmas, we are called to live every day as tangible expressions of the love and mercy of God in the midst of the world’s suffering. World Vision serves the unwanted, the oppressed, those caught up in conflict, and those living in utter poverty—because that’s how our Lord chose to live and serve.

Our work together as followers of Christ bears fruit, so that one day, all the world can enjoy the blessings of the Prince of Peace. This is the hope we celebrate at Christmas—and all year long.

—Tim A. Dearborn is associate director of Christian Commitments for World Vision International.
Meaningful gifts for “the person who has everything”!
Choose from more than 100 items to donate in honor of friends, family, and associates
See inside!

Give a goat for nourishment and income

Special gifts with donation to our Maximum Impact Fund
see back
16 Work

Clean Water Fund
Give to the Clean Water Fund to provide clean, life-giving water to families in greatest need. Your gift will help experts dig wells, provide pumps, construct latrines, irrigate crops—whatever communities need most. Make a one-time special gift or provide clean water all year long with a monthly pledge.

$100 D404 0693 one-time gift
$20 D404 0695 monthly pledge (debit/credit card only for monthly pledge)

Provide the basics to help students succeed
A Help ensure every young student has the resources he or she needs to enroll in school and do their best. Your gift can help pay school fees or provide essentials like uniforms, textbooks, backpacks, and school supplies such as notepaper, scissors, rulers, pens and pencils, and crayons for boys and girls in developing countries around the world.

$32 D404 0505

Give 10 fruit trees
B Mangoes, oranges, and other trees are packed with vitamins that growing kids need. In three years, such trees can provide enough fruit for much-needed income, offer shade from the heat, and provide seedlings for other families to start farming. Bless a family in a region like El Salvador, Myanmar, or Guatemala with a grove of fruit trees.

$60 D404 0837

gifts of hope
“Therefore, as we have the opportunity, let us do good to all people…” Galatians 6:10

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D404 0695 monthly pledge (debit/credit card only for monthly pledge)
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Toll free  1.888.511.6511  Please have the following information ready:

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more than 100 gifts online!
A fish pond for abundant protein

An earthen fish pond stocked with fish can be a start of better health for a malnourished community. In East Timor or Zambia, tilapia, a firm white fish, will grow rapidly and can be easily cared for by youth or other trained community members. Since surplus fish can be sold to help pay for children’s school fees or urgent health care, a gift of even $20 can boost nutrition and improve overall quality of life for up to 50 people.

- $200 D404 0705
- $75 D404 0706 Share of a fish pond

Maximum Impact Fund

Give a gift, and get a gift (for yourself or a loved one)! With your donation to our Maximum Impact Fund—which will benefit children and families in need worldwide—you’ll receive a special bonus gift with our thanks. At your request, your bonus item will arrive with a beautiful card explaining the impact of the donation. Visit www.worldvisiongifts.org for details on the bonus items, and to see our full range of more than 100 gifts to benefit children around the world.

- Faith in Action Study Bible (with donation of $100 or more)
  D404 0551
- Christmas ornament (with donation of $75 or more)
  D404 0659
- Ugandan bracelet (with donation of $35 or more)
  D404 0549
- Palla the plush pig (with donation of $20 or more)
  D404 0673

Your gift is tax deductible up to the fair market value of the item you receive ($5 for the plush pig, $32 for the Bible).
WALKING WITH THE PRINCE OF PEACE

IN PRESENT-DAY BETHLEHEM

Following Jesus means living as peacemakers—intentionally working in the center of the world's most difficult places. To that end, World Vision works in many such places around the globe, including present-day Bethlehem—a place surrounded by conflict, just as it was following Jesus' birth. Today, in fact, a 26-foot-high wall borders the city and there are Israeli military checkpoints at its entrances.

Christians, once representing 18 percent of the population of the Holy Land, are now less than 2 percent. The tiny remnant in Bethlehem—who considers their city to be the capital of the Christian world—pray constantly for peace. Caught in the midst of conflict, many feel ignored by the world community. “Christmas carols will soon be sung around the world about Bethlehem, but it seems that no one cares about the people here,” says Dr. Musa Manuel Abu Ali, chairman of the Evangelical Council of Churches in the Holy Land.

Christians remain in Bethlehem at great cost. The incentive to flee is strong. George Saadeh, the Christian deputy mayor of Bethlehem, was driving with his family on a shopping excursion in 2003 when the Israeli Defense Force riddled his car with bullets—his family had been mistaken for wanted militants. His daughter Christine was killed, and he, his wife, and daughter Marianne were injured.

In deep grief and after much soul-searching, George and his wife refused to allow anger to rule their lives. Instead, they joined the “Parents Circle”—a World Vision-supported group of bereaved Israeli and Palestinian parents. The group's shared grief is used to build a bridge for healing and understanding. Together they call for peaceful and lasting ways to resolve conflict so that other parents will not suffer the grief they know too well. They see that as the best way to honor their lost children. “If we, as bereaved parents, can sit together in love and peace, why can’t our nations?” George asks.

George could choose to leave Bethlehem, but in faith, he remains, as does World Vision. The organization works to provide hope through schools, medical clinics, small business loans, water projects, and agricultural assistance—and by establishing initiatives that further the cause of peace and protect both Israeli and Palestinian children. Every Christmas, World Vision helps host a children's party in Bethlehem—complete with carols and presents—to encourage the children of Bethlehem in the faith of the Prince of Peace who brings joy to the world.

“Regardless of how hard life is here, we will still celebrate Christmas,” says Dr. Alex Awad, Dean of Students at Bethlehem Bible College. “We will sing carols in the midst of our suffering. We are called to feed people with the good news of our ultimate hope. One day, we will gather around the feast of the kingdom rather than be left out in the cold.”

—Tim Dearborn

A WORD ABOUT WORLD VISION’S WORK IN THE MIDDLE EAST

World Vision has worked in the Middle East for 30 years, including turbulent areas such as the West Bank, Gaza, and Lebanon. The organization has long provided, and continues to provide, humanitarian and development assistance to children and families on the basis of their need, irrespective of their political or religious affiliations. Programs include medical services, education, job training, agricultural production and improvements, psycho-social counseling, and advocating for peace.

As in all conflicts, it is children who experience the greatest suffering. World Vision is gravely concerned about the well-being of all children in the area, and as a non-political humanitarian organization, its first priority is for the care of children, no matter their religion, race, ethnicity, or gender. In a region filled with political and social tension, World Vision’s goal is to create an environment where children can thrive, reach their full potential, and a “generation transformed” can build lasting peace.

For more information on World Vision’s work in the region, visit www.worldvision.org.
A MILITIA TERROR CAMPAIGN featuring shootings, rape, and burning of villages has forced 2 million people from their homes in DARFUR, SUDAN. Meanwhile, another struggle goes on—to bring comfort to battle-scarred children who have fled the violence and now live in scores of makeshift camps that sprawl across a desolate landscape.

RIGHT: Haja Osman watches a gathering storm outside the entrance to her shelter at Dereig camp.
dark cloud descended on Umdereisaya village in south Darfur last year. Fear-stricken children let out shrill, desperate wails and ran helter-skelter in all directions. It was the second attack by camel-riding armed militia within five months. During the raids, more than a dozen villagers were killed and dozens more injured. Among the dead was Osman Adam, father of six children—Isam, 19; Abdullah, 11; Hawa, 9; Fatima, 8; Huweida, 5; and Asha, 2. Following the second attack, the children fled with their mother, Haja Osman—abandoning their home, livestock, and all their possessions. They now live under a plastic sheet in a camp with thousands of others.
ABOVE: Huweida Osman takes time out with friends.

RIGHT: Seeking sanctuary: Children at the entrance of Dereig camp's Child-Friendly Space.

LEFT: Abdullah Osman is the star soccer player at Dereig camp's Child-Friendly Space.
Children scarred by war suffer stress, grief, depression, and bewilderment. To help them recover, World Vision organizes Child-Friendly Spaces—safe, stable areas for children where healing can take place. Volunteers and World Vision staff help children talk through their problems and face their fears. Activities include art, music, games, and school lessons. Regular routines reassure children so they are not overwhelmed by the horrors of the past.
“In our village, we had the FREEDOM to move about. We could GO to our farms freely and even TRAVEL for long distances to VISIT OUR RELATIVES. Here our movement is CONFINED within the camp.” —Fatima Osman, 8
LEARNING TO LIVE AGAIN

Hawa Osman may never be able to vocalize the pain of losing her father because she is deaf and mute. Her mother, Haja, feared her handicaps would prevent her from participating in the activities at the Child-Friendly Space and at first did not send her along. But after seeing the impact of the center on her other children, Haja changed her mind. Now Hawa loves to jump rope and concentrates intently during lessons in Arabic, English, and math. She takes the time to double-check her work, and her handwriting is the neatest in her class. A few months ago Hawa was frozen with fear; now she is learning to live again.
ABOVE: Despite her handicaps, Hawa keeps up with the actions during the singing of patriotic songs.

RIGHT: Courageous children: Fatima embraces her sisters Hawa and Huweida.

“...I thought she would NEVER BENEFIT from the center [Child-Friendly Space] because she cannot TALK nor HEAR anything. Then I CHANGED MY MIND.”

—Haja Osman, talking about her daughter Hawa
The weight of the world falls on those least able to bear it.

 Millions of children around the globe suffer exploitation, violence, abuse, and neglect. World Vision offers tangible support to these children living on the edge of survival.

You can help! Complete the form on the reverse side and return it, along with your gift, in the envelope between pages 8 and 9.
I want to help CHILDREN in crisis!

O Please use my gift of $______ to support children in crisis.

O I want to sponsor a child for $30/month.
GENDER: □ BOY □ GIRL
LIVING IN: □ ASIA □ AFRICA □ LATIN AMERICA □ MIDDLE EAST □ WHERE MOST NEEDED

O I want my one-time donation to go where it’s needed most. AMOUNT: $______

O Check payable to World Vision

O Credit card payment

[Payment information]

ABOVE: Despite her handicaps, Hawa keeps up with the actions during the singing of patriotic songs.

RIGHT: Courageous children: Fatima embraces her sisters Hawa and Huweida.
LEARNING TO SMILE AGAIN

1 » Lebanon War—July 2006 » Fighting between Israel and Hezbollah displaces more than 1 million. Children eagerly volunteer to participate in the next activity at a Child-Friendly Space established in Beirut for children who fled fighting in the south. “I have never seen my children so happy since the war broke out. I can barely recognize them with their smiling faces,” said Fatima, a displaced mother.

2 » Indonesia Quake—May 2006 » A 6.3 magnitude quake in central Java renders 650,000 homeless. Children in Kebom village dance and sing to celebrate the opening of the first World Vision Child-Friendly Space opened in response to the disaster. “I like the singing best,” said Pungki Retno, 8, shouting above the joyful cacaphony.

3 » Romania Floods—April 2006 » Rising water in the Danube River bursts a dam and displaces thousands. Evacuated children from Rast enjoy reading and playing games in a Child-Friendly Space set up in a tent. “Since the disaster hit us, it is the first time we have heard laughs again,” said teacher Nanu Aurelia.

4 » Philippines Mudslides—February 2006 » A landslide buries hundreds alive in St. Bernard municipality. Children temporarily forget their troubles at a Child-Friendly Space established at an evacuation center for survivors. Vice Mayor Felix Lim told children to remain hopeful despite their experiences. “This place can help us forget—not our loved ones who died—but the pain and the sufferings the experience has caused us,” he said.

5 » South Asia Quake—October 2005 » A 7.6 magnitude quake renders more than 3 million homeless in Pakistan and India. Children and World Vision staff lighten the mood by participating in a “hare race” at a Child-Friendly Space at Bissian relief camp in Pakistan. “I have been regularly taking part in the activities and I really enjoy it all,” said Tahir, a fifth-grade student. Tahir’s mother and sister were killed when the family home collapsed.

6 » Asian Tsunami—December 2004 » One of the deadliest natural disasters of modern history kills more than 200,000, chiefly in Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India, and Thailand. Idawati, 5, is comforted at the World Vision Child-Friendly Space in Banda Aceh, Indonesia. When she first arrived at the Child-Friendly Space, Idawati, who was orphaned by the tsunami, was withdrawn, confused, and aggressive. But over time, she began to participate. “We almost cannot see the tragedy they’ve lived through,” facilitator Safriati said of the children.

Wherever there is a crisis, World Vision’s Child-Friendly Spaces are quickly implemented to bring comfort and joy.
SEVEN WAYS TO PRAY IN 2007

Everyday actions can be reminders to pray for the needs of children around the world.

—by Ryan Smith

Daily routines can become just that—routine. It can be difficult to find purpose in tasks such as showering and driving to work, but prayer can transform mundane tasks into something memorable.

Looking ahead to 2007, World Vision—and the children it serves—covet your prayers. Here is a handy way to use your daily activities as reminders to pray for children living in poverty.

“And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up. . . .
The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.” — James 5:15-16
ATH TIME :: Think Clean Water

Nearly 1.1 billion people are without access to clean water—that's more than the combined populations of North America and the European Union. Without access to clean drinking water, children are at a much higher risk for life-threatening diseases like diarrhea, intestinal worms, and cholera.

LUNCH TIME :: Think Hungry Kids

McDonald's serves nearly 50 million people worldwide each day. Three times that number of children go hungry everyday, leaving them undernourished, vulnerable to disease, and prone to stunted growth.

HEADING HOME :: Think Displaced Children

The number of displaced people in the world has steadily decreased over the last five years, but there are still an estimated 9.25 million children who have been forced by violence or disaster to leave their homes—that’s 2.5 times more children than there are homeless people in the United States.

BED TIME :: Think Orphans

There is more than twice the number of orphans in the world than children under age 15 in America. Africa is the only area of the world where the orphan prevalence rate is increasing, largely due to the AIDS pandemic.

OFF TO WORK :: Think Child Labor

The U.S. national minimum wage is $5.15 per hour. Many children worldwide earn less than $1 a day, if they are even paid at all. Around 176 million children work in ways that are likely to harm their health, safety, or moral development—such as bonded labor, slavery, or sexual exploitation.

NEWS BREAK :: Think Education

There are twice as many children worldwide—117 million—who do not receive a primary level education as Americans who receive a newspaper each day. Without education, these children are condemned to carry out menial jobs and will struggle to provide for themselves and their families.

TAKE A VITAMIN :: Think Medical Access

Every year, 15 times more children die of readily preventable diseases than Americans who are killed by heart disease, the leading cause of death in the United States. Many children lack access to health care for diarrhea, malaria, and measles simply because they are poor.
Only 14 years ago, I had no hope of ever stepping in a classroom again after AIDS killed my father. My father told me, “I have left you the responsibility to look after your brothers and sisters.” With these words, he died in my arms.

At age 10, I couldn’t provide food for my four brothers and sisters every day. My mother had already died, and my father’s relatives sold his property and left us with just a half-acre. We didn’t have enough food because we could only dig on Saturdays. So I dropped out of school to dig in other people’s gardens to get cassava.

Once, when I went to a nearby town to collect some home supplies, an old man saw me and took me to World Vision after I told him about the struggles we were going through. At the World Vision office, I met Bell, and he helped me to be sponsored, arranged for school fees for my siblings and me, and helped us build a sturdy house. He was a good friend and would come to our house almost every day to encourage us.

Sponsorship funds gave us a water tank to collect clean water from the roof, constructed a pit latrine, and gave us agricultural inputs such as maize, bean seeds, coffee, and potato seedlings.

Sponsorship changed my way of looking at things. I learned that even though my father died and all the world denied us, God sent people purposely to bring hope to us. It brought God closer to us for protection and provision. I started gaining a lot of hope and this was the driving force behind my success.

In April 2006, I graduated from Makerere University in Uganda with a bachelor’s degree in organizational studies. In my family lineage, education was not taken seriously. I am the first person to get a degree. My village threw a party for me and other graduates. The villagers contributed $350 to buy two cows and a generator. Around 300 people came to the celebration, including World Vision senior staff, legislators, and news reporters.

I’m pursuing a master’s degree in public administration and management. I have a dream to become a public speaker and raise money for orphans and vulnerable children and those infected by AIDS. I really have to use all my experience, knowledge, and skills for change in the lives of these innocent children.

My sponsors have been a blessing to me and whatever they have done has made my family what we are now. May the good Lord reward them richly.

From Dropout to Grad Student
Sponsorship enables an orphan to go back to school and still provide for his siblings.

Interviews by Ryan Smith

JOHNSON LWONDO LUBEGA
Kampala, Uganda

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Sponsorship has really changed the family focus."
—Rick and Kathi Palmer

RICK AND KATHI PALMER

Lakeland, Florida

WHO WE ARE | World Vision is a
Christian relief and development organiza-
tion dedicated to helping children and their
communities worldwide reach their full
potential by tackling the causes of poverty.

WHO WE SERVE | Motivated by our
faith in Jesus, we serve the poor—regardless
of a person's religion, race, ethnicity, or
gender—as a demonstration of God's
unconditional love for all people.

WHY WE SERVE | Our passion is
for the world's poorest children whose
suffering breaks the heart of God. To
help secure a better future for each child,
we focus on lasting, community-based
transformation. We partner with individuals
and communities, empowering them to
develop sustainable access to clean water,
food supplies, health care, education, and
economic opportunities.

HOW WE SERVE | Since 1950,
World Vision has helped millions
of children and families by providing
emergency assistance to those affected
by natural disasters and civil conflict,
developing long-term solutions within
communities to alleviate poverty, and
advocating for justice on behalf of the poor.

YOU CAN HELP | Partnering with
World Vision provides tangible ways to
honor God and put faith into action. By
working together, we can make a lasting
difference in the lives of children and
families who are struggling to overcome
poverty. To find out how you can help
return the envelope found between pages
8 and 9, or visit www.worldvision.org.

Ways to pray in 2007

Your prayers can make a difference in the lives of children
across the globe. As World Vision works with poor and destitute
children, we covet your prayers for them. Pray for those that
we have not yet been able to reach, and pray for the children
we are working with, that the programs would be effective and
the children would thrive. Use these reminders throughout
your day to trigger thoughts of children in need. Pull this
card out and post it somewhere you will see it every day.

1. TAKE A SHOWER » Pray for clean water
2. GO TO WORK » Pray for child laborers
3. EAT LUNCH » Pray for hungry and malnourished children
4. WATCH THE NEWS » Pray for education
5. ARRIVE HOME » Pray for displaced children
6. TAKE A VITAMIN » Pray for medical access
7. GO TO BED » Pray for orphans

"And prayer offered in faith
will make the sick person well;
the Lord will raise him up. ...
The prayer of a righteous man is
powerful and effective."
—James 5:15-16
Johnson chats with fellow students at Makerere University.

FIVE WAYS YOU CAN BE AN ADVOCATE FOR CHILDREN

SIGN the “Children Should Never be Soldiers” declaration.
» In northern Uganda, more than 30,000 children have been kidnapped and forced to serve as soldiers in a nightmarish civil war that the world has largely ignored. These innocent children are brutalized and mutilated, forced to commit atrocities, and given as sex slaves to military commanders. This targeted abuse of children is unacceptable. Sign the declaration at www.worldvision.org/nochildsoldiers.

SIGN the “One Declaration.” » The One Campaign lobbies governments to address issues caused by AIDS and global poverty, raising Americans “from Hollywood to the heartland” to join the cause of speaking up for the poor and oppressed. To learn more and sign the declaration, go to www.worldvision.org/one.

SEND an e-mail to your senator or representative, encouraging them to support legislation and funding for global aid. » Visit www.worldvision.org/seekjustice to get more information about fighting extreme poverty, the global AIDS crisis, child sex tourism, the use of landmines and providing food support. Use the information provided there to write an informed and effective e-mail.

KEEP your friends informed. » Don’t let global crises go unnoticed. Encourage your friends to become aware and engaged in issues of injustice.

From Dropout

Sponsorship enables a child to stay in school and still provide for his family.

Interviews by Ryan Smith

JOHNSON

Kampala, Uganda

Only 14 years ago, I heard the words: “AIDS has killed your mother.”
With these words, he died in my arms.
At age 10, I couldn’t provide for my family every day. My mother had already lost her property and left us with just a few belongings because we could only dig our family’s garden to make money. Once, when I went to a nearby market to sell our supplies, an old man saw me and asked me what I was doing. He said he didn’t understand why I was digging in other people’s gardens to make a living.

VISION Winter 2006
RICK AND KATHI PALMER
Lakeland, Florida

Johnson is always thinking of somebody else. His focus was always on taking care of his brothers and sisters, especially his brother John, who has cerebral palsy and cannot walk. He's always praising and praising us for being there and supporting him.

We started sponsoring Johnson in 1992. We would always look forward to mail from him, and we would type up all his letters and send them to the rest of our family. In one letter, Johnson had said that his plans for the summer were to work so that he could hopefully earn enough to buy a cow, but he wasn't sure if he was going to make much money as he needed.

At that time Johnson was starting college and needed $2,500 for tuition, and we couldn't afford that. But God raised up a group from Christ Presbyterian Church in Edina, Minn., which had a connection with Johnson's village. They helped to pay his tuition, and the timing was just perfect. During his visit to Minnesota in 2002, he was also given a wheelchair for John.

He invited us to his graduation, but we couldn't make it. But we were there in spirit, and we prayed for him.

» Share your story of how sponsoring a child has affected your life by e-mailing wvmagazine@worldvision.org.

WHO WE ARE | World Vision is a Christian relief and development organization dedicated to helping children and their communities worldwide reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty.

WHO WE SERVE | Motivated by our faith in Jesus, we serve the poor—regardless of a person's religion, race, ethnicity, or gender—as a demonstration of God's unconditional love for all people.

WHY WE SERVE | Our passion is for the world's poorest children whose suffering breaks the heart of God. To help secure a better future for each child, we focus on lasting, community-based transformation. We partner with individuals and communities, empowering them to develop sustainable access to clean water, food supplies, health care, education, and economic opportunities.

HOW WE SERVE | Since 1950, World Vision has helped millions of children and families by providing emergency assistance to those affected by natural disasters and civil conflict, developing long-term solutions within communities to alleviate poverty, and advocating for justice on behalf of the poor.

YOU CAN HELP | Partnering with World Vision provides tangible ways to honor God and put faith into action. By working together, we can make a lasting difference in the lives of children and families who are struggling to overcome poverty. To find out how you can help return the envelope found between pages 8 and 9, or visit www.worldvision.org.
Ted Engstrom was a prolific writer, businessman, preacher, and mentor. At various times he was editorial director of Zondervan Publishing, president of Youth for Christ, and president of World Vision. His death at 90, in July, marked the passing of one of the most influential Christian leaders of recent times.

At World Vision, “Dr. Ted” is credited with helping World Vision grow into one of the world’s largest Christian relief and development organizations.

His early life gave few clues to the man he would become. He had a wild reputation at Taylor University, where he would skip college responsibilities to play trumpet in dance bands. But one chapel service at Taylor, Engstrom gave his life to Christ. “I walked out and the sky was never bluer and the birds never sang better,” he later said.

After Taylor, Engstrom found a job with the fledgling Zondervan company and began writing. During the course of his life he averaged a book a year for 50 years. At the same time he established a reputation for efficiency and business acumen, principles he distilled into his best-seller, “Managing Your Time.”

In 1957 he became executive director of Youth for Christ and launched into a hectic schedule of speaking and traveling. Engstrom felt his early life was wasted and unhappy, and he wanted other young people to escape such torment by leading them to Christ.

By 1963, his punishing schedule left him exhausted, but then he had a chance encounter with World Vision founder Bob Pierce in a hotel lobby. Pierce said he needed help at World Vision. Engstrom joined as vice president.

If he imagined life was to get more relaxed, he was in for a shock—World Vision was struggling to cover its ever-increasing budget. Engstrom responded by organizing all-night prayer meetings and embarking on a cost-cutting drive.

Pierce’s daughter Marilee Pierce Dunker saw God’s hand in Dr. Ted’s direction. “Nothing would have been accomplished if my dad had not been a rule breaker. But when World Vision was ready to move into adulthood, it needed greater financial stability. Dr. Ted was the right person to do that.”

In 1980 World Vision magazine described Engstrom as “opinionated, tough-minded, and always with a purpose in view.” Meanwhile he never wavered in his conviction that World Vision’s work was essentially a spiritual calling. He was offered the position of president in 1982, and he accepted. “We must never lose the sense of being called by God to a special task,” he said at his commissioning service.

Fulfilling that task meant exposure to a hurting world. Bob Pierce’s widow, Lorraine, recalls seeing him regularly following the death of her husband. “He always warmed my heart. I think Ted developed into a truly caring person through the heartache of seeing the world as it really is. He decided he had to give a lot in tenderness and kindness.

Many echo the sentiment. James Dobson of Focus on the Family said, “He was more than a personal friend and confidant. He became a mentor and father figure to me.”

Even as he celebrated his 90th birthday, Ted continued to come into the World Vision office in his capacity as president emeritus, giving insight and encouragement through his correspondence. But on July 7 at a family gathering he announced, “After 70 years my calendar is clear; I don’t have a letter to write or an appointment to keep. Now God can take me home.” One week later he died.

—James Additett
"We must never lose the sense of being called by God to a special task."

- TED ENGSTROM -

1916-2006
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to another child

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