

SUMMARY

Through your support, World Vision’s Christian Discipleship Program brings together Christian leaders to unify them around the shared value of improving the lives of children in their community.

We also provide resources to local churches, parents, and caregivers worldwide that encourage and nurture the spiritual growth of children.

Even though COVID-19 limited program implementation and community trainings, 355,555 people participated in activities during the first half of fiscal year 2021. The project teams created innovative solutions to continue the Christian faith development of children, youth, and their families.

“I am really happy that youths have [learned about] leadership and life

skills,” says Belay Moya, pastor from Sholamich Kale Hiwot in Ethiopia.

Many of the projects are concluding at the end of FY21, so teams are planning to conduct surveys and evaluations over the next six months. The projects will transition into an expanded Christian Discipleship initiative that will begin in FY22.

World Vision also was able to distribute 27,228 Bibles, serving more than 136,000 people (see page 7).

We hope you’ll find encouragement in this report and will continue to join us in prayer as we partner with families, schools, churches, and other faith-based organizations to help children grow in their knowledge of and experience God’s love.



World Vision’s Christian Discipleship Program provides training for parents and caregivers, including different approaches to raise children and the importance of trust. Thank you for praying over the communities we are serving.

GLOBAL UPDATE & PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES

4,755,555 PEOPLE have benefited from ministry activities since October 2015, including 355,555 new people in FY21. This includes children, parents/caregivers, and community members benefiting directly and indirectly.

+ **527,572** children and youth directly participated in discipleship activities since October 2015, including 64,466 new participants in FY21.

+ **32,185** pastors and church leaders were trained in theology and children’s ministry, including 2,519 new participants in FY21.

+ **4,931** churches engaged in Christian discipleship of children and youth, including 589 new churches in FY21.

CENTRAL AMERICA

SUMMARY

In Central America, the Christian Discipleship Project trained and provided opportunities for children and parents to learn.

In El Salvador, the team:

- Reached 15,500 children through Elim Christian Mission and designed The Tenderness Bus to give children an opportunity to access child-friendly Christian discipleship sessions virtually.
- Created a digital platform to teach Christian discipleship; and host project courses, certificate programs, and training on information security; and manage participant performance for pastors and Christian ministry leaders.

In Honduras, the team:

- Trained 135 youth from the Archdiocese of Tegucigalpa through Pathways of Peace and youth mentoring, improving their skills and knowledge on how to expand the kingdom of God, promote peace, and stop violence in homes and communities.

- Trained 18 teachers from the Instituto Educativo de Transformación Integral in Choluteca on how to care for and protect children, as well as integrate what they learned into their school curriculum.

Challenges

Reaching children and families with discipleship activities has been a challenge, even though some churches have resumed meeting in person.

COVID-19 restrictions also made it difficult to conduct final project evaluation surveys and focus groups. The team is considering alternate measures, but they will depend on government pandemic policies.

Plans for the next six months

The team plans to follow up with new and existing church partners, conduct the final evaluations, and prepare for a new expanded project with other countries in Central America.



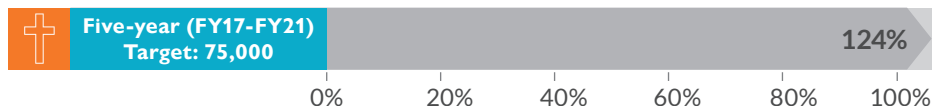
“Thank you on behalf of all the teachers who have participated in this project and for your good heart, kindness, and dedication to help others share the gospel ... We hope that God multiplies what you are doing for us and the children of El Salvador.”

—Sandra Maricela Abarca,
teacher in El Salvador

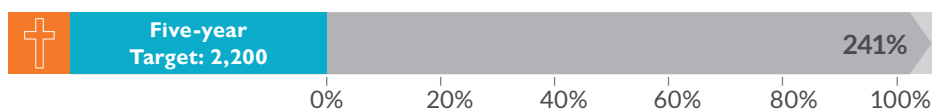
Please pray for perseverance and grace as the team continues providing training to community leaders, parents, and caregivers.

PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES

92,746 children and youth directly participated in discipleship activities, including 22,590 in FY21.



5,307 pastors and church leaders were trained in theology and children’s ministry, including 271 in FY21.



554 churches engaged in Christian discipleship of children and youth, including 51 in FY21.



ETHIOPIA

SUMMARY

Despite COVID-19 and security challenges, the Lord helped the Christian Discipleship team in Ethiopia serve, empower, and encourage children to continue to grow in their personal and social lives, as well as excel in their education.

Some achievements during the first six months of FY21 include:

- 3,527 children (1,827 boys and 1,700 girls) learned how to express and share the love of God with their neighbors.
- 7,086 community members, parents, and caregivers participated in training on biblical gender equality, child and youth counseling, and child character formation.
- 1,545 (846 men and 699 women) faith-based organization and church leaders learned how to address challenges, such as COVID-19 and security issues.

Key learnings

By leaning into the Lord, we were able to work through relationships in communities to share messages on how to prevent the spread of COVID-19, as well as how best to serve one another.

Plans for the next six months

The project team plans to:

- Finalize trainings and activities for the remainder of the fiscal year
- Help and encourage those affected by the pandemic and other conflicts
- Prepare for the final project evaluation and project transition



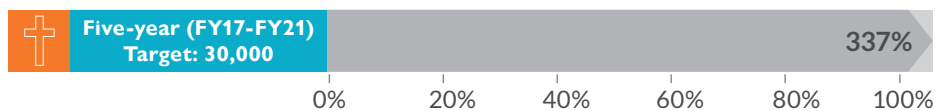
“The leadership and life skill training helped me identify the different types of leadership, and [I] learned the need to lead my life. Furthermore, I learned if I equip myself, I can lead an exemplary life and support my mother. Thanks to World Vision this all is made possible.”

—Kalkidan Mulugeta,
Kolfe area program

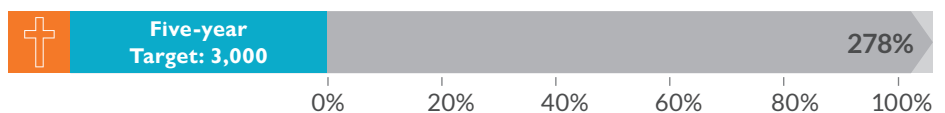
Please pray for courage and hope as the team continues to trust in the Lord for his timing and provision.

PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES

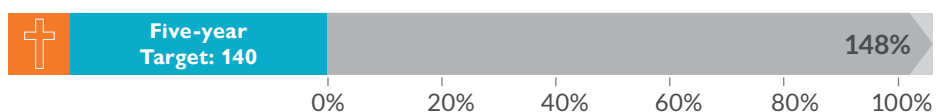
101,050 children and youth directly participated in discipleship activities, including 15,035 in FY21.



8,348 pastors and church leaders were trained in theology and children’s ministry, including 1,693 in FY21.



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



KENYA

SUMMARY

The Kenya Christian Discipleship Project continued to support and provide resources to communities despite COVID-19 challenges.

In Mweiga area program, 20 pastors were trained to lead spiritual growth activities for 432 children through WhatsApp, a mobile messaging application.

In Mwala area program, 120 parents and caregivers participated in Celebrating Families and Empowered Worldview to learn how to better care for their families, create an environment for their children to thrive, and start income-generating activities.

In the Kakuma Refugee Camp, 45 faith leaders graduated from Scott Christian University and committed to use their learnings to uplift their communities. After completing Do No Harm training, church leaders formed a peace committee to identify and resolve conflict in four camp sites. Additionally, 254 Sunday school teachers and Bible club teachers received Bibles in local languages to distribute to churches and children.

PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES

76,919 children and youth directly participated in discipleship activities, including 1,350 in FY21.

2,743 pastors and church leaders were trained in theology and children's ministry, including 20 in FY21.

1,270 churches engaged in Christian discipleship of children and youth, including 32 in FY21.

Key learnings

COVID-19 required the project team to be agile and creative to meet community needs.

Though the Kenyan government restricted travel and limited gatherings, regions with low infections rates were partially opened, and we trained people to train others in our curricula.

Also, Sunday school teachers offered psychosocial first aid and child protection training to reduce child pregnancies and drug abuse.

When schools reopened, Bible clubs were able to educate students during morning and afternoon class schedules in order to have smaller classes.

Plans for the next six months

The project team plans to:

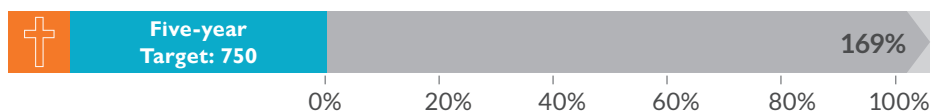
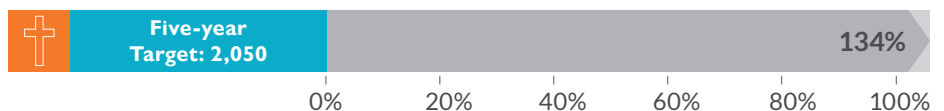
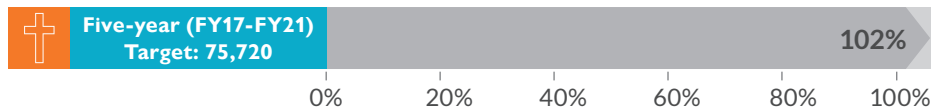
- Conduct a project evaluation to measure impact over the last five years and discuss program sustainability
- Hold Empowered Worldview, Celebrating Families, and Christian discipleship training sessions



“I will use the knowledge received to teach children to be great men and women in the society. Just like I was once a student in Sunday school, I want to commit myself to transform these children for the benefit of tomorrow’s church.”

– Faith Eipa, spiritual nurture for children training participant (not pictured)

Please pray for church leaders as they implement learnings from trainings in their communities.



PHILIPPINES

SUMMARY

The Christian Discipleship Project in the Philippines reached 3,627 direct program participants and 16,705 indirect program participants through spiritual nurture activities.

Our partnership continued with two radio station programs in Okiddo and Mindanao. Every Saturday morning in Okiddo, a children’s story is aired, and in Mindanao, a 45-minute program focuses on the spiritual nurture of children.

Pastor Choy Magdaong, faith and development manager, served as a resource during a positive parenting webinar. It was recorded and posted to the Department of Education of Manila’s Facebook page and received 13,600 views.

Challenges

There was a delay in finalizing the implementation plan and guidelines for adjusted activities due to COVID-19 restrictions, which also impacted producing materials for trainings. However, the team still exceed its semiannual targets.

The radio segments take a lot of time and effort to produce, from writing and editing the script, to recording the audio. The project team is exploring other ideas on how to effectively share Christian discipleship for children in the community.

Plans for the next six months

The teams plans to:

- Distribute family activity booklets and Christian discipleship materials
- Review project design, implementation, and children’s resources with partners, community members, and project participants
- Prepare Christian discipleship sessions for children in other sector projects (health, education, livelihoods)
- Plan Day of Prayer with children
- Participate in a webinar on how churches can remain relevant during the pandemic



“What I learned most about the Dare to Discover activities is to value my life. Before, I was reckless and I was involved in many dangerous fights. I am glad that I am able to take control of my life and give up all weight that was holding me down.”

—Jay-R, 19, Antique province

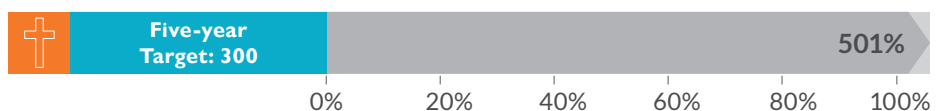
Please pray for wisdom and discernment as the team continues to plan activities for the rest of the fiscal year.

PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES

170,123 children and youth directly participated in discipleship activities, including 2,614 in FY21.



1,503 pastors and church leaders were trained in theology and children’s ministry, continuing on from previous years.



446 churches engaged in Christian discipleship of children and youth, including 49 in FY21.



ZIMBABWE

SUMMARY

The Christian Discipleship Project in Zimbabwe provided children and their caregivers opportunities for them to grow in their Christian faith and for caregivers to create a supportive environment. Some highlights from the first six months of FY21 include:

- 3,082 children and youth participated in Dare to Discover, Empowered Worldview, and Reach for Life trainings. The team also integrated COVID-19 messaging in community trainings.
- 3,342 parents and caregivers were trained through Celebrating Families, peer-to-peer parent caregiver groups, and men's forums.
- 19,746 children were trained and given Christian discipleship resources from Scripture Union, Child Care Ministries, One Hope, Biblica, and Awana.
- 7 committees in six wards in Hwange area program were trained in coordinating child-nurturing activities.

Challenges

A second wave of COVID-19 further delayed program implementation. Nonessential businesses and schools were closed, and church congregations were not allowed to gather.

Although schools were allowed to reopen March 15, most were not adequately prepared, so school-based activities were limited.

Plans for the next six months

The team is preparing for a possible third wave of COVID-19, and to meet that challenge, the project team plans to:

- Establish youth groups through the Reach for Life model
- Train teachers on how to integrate Christian discipleship in their classrooms
- Train community leaders on Christian discipleship
- Conduct Celebrating Families workshops



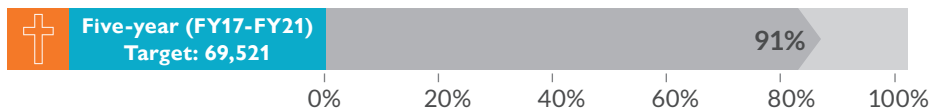
“The Empowered Worldview training has opened my eyes and mind to the numerous opportunities in my area. I now have a clear vision, purpose, and direction. I am full of confidence for the future.”

*—Tendai Chigudza,
Muzarabani area program*

Please pray over trainings taking place through the end of the fiscal year, and that the words would fall on good soil.

PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES

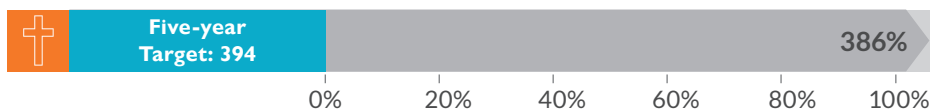
63,201 children and youth directly participated in discipleship activities, including 22,877 in FY21.



4,581 pastors and church leaders were trained in theology and children's ministry, including 535 in FY21.



1,524 churches engaged in Christian discipleship of children and youth, including 457 in FY21.



INTERNATIONAL BIBLE FUND*

SUMMARY

Through your generous support of World Vision's International Bible Fund, 13,750 Bibles were distributed in Mozambique, benefiting 68,750 people, including children, parents, teachers, and churches.

These Bibles were used for Kids' clubs, Bible study groups, and household Bible study. They also serve as a resource for pastors leading World Vision's Christian Discipleship programs (Celebrating Families, Channels of Hope for Child Protection) and other activities to

spiritually nurture children, as well as serve as a source of comfort, strength, and hope.

Additionally, 13,478 Bibles were delivered to communities in Zimbabwe, providing 67,390 children and their families more opportunities to read God's word together in their homes.

We are excited to share that funding was given to provide Bibles to communities in Angola, Malawi, and Peru. An update will be available in the annual report.

Please pray the Bibles that are given to families would be an encouragement and source of light.



"Bibles are the most precious gift one can offer to a person because it meets all our needs in this life, and if we obey the word of God, it leads us to eternal life."

—Cecília Nguema, pastor,
Guija and Mabalane,
Mozambique

PARTICIPANT UPDATE & PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES

1,077,690

PEOPLE have benefited from Bibles provided through the International Bible Fund since July 2016, including 136,140 people in FY21. This includes children, parents/caregivers, and community members.



215,538

Bibles made available since July 2016, including 27,228 in FY21.

*Bibles provided through this fund are often distributed for use in the Global Christian Discipleship Program but are funded and accounted for independently.

FINANCIALS

Global Christian Discipleship Fund Program-to-Date Spending (October 2015 through March 2021)

\$12,541,014 program-to-date funding

\$11,429,366 spending-to-date

91%

International Bible Fund Program-to-Date Spending (July 2016 through March 2021)

\$2,136,419 program-to-date funding

\$1,424,376 spending-to-date

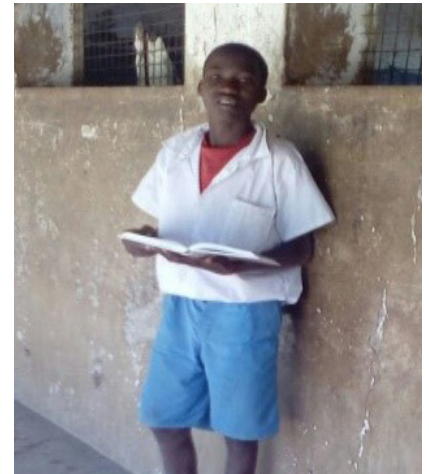
67%

THANK YOU

Thank you for being a faithful prayer partner as we equip and encourage faith leaders, as well as provide support to parents and caregivers through resources to create safe and nurturing environments for children to thrive.

Together, we have made the Christian Discipleship Program possible for children and youth all around the world, like Emmanuel from Kenya (photo right). He enjoys reading his Bible and participating in Bible club activities.

Thank you, again, for joining us as we engage communities on how to deepen their faith in Jesus Christ.



Emmanuel Etiir, 17, is part of a Bible club in Kenya. “I’m happy, and I thank God for what He is doing in my life.” His favorite verse is Isaiah 41:10a, “So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God.”

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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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