

CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP | Christian Discipleship Fund

Annual Progress Report

October 2024–September 2025

SUMMARY

In partnership with parents, pastors, Christian faith leaders, and local ministry partners, World Vision's Christian discipleship fund creates opportunities and removes barriers for children to experience God's love, develop a relationship with Jesus, and grow in wisdom and faith.

In fiscal year 2025, we reached 9,074,614 people—51% of them children—with resources, training, and support to help faith take root and grow. Our program dashboard, which details achievements toward FY25 program targets, is available [online](#). Highlights include:

Evidence of impact

In partnership with Fuller Theological Seminary, we continued to research the impact of Celebrating Families programs on family relationships, parenting practices, and children's spiritual development. While study results are still being finalized, early evidence shows that the program strengthens faith and makes homes safer and more nurturing for children.

Let the Children Come (LCC)

LCC programs support the spiritual nurture of children with discipleship activities and curriculum, and equip pastors and leaders to multiply the impact of local churches. In FY25, we served 4.6 million children—117% of our annual goal—with faith-based initiatives including youth ministries, Bible clubs, church-based sports activities, and biblical values formation.

Biblical Empowered Worldview

In FY25, 88,631 people engaged with the Biblical Empowered Worldview (BEWV) program, a Bible-based curriculum that teaches God has made us in His image and we are worthy, valuable, and capable of change. This core truth helped transform participants' lives and that of their families, impacting 1.1 million people altogether.

International Bible Fund

We provided 70,067 Bibles to children, families, and pastors in seven countries, including children's Bibles, study Bibles for pastors, and Bibles translated into local languages.



In Naberera, Tanzania, many students go through the school day without a nutritious meal. Through BEWV curriculum, adolescents are learning how to use local resources creatively. They've formed school clubs that grow vegetables and raise poultry to use for school meals. Our next phase of BEWV programs will focus on empowering youth (like these girls in Tanzania) to become change agents in their communities.

GLOBAL UPDATE & PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES

24,827,954 PASTORS, CHRISTIAN LEADERS, TEACHERS, PARENTS, CHILDREN, AND YOUTH have been equipped with the training and resources they need to learn Bible-based life skills and to explore or deepen their faith in Jesus Christ since October 2022.

9,503,204 children and youth directly participated in spiritual nurture activities and were reached through faith-based programs since October 2022.

2,226,491 people were impacted directly and indirectly by the Phase 2 scale-up of BEWV since October 2022.

197,609 Bibles were made available since October 2022, benefiting 988,045 people.

18,864 churches and ministries engaged in Christian discipleship and other faith-based programs for children and youth since October 2022.

INTERNATIONAL BIBLE FUND

SUMMARY

We want every child to know Jesus and grow in their faith. When children receive Bibles—and the tools to study them—in their language, their faith blossoms, their character grows, and their influence spreads within their families, churches, and communities.

In FY25, we distributed 70,067 Bibles, providing 350,335 children and adults the opportunity to read God’s Word, grow spiritually, and know their identity in Jesus. Pastors, children, and families in seven countries received study Bibles, New Testaments, and children’s Bibles. Following are some highlights from the past year:

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Despite conflict and restricted access in many areas, we distributed 13,878 Bibles to children and families at 371 churches. In partnership with Sunday school teachers and Scripture Union, an interdenominational organization that helps children explore the Bible, we launched 180 Bible clubs, and Sunday school classes. The LCC project expanded, resourcing 246 church leaders to create safe spaces for spiritual growth and resilience in communities affected by conflict and violence.

Ghana

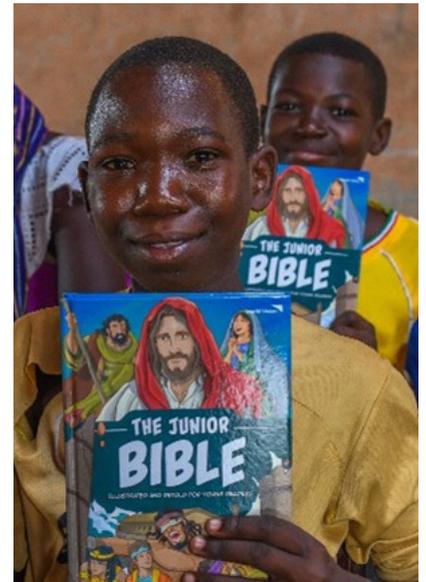
Our team in Ghana distributed 33,012 Bibles to 165,060 people across 10 area programs. Since then, they have witnessed an inspiring movement: children reading God’s Word daily, teachers leading structured studies with new confidence, and churches weaving the Bibles into dynamic Sunday school and youth activities.

Philippines

World Vision equipped pastors, children, and families with 1,500 Bibles, reaching a total of 7,500 people and benefiting churches in remote communities. The Bibles were instrumental in helping establish partnerships with local churches in a new area program.

Zambia

By the end of FY25, World Vision had provided 9,352 Bibles to 46,760 people, including every registered child in the Moyo and Hamaundu area programs (APs). The Bibles will be used across 239 churches and 18 schools, as well as in homes and community groups to strengthen spiritual growth and biblical literacy. In churches, the Bibles will support sermons, Sunday school sessions, and fellowship meetings.



“I used to think the Bible was only for grown-ups,” said Victory, 13 (pictured). Through the International Bible Fund, Victory and 85 other children in Ghana’s West Gonja area program received age-appropriate Bibles and learned simple study methods that make Scripture more exciting and accessible. “When I read, I feel closer to God. I even teach my little brother, and he loves it,” she said.

PARTICIPANT UPDATE & PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES

 **988,045** people have benefited from Bibles provided through the International Bible Fund since October 2022.

 **197,609** Bibles have been made available since October 2022.

BIBLICAL EMPOWERED WORLDVIEW

SUMMARY

Biblical Empowered Worldview (BEWV) teaches people that God uniquely created them and that they are capable and resourceful, which builds confidence and hope. We reached 1,146,337 people with this vision of hope in FY25—surpassing our annual goal (102%), and expanding to nine new countries. Highlights from this year include:

- **Curriculum development:** A BEWV curriculum tailored to adolescents was finalized, integrating positive youth development principles with Christian spiritual formation. Pilots began in five countries ahead of the official rollout in FY26.
- **Training and certification:** More than 80 BEWV facilitators were equipped through online workshops, to ensure consistency and quality of programming across 35 countries.
- **Evidence of impact:** Results from an external study of our BEWV curriculum showed that it increases people’s sense of hope and self-efficacy, improves relationships,

and sparks positive change in their families and communities.

Additional highlights from the following regions include:

- **Africa:** BEWV concepts were shared with 391,759 people in Ghana through radio broadcasts and church partnerships. Angola exceeded its goal at 104%, combining BEWV with savings groups and sponsorship programs.
- **Latin America:** BEWV was adapted for Quechua-speaking communities and rural faith networks in Peru. Haiti reached 129% of their target for participants, applying BEWV curriculum in children’s clubs to reduce violence and restore broken social ties.
- **Asia Pacific:** In Bangladesh, BEWV workshops taught 44,525 people in flood-prone areas how to better cope and recover, while in the Philippines, BEWV in education programs helped vulnerable youth develop leadership skills and faith-based values.



“I used to feel shy about Sunday school,” said Ongkris, 12. “Now I love it!” At the Nahu Church in Indonesia, BEWV lessons encouraged students to be resourceful and turned Sunday school into a hub of creativity and compassion. Children discovered that many of their peers lacked nutritious food—so they planted vegetables. Harvesting and cooking together taught teamwork and faith in action. “When children dream and act,” said Pastor Ros (pictured with Sunday school kids), “faith becomes real.”

PARTICIPANT UPDATE & PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES

 **2,226,491** people were impacted directly (241,910) and indirectly (1,984,581) by the scale-up of BEWV since October 2022.

 **241,910** people participated in BEWV activities or benefited from training given to their parents or caregivers since October 2022.

 **40,144** children and youth participated in BEWV activities since October 2022.

 **3,183** partner organizations, mostly churches and faith-based groups, participated in BEWV workshops since October 2022.

AFRICA

SUMMARY

In seven countries across Africa, World Vision partners with churches to nurture children's faith and strengthen families. FY25 highlights include:

Democratic Republic of the Congo:

In a year of increased conflict and violence, we combined spiritual nurture activities with psychosocial care, reaching 82,765 children and adolescents affected by trauma.

Ethiopia: Celebrating Families programs reached 35,007 parents and caregivers. We also introduced peer-led support groups for parents, with 24 groups now providing safe spaces for reflection and learning. Meanwhile, 90,774 children participated in Bible studies, Sunday school, and Dare to Discover (which builds confidence and life skills for adolescents).

Ghana: The LCC program exceeded its annual target by 60%, reaching 48,938 children through Bible camps and sports-based faith programs. A new Bible reading clinic equipped 2,200 teens and 100 teachers with tools for daily Scripture engagement.

Kenya: Bible clubs, trivia games, vacation Bible schools, and Dare to Discover programs helped 146,373 children and adolescents deepen their understanding of God and His love for them. Celebrating Families workshops empowered 804 parents and caregivers to create safer, more loving homes and reduce harmful parenting practices.

Mozambique: We collaborated with youth-led parliaments and churches, mobilizing 296 people to form 29 community teams that ran awareness campaigns to help reduce abuse and violence toward children.

Rwanda: Together with churches and Scripture Union, we hosted sports activities, camps, and Bible studies for 24,500 children. Youth and technology workshops inspired teens to commit to daily devotions and reduce screen time.

Zimbabwe: Through a partnership with AWANA, a global youth discipleship organization, and school-based Scripture Union clubs, we reached 14,334 children with Bible studies and activities.



Haniel, 9 (pictured), is known as “the counselor” among his friends in Hawassa, Ethiopia. Despite caring for his younger siblings while his mother works far away, he excels in school. Some day, he hopes to be a mechanical engineer. Attending LCC classes at church has also fostered a love for learning Scripture. Haniel memorizes long Bible passages in Amharic and English and has even led entire church services. “The Lord is my everything—my life, shield, provider, and Father,” he said.

PARTICIPANT UPDATE & PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES*

 **8,407,865** people participated directly (2,191,697) and indirectly (6,216,168), including 1,494,825 children and youth since October 2022.

 **71,983** Christian church leaders and other faith and community leaders participated since October 2022.**

 **5,411** partners, mostly churches and faith-based organizations, participated since October 2022.

*Participant counts started fresh with the new phase of the campaign (beginning October 2022) and exclude FY22 numbers.

**The semiannual number included indirect participants and has been corrected to only include direct participants.

ASIA PACIFIC

SUMMARY

World Vision works with children, families, and faith leaders in three countries, including in communities where people come from different faith backgrounds. FY25 highlights include:

Indonesia: We worked with 3,642 children and teens who built leadership skills and learned from a curriculum called “Jesus My Friend.” Through this program, teenagers were empowered to become leaders and peers who provide support and a positive influence for their friends. Many of these teens become facilitators in their communities, leading sessions at regular meetings. More than 1,200 parents across eight APs participated in Celebrating Families workshops, learning positive discipline techniques and the importance of affection, acceptance, and communication at home among family members.

Philippines: We supported local churches and equipped 203 faith leaders to participate in or lead Celebrating Families workshops, parent support groups, and family

bonding activities for 1,216 parents and caregivers, as well as spiritual nurture activities for 27,532 children. Children were provided with journals to reflect on what they learned. John, a 6-year-old in the Sultan Kudarat AP, shared: “I have learned that God is good and that He created us with a good purpose, which is why we should value the life of each other. We need to help those who are in need. To take care of the blessings God has given us is the best we can do.”

Restricted country*: In Christian-minority or restricted settings, we bear witness to God’s love by nurturing children’s well-being and spiritual growth in culturally sensitive ways that align with our values. In FY25, we served 16,330 children and youth through programs, including Dare to Discover. Many shared that they have become more confident, resilient, and compassionate and have learned how to recognize their strengths, set personal goals, and build stronger bonds with their friends and families.



Pastors Joseph and Rege Ann Balanay (pictured with their daughter) lead Celebrating Families and BEWV workshops at their church in the Philippines. The couple say they are amazed by the way they see God at work in their community and the positive changes they have seen in families. “It’s a fulfilling journey to give comfort and help families who are struggling in their relationship with the members, especially husbands and wives,” said Pastor Rege Ann.

*Country name withheld due to restrictions and sensitivity in this context.

PARTICIPANT UPDATE & PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES*

-  **1,750,354** people participated directly (211,860) and indirectly (1,538,494), including 161,810 children and youth, since October 2022.
-  **4,221** Christian church leaders and other faith and community leaders participated since October 2022.
-  **621** partners, mostly churches and faith-based organizations, participated since October 2022.

CENTRAL AMERICA

SUMMARY

Here's how our work in four Central American countries contributed to Christian faith formation for children and families in FY25:

El Salvador: We partnered with 526 churches and equipped 1,561 faith leaders to serve nearly 80,000 children and 26,202 parents and caregivers through Celebrating Families, Bible studies, and children's clubs. Dylan, a 10-year-old boy who decided to be baptized after participating in discipleship classes, said: "I learned that I am important to God, and I want to serve Him with my life."

Guatemala: World Vision partnered with churches to support youth transformation networks, where 3,364 teens and young adults find mentors who help them grow in faith and develop leadership skills—an approach that's building a new generation of Christian leaders. Alongside this, 63,078 children participated in discipleship activities while 2,229 parents attended Celebrating Families workshops, learning positive discipline and communication skills based on biblical values.

Honduras: Our staff partnered with churches and pastors to promote compassion and connection in homes and communities, reaching 72,006 children and 52,755 parents with biblically based programs that teach love, forgiveness, and positive parenting. Church partnerships grew, with 228 churches now using World Vision's discipleship resources to help families experience peace and build stronger relationships rooted in God's love.

Nicaragua: We completed a special Bible project, equipping 5,858 families with Scripture and prayer tools through a curriculum called Papito Nuestro (Our Father). We also worked to strengthen relationships with local churches in our area programs through dialogue, meetings with key leadership, and resources to implement LCC programs, including Celebrating Families. Additionally, Nicaragua was one of four countries that participated in a study with Baylor University evaluating the impact of church partnerships in our LCC programs.



"I used to feel sad because I was sick," said Katherine, 10 (pictured, right), who battled fevers and seizures. "That made me feel afraid and unhappy," she said. Through the LCC project in El Salvador, she participated in Bible lessons and learned about a God who provides hope, courage, and healing. Today, Katherine's faith has grown, she doesn't feel scared anymore, and she's preparing for baptism. "My daughter comes home telling me everything she learns in class, and it's so beautiful to see her happy," said Katherine's mom.

PARTICIPANT UPDATE & PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES*



4,549,039

people participated directly (1,269,244) and indirectly (3,279,795), including 947,449 children and youth, since October 2022.



52,850

Christian church leaders and other faith and community leaders participated since October 2022.



4,634

partners, mostly churches and faith-based organizations, participated since October 2022.

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Wendy Martínez has served with World Vision in Honduras on the LCC project for two years, a role she describes as “a blessing.” She brings a deep commitment to helping children and families grow in faith. Before joining the organization, she spent five years in a ministry program, living in community and growing spiritually. During that time, Wendy felt God calling her to serve in a new way—one that combined her faith and professional training. That prayer led her to World Vision. For Wendy, the LCC project is more than a job—it’s a mission. She loves connecting with parents, children, and young people through workshops that teach practical ways to build stronger families and share God’s love. “Each workshop is a unique experience,” Wendy says. “I believe God uses us to reach those who need hope the most.”

Her greatest joy is hearing children say they’ve discovered a God who is close and loving through World Vision’s work. “That is the greatest testimony,” she shared. When asked how we can pray for her, Wendy responded, “[Pray that I will] keep reflecting God’s love and expanding my reach to more families, helping create a world filled with peace, tenderness, and harmony.”



“It fills me with great joy to hear children express how, through us as World Vision partners, they have found a God who is close, tender, and loving. For me, this is the greatest testimony that God is at work in their lives, because knowing this truth makes them different from those children we have not yet reached and gives them the tools to grow in their faith.”

—Wendy Martínez (above, right)
LCC Project Coordinator,
World Vision (Honduras)

LOOKING AHEAD

In FY26, we’ll plan the next phase of our Christian discipleship programs, strengthening the focus of our work to create deeper impact—something we’re truly excited about! The planning process will include discerning program directions, identifying areas of greatest need, and seeking the right community partners with whom we’ll continue our work. Please join us in prayer as we seek God’s guidance for these decisions.

In Central America, we’ll work with Baylor University to begin a second phase of the LCC study, taking a closer look at the way we partner with churches and faith-based organizations at the national level. And Fuller Seminary will begin phase three of a study to expand evidence on the cause-and-effect relationship between Celebrating Families programs and improved family relationships, parenting practices, and children’s spiritual growth.

THANK YOU

Thank you for supporting the Christian Discipleship Fund and creating opportunities for children, youth, and adults to experience God’s love, gain access to His Word, and strengthen their faith. Your gift is helping to bring about the transformation that occurs when parents, children, and their peers know their purpose and identity in Christ.



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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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[worldvisionphilanthropy.org/
christian-discipleship](https://worldvisionphilanthropy.org/christian-discipleship)

Christian Discipleship_Christian Discipleship Fund_Report FY25 Annual

FINANCIALS

The following financial summaries cover October 2021 through September 2025, except for the International Bible Fund, which covers October 2016 through September 2025.

Global Christian Discipleship Fund Program



Africa Program



Asia Pacific Program



Central America Program



Biblical Empowered Worldview Phase 2 Program



International Bible Fund Program



Note: These financials represent funding for programs that began during the Every Last One campaign and are still in process, as well as programs begun as part of our new campaign during fiscal year 2023 (October 2022 through September 2023).