

PRAYERS TO CHANGE THE WORLD



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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. We serve all people, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, or gender.





YOUR LEADERS

PRAY FOR YOUR LEADERS

There are 535 men and women who serve as our members of Congress and these are just some of our country's leaders. People who are government leaders, whether members of Congress, the President, the Cabinet, or even state representatives, are faced with difficult decisions daily in addition to balancing commitments to family and friends. Often, it is easy to forget about the person behind the political decisions they make. But when we take a moment to remember their humanity, it allows us to see them as a child of God who needs prayer just like you and me.

*When you are done praying for our leaders, **send a note of encouragement to your members of Congress.** Nearly 91 percent of Congress claims faith in Christ, so knowing that someone is praying for them and their work would be a real blessing.*



Praying for Congresswoman Kristi Noem at The Monode restaurant on Capitol Hill during the World Vision Pastor and Influencer Advocacy Summit in Washington, D.C. Tuesday, January 31, 2017. © 2017 World Vision/ photo by Garrett Hubbard



YOUR LEADERS

Pray for government leaders and their families.

Your leaders have families and responsibilities outside of work, but they also face some unique challenges. Between splitting their time in their home state and D.C. and working long hours in the office, many government leaders sacrifice time with their family to serve their constituents. Their families are also more often in the spotlight, causing additional stress. Pray that government leaders and their families would be strengthened by Christ, fulfilled by the time they have together, and supportive and encouraging of one another.

God, thank you for the men and women who serve our country in leadership roles and for their families. Please provide our leaders with reminders each day of why they decided to dedicate their lives to public service and use that to encourage them. Also, help them to not be frustrated or discouraged when their work takes them away from their families but provide them with peace. We also pray specifically for the wives, husbands, and children of our leaders. We ask that You draw near to them and give them the wisdom on how to best support one another.

Pray for their staff.

All our country's leaders have staff members who are working to answer phones, meet with constituents, respond to messages, and to help shape public policy. They work exhausting hours and have many difficult conversations, weighing the needs and desires of constituents. Pray for staff members as they navigate these conversations and respond to people's concerns so they have the wisdom and stamina to steward the power of the office they represent for good.

We are so grateful for the staff of our leaders, Lord. They have such an important job keeping the offices running as they should. Please wrap your arms around these men and women to show them love, grace, strength, and encouragement. Provide them with the knowledge needed to approach each situation in the best way possible. Help them to know you and see your presence in the work they do. And, Father, give them the stamina to approach each day with their best foot forward and to find a balance between work and life so that they would be sustained.



YOUR LEADERS

Pray for relationships they have with other leaders.

The leaders of our country rely on relationships to get their jobs done. Whether it is a relationship with another leader, constituents, or someone else — relationships are key to solving problems and leading a democracy. But when dealing with politics, it is easy for tensions to build. Pray that our leaders can approach each relationship they have with kindness and an attitude of openness. Ask God to guide their conversations with Christ-like love and humility.

Father, we are so grateful to be living in a democracy where we do not have one leader but many who all have a part in making sure the needs and desires of the nation's citizens are heard and met. As our leaders work together to find solutions to difficult problems, we ask that you guide them to speak respectfully and with humility to one another. Help them to show Christ-like love to those they interact with and be an advocate for their constituents and others.

Pray that their hearts would lead them to care for the most vulnerable.

Our leaders have a lot of pressing issues to address, and it can be easy for them to forget issues that they may seem further removed from or that they don't hear from constituents about. But our leaders can help end global poverty through policy change. Pray that they would hear from constituents on issues that are impacting the most vulnerable and that they would be moved to action.

Lord, thank you for leaders who care about issues impacting the most vulnerable. We ask that you move more leaders to care for those in need, especially the children. Please provide constituents with the drive to reach out to their government leaders on issues surrounding global poverty and soften leaders' hearts toward these issues.



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YOUR LEADERS

Pray that they would be courageous in representing their constituents.

Our leaders are juggling their own interests, the interest of many constituents, and sometimes the interest of organizations. It can be hard to find solutions that represent the desires and needs of everyone. Pray that our government leaders would have the tools they need to represent all their constituents well and to be courageous in upholding their values.

We are so grateful that we have leaders that not only need to listen to us but also want to, God. Please be with our government officials as they try to weigh the pros and cons of each constituent's request and give them wisdom on how to best represent everyone. Father, we also want to ask that you would give our leaders courage so that even when it is hard they would continue to boldly represent their constituents' needs. Amen.



MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

PRAY FOR MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

Millions of children and thousands of mothers die each year, mainly from complications with pregnancy or childbirth. And 99 percent of maternal deaths occur in the developing world. [By 2030](#), the global community hopes to end preventable maternal and child deaths, but that cannot be accomplished without hard work, persistence, advocacy, and a lot of prayer. Join us in praying for maternal and child health.

Pray for moms.

Each year, over [300,000 women die due to preventable causes](#) related to pregnancy and childbirth. It doesn't have to be this way. We know education about the [healthy timing and spacing of pregnancies can save lives](#), and we have cost-effective interventions to end these deaths. Pray that these mothers get the care they need and that God's hand would be on them.

God, please be with all mothers to be and moms, including new moms. Bringing a child into the world is nothing less than a miracle, and we are grateful for this gift of life. But far too many mothers die from causes related to pregnancy and childbirth that we can prevent. Please protect these women from complications as they bring life into the world and nurture their new babies, especially those who give birth in developing countries, fragile states, and difficult contexts.



Beauty, 17 months, sister of sponsored boy, Chansa, and daughter of Mildred Chidinka, 22, in Sinazongwe ADP, Zambia. Beauty and her brother can get the nutrients they need to thrive thanks to support from World Vision. They will not have to know the hunger that their mother and her siblings grew up feeling. © 2017 World Vision/ photo by Jon Warren



MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

Pray for babies.

Daily 15,000 children under the age of 5 die, in many cases due to preventable causes. Though this number has been cut in half since 1990, it is still far too many lives lost. When an infant's mother dies, it is 10 times more likely to die within the two years following her death. For vulnerable children everywhere, pray that their lives may be long and healthy and that they receive the care they need in their first 1,000 days so they not only survive but thrive.

Lord, thank you for bringing new life into this world every day. We know that the gift of life is something only you can provide. Please be with babies in their first 1,000 days – a vital time of growth. We especially want to pray for babies that are born in difficult situations whether it is poverty, fragile contexts, or any other significant challenge, God. You know the needs and challenges that these infants face. Protect these children and provide them with the nutrients, care, and love that they need to reach their full potential.

Pray for doctors and caretakers.

[Doctors, midwives, community health volunteers, and caretakers](#) around the world are helping new mothers bring babies into the world at all hours. Some of these men and women do so with minimal facilities, tools, or, in cases where a trained professional is unavailable, even training. Pray that they are provided with the resources and education needed to have the biggest impact possible on families' lives.

Thank you for men and women who are willing to care for mothers and their babies, God. Please give them wisdom and courage in their work. Provide them with the resources needed to deliver babies into this world safely, and help them to foresee and prevent any complications that could allow for unnecessary deaths or illness. Encourage them in the life-giving work they do so they can persevere when circumstances are difficult.



MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

Pray for healthy families.

To bring thriving babies into the world, it is important for a family to be healthy too. In many cases, good well-being may look like knowing how to care for their children, providing good food, living in a home that is safe from the elements and violence. But it can also come with the knowledge of healthy timing and spacing of pregnancies or from being free from poverty. Healthy families are much more likely to have healthy children and minimize barriers that could keep a child from living life to its fullest. Pray for the wellness of families globally and for extra protection for children who are born into unhealthy families.

God, thank you for all the healthy families that are in the world. But as we thank you for this, we are also mindful of children who are born into families that are broken and need healing. Today, we want to ask you to reconcile families around the world and to protect children who are born into unhealthy circumstances. We know that you are a good God with the power to make miracles happen and that you are a God of relationships, so please provide strong and healthy families for children around the world.

Pray for the Reach Every Mother and Child Act.

The [Reach Every Mother and Child Act](#) is a bipartisan piece of legislation that is aimed at finding the most efficient and cost-effective ways to improve maternal and child health. Pray that this legislation would pass and do what it is intended to: save moms and kids from preventable deaths. Also, pray for the effective use of U.S. foreign assistance in supporting these programs and that other bills like this would continue to be supported and enacted in Congress.

Thank you for leaders who care about the health of moms and kids globally, Lord. And thank you for a government that has the capacity and ability to make a difference. Provide our legislators with the drive to turn this bill into law and the knowledge of how to best use U.S. foreign assistance to support these programs. Inspire our leaders to continue to leave a legacy of bipartisan care for all of God's children. Amen.



U.S. FOREIGN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

PRAY FOR U.S. FOREIGN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

You've heard us say it over and over again, but U.S. foreign assistance programs *save millions of lives each year* while being only less than 1% of the U.S. budget. These programs immunize children, provide communities with clean water, improve literacy rates in schools thus improving the economy, and much more. Pray with us for funding for, the implementation of, and the people impacted by these programs – and the lack of these programs.

Pray for sufficient funds for life-saving foreign assistance programs.

Despite accounting for less than 1% of the federal budget, U.S. foreign assistance programs are constantly threatened by debilitating cuts. Pray that our leaders would continue to come together to prioritize this small percent of our budget and the work that these programs do. Ask God to make room in the budget for these programs.

Lord, thank you for a government that is able to and willing to help our brothers and sisters in Christ around the world who need life-saving assistance. Please protect the small amount of money that goes to support these programs and ensure that it is used in the most effective and efficient way possible.



Lay Eery (age 6) is praying to give thanks to the Lord for the food and shelter He has given to her at World Vision Cambodia's Bamboo Shoot Children Center. "Lord, please give blessings to the child scrap collectors to have food to eat, please give blessings to the farmers to produce more income, please give blessings to the patients to be cured, please help children like us to stop quarreling, fighting, and hating each other. Amen." © 2007 World Vision/ photo by Sopheak Kong



U.S. FOREIGN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Pray for bipartisanship in Congress to keep these issues at the forefront of U.S. policy.

In the U.S., support for foreign assistance has always been bipartisan. Between arguments that it provides security to our country and that helping those in need is the right thing to do, there is no question that these programs are important across party lines. Pray that members of Congress continue to work together to improve and increase U.S. foreign assistance programs.

We are thankful that our country's leaders have prioritized foreign assistance programs in a bipartisan way, God. Today, we ask that you soften more leaders' hearts toward the needs of the vulnerable. Continue to bring forth supportive messages for these programs that spark more bipartisan conversations around this funding. And, Father, we ask that you continually bless these conversations to get us closer to our goal of ending extreme poverty.

Pray for coordination across governments, organizations, and communities.

Foreign assistance programs involve many parties. For it to be effective, governments, organizations, and the communities that these programs are being implemented in need to work collaboratively to identify the root causes of problems and to find sustainable solutions. In addition, many of the issues being tackled are impacted by multiple factors; for instance, ending preventable maternal and child deaths is not as simple as building hospitals, but a solution may include gender equality, nutrition, and access to vaccines. As you can probably imagine, coordinating efforts to solve these complex issues isn't easy! Pray that God would provide clear communication and instill collaboration between all parties working to fund and implement these programs.

For the governments, organizations, and communities involved in implementing U.S. foreign assistance, we pray that You guide their coordination. Help them to find the best ways to communicate with one another so that these programs can properly address the complex issues they are intended to solve. Thank you for putting people on this earth who are willing to take on this difficult task; please help them to persevere, God.



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U.S. FOREIGN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Pray that the funds go where they are needed most.

767 million people live in extreme poverty (less than \$1.90 per day). Pray that U.S. foreign assistance will go to those who need it the most. Ask God to protect the funds, the programs, and those implementing the programs. U.S. foreign assistance does a lot of good for the most vulnerable, but we need God's protection and guidance to make these programs successful as successful as possible.

Father, there are a lot of people in need around the world and we know that you care for each one of them. We ask that you be with them and, where able, provide those in need with the opportunity to benefit from U.S. foreign assistance programs. Please protect these programs so that they can do what they are meant to: help those in dire need. Move any roadblocks that keep foreign assistance from benefiting those in the hardest to reach places. Amen.



PRAY FOR ADVOCATES

An advocate is anyone who pleads another's cause. Advocacy — whether signing a petition, writing your member of Congress, calling government officials, or even meeting in person with a representative — can be intimidating, hard, and at times, discouraging. Of course, it's not all bad or else no one would advocate! In fact, it is quite rewarding to see the fruits of persistence pay off. But to stay emboldened in advocacy, it is important to saturate this work in prayer. Pray for advocates around the world, the ones in your community, the ones you know, and perhaps your own advocacy, today.



The World Vision Pastor and Influencer Advocacy Summit in Washington, D.C. © 2017 World Vision/ photo by Garrett Hubbard

Pray for advocates to approach advocacy strategically.

For advocacy to be effective, it is important to be strategic. This means using tools like stories, stats, research, and various other tactics to make your interaction with your members of Congress stand out. But it is also important for advocates to be kind and to not only seek their own interest in these meetings but to also be open to how they can help their representatives. Pray that advocates have the wisdom to approach their advocacy strategically to better influence people to support the programs and people they advocate for.

Lord, thank you for providing tools and wisdom that can be used to strengthen our advocacy for your cause. Please help advocates use these tools with discretion. Guide their actions and their words so that their advocacy may glorify you, God.



ADVOCATES

Pray for the hearts of advocates.

As an advocate, it is easy to get tired, overwhelmed, or simply lose touch with why you started standing up for an issue in the first place. Pray for God to remind advocates of their dedication to help those in need.

Your heart breaks for the most vulnerable every day, God. Please, soften advocates' hearts toward the least of these as you talk about in Matthew 25. Don't let advocates become numb to the struggles of the widow and the orphan, the refugee, or the disabled. Rather, inspire them, Lord, whether with new stories, a powerful interaction, or simply, a nudging from You.

Pray for the encouragement and focus of advocates.

It could be that a bill doesn't pass Congress the first time around or simply that a representative doesn't respond as hoped or expected, so at times advocates need encouragement. Pray that advocates are energized in their interactions with one another and that their elected officials are supportive in their advocacy efforts. Also, pray for God to show them the impact of their advocacy no matter how small it may be so that they remain focused on the issues that are important to God.

Lord, thank you for the community of advocates at World Vision and for those who advocate for the same issues but who may not be connected to us. We ask that you bring them encouragement, not only in times of success but also in times of struggle. Punctuate the small wins so they are not overwhelmed by the complexities of the issues they are working on but see progress all along the way to stay focused on your work.



ADVOCATES

Pray that advocates are a light in their community.

When advocates raise awareness for the issues they care about in their communities and with their representatives, they amplify the voices of the people who are affected by these issues, people who are rarely heard. Pray that advocates shine a light on the issues that impact those in poverty and are an inspiration for others who are looking for ways to partner in your kingdom work.

As advocates speak out on issues that are close to their hearts, help them do it in a way that brings honor to you, Father. Help them to be a light in their community, illuminating issues that may not get much attention but that you nevertheless care about. Let that be a motivation to others to advocate on behalf of those in need.

Pray for advocates' relationships with offices.

Advocacy doesn't have to be a transaction. In fact, we believe that as Christians, advocacy should be approached relationally. God calls us to be in communion with one another, and when we work in partnership to serve God, good things happen. Pray that advocates approach their advocacy prayerfully and relationally. Ask God to bless advocate and office communication so that together they can help children everywhere thrive.

God, we are so grateful that you call us to be in fellowship with one another. Help advocates carry that charge into their meetings and work. Let advocates and their representatives see that together they can serve you by serving the least of these, who are our brothers and sisters in Christ. Amen.



CHILD PROTECTION

PRAY FOR CHILD PROTECTION

There is hope for the one billion children around the world who are affected by violence. Violence against children includes physical, emotional, and sexual violence, and many of these children suffer other harms – through abuse, neglect, or exploitation. Violence isn't one size fits all; it can include trafficking, child labor, early marriage, and other harmful traditional practices. Regardless of the type of violence, no child should have to experience the harm it can cause to their bodies, minds, and souls. Pray with us, not only for child protection, but also the empowerment of families and communities to help end violence in all its forms.

Pray for the end of violence against children.

Every child, regardless of where they live, is vulnerable to violence. Often the most susceptible and least protected are children living in extreme poverty, children with disabilities, children fleeing conflict, and girls. Pray for the end of violence everywhere and for God to protect children from harm, pain, and discouragement and instead fill them with hope, joy, and love.

God, we know that you value children and that you only want the best for them. Today we ask you to hold them even closer to you and keep them out of harm's way. Please, end violence against children for good.



Sponsored child Preeti Sholanki, 9, smiles near her home. Poor families are more likely to marry off their daughters at a young age. But in this family, two factors lower Preeti's risk of child marriage. Her parents didn't marry as young teenagers – they were 18 and 20 years old — and Preeti is in school with the full support of her parents. © 2016 World Vision/ photo by Eugene Lee



CHILD PROTECTION

Pray for protection from child marriage.

In developing countries, one in every three girls is married before reaching age 18. But girls' health, access to education, future earnings, and communities are all negatively affected by child marriage. Pray for the protection of kids from child marriage through programs that educate communities on the dangers of child marriage and give families a hand up out of poverty.

Please be with the children who are married at a young age; protect them from further harm and guide them. And, Lord, we ask you to protect all other children from child marriage. Though difficult circumstances can cause families to think that marriage is the best option for their children, help them realize the potential harm of child marriage and provide them with other ways to keep their families, especially the children, safe.

Pray for the end of child labor and trafficking.

Around the world, 4.3 million children are in forced labor. Not only can these situations cause children physical harm, but they can also block them from reaching their full potential by keeping them out of the classroom. Pray for the prevention of and protection from labor and trafficking for children.

No child should be in dangerous jobs, and no child should be without the opportunity to learn. Lord, please end child labor and trafficking so more kids can grow up experiencing childhood and getting the opportunities they need to thrive.



CHILD PROTECTION

Pray for education opportunities for children.

58 million primary-school-age children are out of school, but education can improve their job opportunities as adults, mental health and stability, and physical protection. Pray that these children can go to school and learn so that they are closer to reaching their God-given potential.

Father, thank you for giving many children the opportunity for education. But for those who don't have the opportunity to learn — whether it is because they are female and their families feel they would have greater value elsewhere, the route to school is long or dangerous providing opportunities for traffickers, a child is forced to work, or any other reason — open new doors. Please, provide children in the hardest to reach places with access to quality education in their community.

Pray for a holistic and unified approach to protecting children.

If we solved the problems of child trafficking, child marriage, and child labor, there would still be more than 800 million children in the world affected by violence. But if we address the root causes of these issues, such as ending poverty, improving health, and increasing resilience, increasing access to education and safe places to play, and supporting parents and caregivers, families will be better equipped to take care of and protect their children. Pray for communities, governments, and nongovernmental organizations to work together to find holistic, unified approaches to protect children from all forms of violence.

To truly protect children, we know that there must be a unified approach that tackles these issues at their base, and we know that these problems are complex. But you are bigger than these problems, Father. Bring together people who will work to protect all children from violence and provide them with solutions that will have a lasting impact.



CHILD PROTECTION

Pray for U.S. leadership and legislation to help protect children from violence.

Bills like the [Trafficking Victims Protection Act](#) and continued funding for programs to fight child labor provided by the [International Labor Affairs Bureau](#) are just some of the ways that the U.S. government can take the lead and pursue holistic solutions to end violence against children. Pray for bipartisan leadership on child protection issues through the introduction and implementation of laws to end violence. Also, protect these bills from being held up without compromising their strength and effectiveness.

Thank you, God, for leaders that care about protecting children. Continue to guide them toward bipartisan legislation that will bring us closer to a world without violence. Specifically, we ask for the continued funding for programs working to end violence against children and for the passage and reauthorization of bills like the Trafficking Victims Protection Act. Amen.



PRAY FOR EDUCATION

Around the world, there are various barriers to education. There may be a lack of teachers or tools. Perhaps families feel their children would have greater value elsewhere. Some students may live amidst conflict and the act of attending school itself is unsafe. In many situations, policies that support child education are not well enforced. But, education is critical to protecting children from exploitation, child marriage, and other harms. It can increase their projected earning potential over a lifetime and strengthen whole communities. The benefits are vast, so education must be prioritized for every child. Pray that all children get access to safe and effective education.



Children in class at a school in Moyo ADP, Zambia. © 2017 World Vision/ photo by Jon Warren

Pray for classrooms and resources.

In many parts of the world, classrooms with desks, chairs, books, pencils, and learning tools are not guaranteed, or in some cases even a classroom itself. But these supplies make schools work and make learning more efficient. Ask God to fill more classrooms around the world with resources that are needed, and to provide spaces, to help children learn in the most effective way possible.

Father, we are grateful that many children can learn with the ease of chairs, desks, and classroom tools. But for those who don't, please find a way to fill their classrooms so they have all the tools they need to be fully present and successful at school.



EDUCATION

Pray for teachers.

To reach Global Goal 4, which aims to provide quality education and learning opportunities for all, [UNESCO estimates that there will need to be nearly 69 million new teachers by 2030](#). Ask God to inspire more people to teach and to provide them with necessary training so more children can receive an education. Pray that teachers are valued in communities as a necessary resource.

A teacher plays such an important role in a child's life. God, be with teachers, especially those working in places that experience extreme poverty, conflict, or other challenges. Give them wisdom on how to interact with their students, and provide them with joy for the great work they do. Let them feel support and love from community members. We also pray for more people to be inspired to teach — make their calling clear, guiding them along your path.

Pray for children to have access to education.

58 million primary-school-age children are not in school; over half of these are girls. Children face different barriers to education depending on where they live and their family's individual struggles. Things that many of us never think of or are often taken for granted can stand between a child and their education, such as a walk that is miles long each way and puts a child at risk for trafficking, being a girl, whose birth was not registered so she does not have papers to enroll in school, or having access to education but being unable to afford the uniform or clothing required to meet dress code standards. Without the benefit of being in school, children's prospects for a positive future are diminished. Pray that more children gain access to quality education.

Father, thank you for the ability to learn and the opportunities that come with an education. For the 58 million primary-school-age children who are out of school — intervene. Take away barriers, open doors, and provide solutions so all children can sit in class and have the chance of a brighter future.



EDUCATION

Pray that every parent sees the value of education for all their children.

If parents don't understand the full value of education, children are at risk of filling roles other than student. A girl may be perceived to have more value gathering clean water for the household — a walk that could take hours and make it impossible to attend classes. Or, child marriage may seem like the best way to protect a young girl and cushion other children in the household from impacts of extreme poverty. In many cases the family income a boy or girl can contribute to immediately in a factory or field for a family outweigh the strong economic and other benefits that will come with education as an adult. When families understand the value of education they are more likely to find a way to keep their children in school. Pray that more parents realize the importance of education and make it a priority for their children.

Though parents may think keeping their kids out of school offers immediate benefits, God, we know the benefits of an education are far greater. Provide children with access to quality education, and help their families see the importance of school so they can become the person you intend them to be.

Pray that school is a safe space for children.

In addition to learning, formal education in schools offers children socioeconomic opportunities later in life, psychological stability, and physical protection. But conflict can keep schools from being a haven. As just one example, **one-third of schools in Syria are not in use because they have been damaged, destroyed, or occupied.** Pray that schools are not targets during conflict and that teachers can facilitate a safe space for children.

We know not all children are safe at home or in their communities, Lord. For children who are from an area experiencing great conflict, provide them with a safe place to learn. We pray that wars end, but that at the very least bullets and bombs are not directed at schools or other places where children gather. And please, give teachers and administrators the resources they need to protect children when they are able.



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EDUCATION

Pray that U.S. leadership and legislation continues to improve child education worldwide.

The U.S. can play an important role in ensuring more children receive an education globally. Bills like the [Reinforcing Education Accountability in Development \(READ\) Act](#) and the [Protecting Girls' Access to Education Act](#) are two examples of how the U.S. has prioritized education for children in need. Pray that leaders continue to reinforce passed legislation and leverage the power of U.S. foreign assistance to ensure more children are in school.

God, thank you for the part the U.S. has played in improving child education globally. Ignite a fire in our leaders to prioritize and reinforce bills like the Protecting Girls' Access to Education Act. We are so happy that the READ Act became law, Lord, and we pray that it would make a difference in the lives of many children. Amen.



PRAY FOR FIELD STAFF

World Vision has projects in nearly 100 countries around the world. For these projects to deliver good results, we rely on men and women who are dedicated to serving those in poverty and to showing God's love to every child. In many cases, these people were born or grew up in the communities where they now work. Pray for these humanitarians, their work, their communities, and their families.

Pray that resources get to the communities that need them.

For our staff to effectively do their jobs, they need resources. Whether that is money, tools, education materials, or something else, these resources enable staff to make a difference in the lives of families around the world. Thank God for all that he has done through World Vision thus far, and pray that humanitarians would be blessed with even more resources to help people in need.

Father, thank you for using World Vision to do your kingdom work and for all that has been accomplished over the years to decrease poverty and improve the lives of children around the world. We ask that you continue to work in the programs that are going on around the world and to provide the offices and staff with the resources needed to do their jobs.



Grace, 9, talks with World Vision staff member David Mzungu April 7, 2015, at her family's home in Marafa, Kenya. She attends Vithunguni Primary School in Marafa, Kenya. Because she is sponsored, she enjoys access to clean water at home and at school and has received a school uniform, backpack, bed sheets, and ongoing medical care. © 2015 World Vision/ photo by Chris Huber



FIELD STAFF

Pray for good stewardship of skills, resources, and time.

For the greatest potential impact, it is important that programs are implemented with thought, precision, and wisdom. Pray that God guides World Vision staff who are implementing programs in nearly 100 countries. Ask him to guide their stewardship of the tools, the time, and the assistance they are provided with so that the programs benefit the most people possible.

Give programs staff the wisdom needed to be good stewards of all that you have given them. Allow their work to help as many people as possible in a way that is empowering and impactful.

Pray for the safety of staff and their families in the field.

Humanitarians have a hard job. They are serving people who struggle due to extreme poverty, conflict in their community, and violence. Responding to natural disasters, working amidst violence, and exposure to disease are just a few examples of how staff place themselves in dangerous situations each day. Pray for the safety of the programs, the staff, and their families as they serve people in need in unsafe and complex contexts.

God, protect the staff working in the field and their families. We know that they can be in difficult and dangerous situations, and we pray that you wrap your arms around them. Thank you that there are people willing to immerse themselves in the communities where they work, placing others over themselves. Bless these staff and their work, protect them from harm's way and give them strength to carry on.



FIELD STAFF

Pray for the relationships that humanitarians build with community members.

The ability to listen to, connect to, and relate to community members they serve is important to the success of projects staff are implementing. Pray that the staff can make meaningful relationships with the communities that they work in and that those relationships, in turn, improve the strength of the programs.

Lord, you value relationships, and we hope that our ministry reflects your values. Please be with humanitarians as they work with community members. Guide their conversations, help them reflect your love, and allow them to have the humility and skills needed to listen to and serve the communities they are working in. We ask that these things would improve the programs these men and women are implementing.

Pray that staff are fulfilled and joyful in their work.

As rewarding as it can be to serve people in need, save lives, and build up communities, it can also be exhausting and difficult. Pray for the spirit of each staff member. Ask God to fill their hearts through the work that they do so that they can rest in his unending joy and love.

While these men and women are in the field serving you, Father, we ask that you go with them. Fulfill them in their work, enrich their lives, and encourage them when the work is difficult. We know that you have a great plan for each one of these staff people, and we thank you for that. Amen.



REFUGEES

PRAY FOR REFUGEES

Currently, the number of refugees and displaced people in the world is unprecedented. With over 65 million people displaced due to conflict and strife, there is a great need for child protection, humanitarian assistance, and peace. Pray for refugees and displaced people today.

Pray for children fleeing their homes.

Over half of all refugees are kids. Children who flee their homes may miss out on receiving an education, are at greater risk of trafficking and child marriage, and in some cases, are separated from their families. Ask God to protect these children, keep them with family or loved ones, and provide them with the resources they need to overcome the violence and instability they experience.

God, no child should have to leave their home due to conflict, persecution, or famine. We ask that you are with the millions of children who have been displaced in recent years and to protect them. Provide them with the support they need from family and others to help them thrive despite the difficult circumstances they have faced.



Syrian refugee mother and children who fled their home and now benefit from World Vision programs in Bekaa Valley, Lebanon. © 2016 World Vision/ photo by Jon Warren



REFUGEES

Pray for displaced families.

Families who are displaced from their homes face challenging conditions. They are without their normal routines, can't receive a stable income, and are subject to living in overcrowded camps, which are trying to keep up with the large influx of people. Pray for families who have been displaced from their homes — that they are provided with necessities, that parents are able to find work and keep their children safe, and that they can eventually return home.

When families are displaced, keep them together, Lord. Let them support one another and lean on you in these hard times. Also, give them the necessities they need so that they can stay healthy and so that children don't fall behind in school or become at risk for other forms of violence such as child marriage and labor. Finally, we pray that these families stay hopeful and can return home one day.

Pray for neighboring countries.

When people are displaced from their homes, host countries take on the burden of providing refugees with a place to stay — providing resources, shelter, and sometimes education or work. Pray for these countries and the people in them who are opening their communities. Ask God to provide for them so that they can take care of their own community members while also serving those who are in great need.

While we are grateful for neighboring countries and the individuals who help refugees, we know that this can be draining on resources and spirits. Be with countries who have opened their doors to refugees and encourage them in this great act of love they are taking a part in. Provide for these communities as well as for the refugees who they are serving.



REFUGEES

Pray for the end of violence.

Violence in Syria, South Sudan, Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and more has affected millions of people, many of them children. Violence can permanently impact the architecture of a child's brain and the immune system, leading to poor health over the course of their lifetime and a shorter lifespan. Pray for the end of violence in all places and in all forms so that more children can survive and thrive.

Father, please end all violence. Specifically, we pray that you would put an end to violence caused by conflict and strife that is destabilizing the lives of millions and causing people to leave their homes. Bring peace so children can reach their full potential.

Pray for U.S. leadership.

Our country's leaders have the power and influence to help refugees in many ways. They can allocate funding to help with basic needs in refugee camps. In some cases, they may be involved in a political conversation with other governments that could help promote peace. Or they can pass and enforce legislation that helps protect refugee children like the Protecting Girls' Education Act, which aims to place marginalized children into the classroom. Ask God to guide our leaders to compassion and to consider all the options in front of them. Pray that our leaders in Congress would work together to find solutions that honor God and serve children in need regardless of where they are born.

We need you God, and so do our leaders. Draw near to them and help them to have compassion on those in vulnerable situations and to prayerfully consider how you want us as individuals and as a country to help those who have been displaced from their homes. Give them the courage to speak the truth and to find ways to ensure all children are provided with the necessities needed to become who you intended them to be. Amen.



THE END OF POVERTY

PRAY FOR THE END OF POVERTY

The Global Goals aim to end poverty by 2030. People living in poverty often lack resources, training, and the opportunity to easily break the cycle of poverty they are living in. **Thus**, to reach these goals, a lot of hard work, prayer, and collaboration are necessary to give families and individuals a hand up out of poverty.

Pray for people who live in poverty.

Poverty affects families in different ways. For some, it means trying to fall asleep with growling stomachs because there isn't enough food. For others, it could mean missing school because they must walk for miles to get clean water each day. In a lot of cases, the lack of access to clean water, nutritious food, reliable health services, and quality education are all connected — caused by poverty and further drivers of poverty. Pray for people who deal with these challenges every day; ask God to protect them, comfort them, and to provide them a way to break out of this cycle.



Grace, 5-years-old, carries a 3-liter jug of dirty swamp water to her home in Morungatuny AP, Uganda. ©2017 World Vision/ photo by Jon Warren

Father, thank you for caring for each of your children regardless of circumstance, location, and resources. Today, we ask a special blessing over all people who live in poverty, especially children. Please protect them, and present them with opportunities to lift themselves out of poverty so they can live life to the fullest.



THE END OF POVERTY

Pray for sustainable solutions.

When sustainable solutions are used to tackle root causes of poverty and when projects are implemented in a way that partners with communities, change can last. Pray that as new solutions to poverty are innovated, communities own the projects resulting in sustainable progress.

God, let solutions be implemented in the best way possible and let the learnings from these solutions be passed down to future generations and adapted to address new challenges over time.

Pray for coordination among communities, governments, and organizations.

Coordination and collaboration among all parties are necessary to successfully end poverty. By working together, we can learn from the diverse experiences each group brings to the table. Pray that communities, governments, and organizations work together well and that more people are inspired to join in this work.

We celebrate that people from many backgrounds are working to end poverty, Lord. Help us to challenge one another so we find solutions to reach the most people possible and provide lasting change. And, please, let our collaboration inspire more people to join the fight against poverty.

Pray for the end of poverty in all its forms.

We want children everywhere to have life in all its fullness, and God calls us to be his hands and feet. Ask God to direct us as we work to bring the kingdom of heaven on earth — ending poverty around the globe.

*Ending poverty is a big goal, but we know that with you it is possible. Guide our actions as we work together to make your kingdom come here on earth. And, when this goal is accomplished, let it **be** a testament to you and your great love for us.*