



Food Security – Christian Studies

Food is essential to live a safe and healthy life. In order for people to grow and develop, food must be **available**, food must be **affordable** and food must be **prepared safely**.

For most people in Australia and other high income countries, there is plenty of food in homes and on supermarket shelves. However, people living in poverty have limited access to food. Those who live in poverty may not have enough money to purchase sufficient food or have access to land on which to produce their own food.

In 2014, approximately 805 million people in the world did not have enough food to lead a healthy, active life. That's about one in nine people on Earth. The vast majority of these people live in developing countries. Poor nutrition is the underlying cause in nearly half (45%) of all deaths of children under five years old – 3.1 million children each year. Like other important resources, food is not equally distributed across the world.



Tamin lives in Bangladesh where one in three children under five are underweight. In Australia, less than one in 100 children under five is underweight. Watch her story online on the Get Connected: Food security page.



In 2015, Sarah travelled with five other World Vision Youth Ambassadors to learn more about food security in Timor-Leste. Watch their story on the Get Connected: Food security page at worldvision.com.au/schoolresources

1. Watch the video Food and the environment (3 min 27 sec) and make notes to summarise the information.
2. Watch the videos Tamin's Story (2 min 15 sec) and Youth Ambassador's in Timor-Leste (2 min 01 sec) with a partner. Discuss the purpose of each text and its use of language, voiceover, music and images to achieve that purpose. Evaluate the effectiveness of each text.
3. As a class, play the Global food inequality – simulation game.

All videos and the simulation game instructions are available on the Get Connected: Food security page at worldvision.com.au/schoolresources

Read the following Bible passages. What insights do they give about God and his purpose for the world?

Genesis 1:26-31

²⁶ Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground."

²⁷ So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

²⁸ God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

²⁹ Then God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. ³⁰And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground – everything that has the breath of life in it – I give every green plant for food." And it was so.

³¹ God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.

2 Corinthians 8:13-15

¹³ Our desire is not that others might be relieved while you are hard pressed, but that there might be equality. ¹⁴At the present time your plenty will supply what they need, so that in turn their plenty will supply what you need. The goal is equality, ¹⁵as it is written: "The one who gathered much did not have too much, and the one who gathered little did not have too little."

These passages tell us about God's intention for the _____. They speak of a God who generously provides a world that is very _____ and where there is plenty of _____ for humanity.

God also created human beings to be _____ and take _____ of this world.

God does not want great _____ in the world. His desire is that people with _____ would share their food and resources with those who have little.

care

good

plenty

food

world

responsible

inequality

Matthew 15:29-39

Jesus left there and went along the Sea of Galilee. Then he went up on a mountainside and sat down. Great crowds came to him, bringing the lame, the blind, the crippled, the mute and many others, and laid them at his feet; and he healed them. The people were amazed when they saw the mute speaking, the crippled made well, the lame walking and the blind seeing. And they praised the God of Israel. Jesus called his disciples to him and said, "I have compassion for these people; they have already been with me three days and have nothing to eat. I do not want to send them away hungry, or they may collapse on the way." His disciples answered, "Where could we get enough bread in this remote place to feed such a crowd?" "How many loaves do you have?" Jesus asked. "Seven," they replied, "and a few small fish." He told the crowd to sit down on the ground. Then he took the seven loaves and the fish, and when he had given thanks, he broke them and gave them to the disciples, and they in turn to the people. They all ate and were satisfied. Afterward the disciples picked up seven basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. The number of those who ate was four thousand, besides women and children. After Jesus had sent the crowd away, he got into the boat and went to the vicinity of Magadan.

The people were _____ when they saw all that Jesus could do. Jesus had _____ for the people. He cared that they didn't have food to eat. God cares that people are _____.

Jesus gave _____ for the food. He acknowledged that God was the creator and provider of all food.

Jesus gave the disciples the _____ of distributing the food so that everyone had some. God provided enough for everyone but Jesus gave the disciples the job of sharing it out.

thanks

hungry

responsibility

amazed

compassion