The Core Humanitarian Standards According to the Bible

What motivates us to link CHS with biblical perspectives?

We are ACT (Action By Churches Together). ACT Alliance is a coalition of churches and church-related organizations operating in Ethiopia to create positive and sustainable change in the lives of poor and marginalized people. Setting a vision to demonstrate God's unconditional purpose to all people, ACT Ethiopia forum is motivated to predicate its endeavors on scriptural grounds.

The Church and its interfaith partnership has long established heavenly standards to gauge the quality of its services hence we believe our measurement of excellence by no means fall short of universal benchmarks.

The following slides try to link CHS to founding values and principles of Christianity which ACT alliance uphold.

Humanitarian response is appropriate and relevance

• COMPASSION, CARE, DIAKONIA

(Matthew 25:34-46, Isaiah 58:6-7, James 2:14-17)

- "Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.' "Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me." Matthew 25:34-46
- "Is this not the fast that I have chosen: To loose the bonds of wickedness, To undo the heavy burdens, To let the oppressed go free, And that you break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, And that you bring to your house the poor who are cast out; When you see the naked, that you cover him, and not hide yourself from your own flesh? *Isaiah 58:6-7*
- What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him? If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, and one of you says to them, "Depart in peace, be warmed and filled," but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit? Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. James 2:14-17

Humanitarian response is effective and timely

ACTION THROUGH ACTIVE FAITH, COGNIZANT OF GOD'S TIMING

(Ecc 3:1, Gal 6:9, Ps 12:5, Ps 75:2)

- "To everything *there is* a season, A time for every purpose under heaven" *Ecc* 3:1
- "And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart" Gal 6:9
- "When I choose the proper time, I will judge uprightly" Ps 75:2

CHS FROM CHRISTIAN VALUES PERSPECTIVE

Humanitarian response strengthen local capacity and avoids negative effects

- PROTECTIVE CARE, GUIDE WITH LOVE (1st Tim 6:18, 1ST Cor 8:9, Rom 14:13, Ps 68:6)
- God sets the solitary in families; He brings out those who are bound into prosperity" Ps 68:6
- "Let them do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share" 1st Tim 6:18
- "But beware lest somehow this liberty of yours become a stumbling block to those who are weak" 1st Cor 8:9
- "Therefore let us not judge one another anymore, but rather resolve this, not to put a stumbling block or a cause to fall in *our* brother's way" Rom 14:3

Humanitarian response is based on communication , participation and feedback

- FAMILIAL INCLUSIVENESS, RIGHTOUSNESS, HONESTY (Eph 2:19, Eph 4:25, Deu 5:1, Mic 6:8)
- "Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God" Eph 2:19
- "Therefore, putting away lying, "Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor," for we are members of one another" Eph 4:25
- "And Moses called all Israel, and said to them: "Hear, O Israel, the statutes and judgments which I speak in your hearing today, that you may learn them and be careful to observe them" Deu 5:1
- He has shown you, O man, what *is* good; And what does the Lord require of you but to do justly, To love mercy, And to walk humbly with your God?" *Mic* 6:8

Complaints are welcome and addressed

- TREATING WITH JUSTICE, ATTENDING WITH THE FEEBLE (Act 6:1, Neh 5:1, Ps 140:12, Jas 2:1)
- "Now in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, there arose a complaint against the Hebrews by the Hellenists, because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples..." Act 6:1
- "And there was a great outcry of the people and their wives against their Jewish brethren....After serious thought, I rebuked the nobles and rulers" Neh 5:1
- "I know that the Lord will maintain the cause of the afflicted, and justice for the poor" Ps 140:12
- "My brethren, do not hold the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with partiality" Jas 2:1

Humanitarian response is coordinated and complementary

- SERVITUDE WITHIN UNITY, ONE BODY DIFFERENT PARTS (Rom 12:5-6, 1 Ki 5:13-16, Eph 4:16)
- "so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them" Rom 12:5-6
- "from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love" *Eph 4:16*
- "Then King Solomon raised up a labor force out of all Israel;
 ...Adoniram was in charge of the labor force...eighty thousand
 who quarried stone in the mountains...three thousand three
 hundred...who supervised the people..." 1 Ki 5:13-16

Humanitarian actors continuously learn and improve

- GROWTH TO MATURITY, PERPETUAL DESIRE FOR WISDOM (1st Tim 4:15, Phil 3:13, 2Cor 8:7, Pr 1:5)
- "Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all" 1st Tim 4:15
- "Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing *I do*, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead" *Phil 3:13*
- "A wise *man* will hear and increase learning, And a man of understanding will attain wise counsel" *Pr 1:5*
- "But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" 2nd Pet 3:18

Staffs are supported to do their Job effectively

• ALL ROUNDED EXCELLENCE, SERVANT LEADERSHIP (2nd Tim 3:10, Ex 31:2-6, 2nd Pet 1:1-5)

• "But you have carefully followed my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, perseverance." 2nd Tim 3:10

- "His divine power has given to us all things that *pertain* to life and godliness" 2nd Pet 1:1-5
- "See, I have called by name Bezalel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah. And I have filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom, in understanding, in knowledge, and in all *manner* of workmanship, to design artistic works, to work in gold, in silver, in bronze, in cutting jewels for setting, in carving wood, and to work in all *manner of* workmanship." Ex 31:2-6

Resources are managed and used responsibly for their intended purpose

CUSTODIANSHIP, STEWARDSHIP

(Col 3:23, Luk 16:11, Gen 2:15)

- "Then the Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it" *Gen 2:15*
- "Therefore if you have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true *riches?" Luk 16:11*
- "servants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh, not with eye-service, as men-pleasers, but in sincerity of heart, fearing God. And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men?" Col 3:23