

Acting on AIDS Recommended Book List

The below list of books is in no way comprehensive. New books on the topic come out regularly. Acting on AIDS will share books we feel are useful with those on our email list. Feel free to share with us books you have found helpful as well by sending an email to actingonaids@worldvision.ca.

HIV/AIDS and Poverty

The aWAKE Project: Uniting Against the African AIDS Crisis, Nelson Mandela, Bono, George W. Bush, Jeff Sachs, Kofi Annan, Philip Yancey, Richard Stearns, et al, W Publishing Group, 2002.

“In this all-new collection of stories and essays, some of America’s and the world’s most well-known believers encourage readers to respond with urgency and compassion to this horrific crisis.”

The End of Poverty: Economic Possibilities for Our Time, Jeffrey Sachs, The Penguin Press, 2005.

“Celebrated economist Jeffrey Sachs has a plan to eliminate extreme poverty around the world by 2025. If you think that is too ambitious or wildly unrealistic, you need to read this book. His focus is on the one billion poorest individuals around the world who are caught in a poverty trap of disease, physical isolation, environmental stress, political instability, and lack of access to capital, technology, medicine, and education. The goal is to help these people reach the first rung on the “ladder of economic development” so they can rise above mere subsistence level and achieve some control over their economic futures and their lives. To do this, Sachs proposes nine specific steps, which he explains in great detail in *The End of Poverty*.” (Available from WorldVisionResources.com)

Race Against Time: Searching for Hope in AIDS-Ravaged Africa, Stephen Lewis, House of Anansi Press, 2005.

““I have spent the last four years watching people die.” With these wrenching words, humanitarian Stephen Lewis begins his personal, often searing insider’s account of Africa’s plight and the wealthy world’s betrayal. Lewis recounts how in 2000, global leaders agreed to eight Millennium Development Goals, promising the poor such essentials as primary education, basic health and a reversal of AIDS by 2015. In audacious prose, alive with anecdotes ranging from maddening to hilarious to heart-breaking, Lewis shows why and how the promises can’t be kept. *Race Against Time* probes the appalling gap between vision and current reality, but also offers bracingly attainable solutions.”



***Witness to Aids*, Edwin Cameron, I.B. Tauris, 2005.**

“When Edwin Cameron announced to a stunned local and international media that he - one of South Africa's most prominent citizens - was himself living with the virus cutting swathes through the population of the continent, the impact was immediate. In *Witness to AIDS*, Edwin Cameron's compelling memoir, he grapples with the meaning of HIV/AIDS: for him as he confronts the possibility of his own lingering death, and for all of us in facing up to one of the most desperate challenges of our time. In his intensely personal account of survival, Cameron blends elements of his destitute childhood with his daily duties as a senior judge and international human rights lawyer, while focusing always on the epidemic's central issues: stigma, unjust discrimination, and, most vitally, the life-and-death question of access to treatment. Cameron's remarkable story of his own survival in an epidemic that has cost millions of lives is at once moving and uplifting, sobering and ultimately hopeful.”

Christian Perspectives on HIV&AIDS, Poverty and Social Change

***A Guide to Acting on AIDS*, ed. Jyl Hall, Laura Barton, and James Pedrick, 2006.**

“*A Guide to Acting on AIDS*” is designed to equip Christian college & university students with a deeper awareness of the global AIDS pandemic, why their faith should inform their response, and how they can put their faith into action. This practical study examines HIV/AIDS through a variety of different disciplines and perspectives, such as the scientific, socioeconomic, political, and humanitarian impacts of the disease. Each chapter explores what the Bible says about these issues and what is being done globally to respond. The guide is designed for individuals or for groups and includes discussion questions and proposed action items for the readers.”

***Children in Crisis*, ed. Phyllis Kilbourn, 1996.**

“AIDS, abandonment, sexual abuse, forced labour, war, urban violence, and girl-child discrimination destroy far too many children's lives around the world. Kilbourn moves you to a biblical response to these global crises.”

***The Hope Factor: Engaging the Church in the HIV/AIDS Crisis*, Charles Colson, Sen. William Frist, John Piper, and Richard Stearns, et al, Authentic Media, 2003.**

“This groundbreaking volume brings together today's foremost Christian thinkers and practitioners who are fighting the HIV/AIDS pandemic around the world. The authors outline the extent of this global crisis, provide case studies detailing noteworthy interventions, and offer biblical reflections on HIV/AIDS.”



***Local Ownership Global Change*, ed. Roland Hoksbergen and Lowell M. Ewert, 2002.**

“As global change occurs at breathtaking speed and our communities seemingly become more violent and desolate, many people have come to understand the importance of promoting human development in all corners of the world. Yet we must still grapple with the question of what role civil society should play in that effort and how it should go about addressing those challenges. This book covers the spectrum of that debate within Christian circles.”

***Mustard Seed vs. McWorld*, Tom Sine, Baker Books, 1999.**

“Because Tom Sine thinks carefully about our past and our future, we can take seriously what he says about our present. *Mustard Seed vs. McWorld* is an important book about our present and how, with divine creativity, we might envision our future. An important read that we neglect to our peril.”

***Rethinking AIDS Prevention*, Dr. Edward Green, Harvard University Press, 2003.**

“This is not another book about how AIDS is out of control in Africa and Third World nations, or one complaining about the inadequacy of secured funds to fight the pandemic. The author looks objectively at countries that have succeeded in reducing HIV infection rates...along with a worrisome flip side to the progress. This book is a bellwether in the escalating controversy, offering persuasive evidence in support of the ABC approach and exposing the fallacies and motivations of its opponents.”

***Rich Christians in an Age of Hunger*, Ronald Sider, 1997.**

“Do you want to make a true difference in the world? Dr. Ron Sider does. He has, since before he first published *Rich Christians in an Age of Hunger* in 1978. Despite a dramatic reduction in world hunger since then, 34,000 children still die daily of starvation and preventable disease, and 1.3 billion people, worldwide, remain in abject poverty. So, the professor of theology went back to re-examine the issues by twenty-first century standards. Finding that Conservatives blame morally reprehensible individual choices, and Liberals blame constrictive social and economic policy, Dr. Sider finds himself agreeing with both sides. In this new look at an age-old problem, he offers not only a detailed explanation of the causes, but also a comprehensive series of practical solutions, in the hopes that Christians like him will choose to make a difference.”

***Walking With the Poor*, Bryant Myers, Orbis, 1999.**

“Drawing on theological and biblical resources, secular development theory and work done by Christians among the poor, Myers develops a theoretical framework for transformational development and provides cutting-edge tools for those working alongside the poor.”



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Note: that some of the above books may be ordered from World Vision USA's resource department (WorldVisionResources.com). They do ship to Canada, with charges varying based on the volume of books ordered. These books may also be found at major booksellers such as chapter.indigo.ca and amazon.ca.

