



DVD Notes—Food Matters

*This ALWS Movie challenges students and teachers to consider issues of food, poverty, resources, hunger and the ways ALWS and other organisations support the poor in the world.
Length of movie: 6:45min*

Chapter 1 – Wasting Precious Resources (00:00 – 1:35)

You bought your wristband.
 And paid the gold coin donation at school
 Now you think you've done your bit.
 Is that where we stop?
 Because we are more interested in Facebook,
 Twittter, Myspace?
 We are always so busy doing other things....
 Do we REALLY have the time to think about anything else?
 But let's take a short moment to ask ourselves ...
 Do we know what real poverty is?
 Even if we do, do we REALLY care that much?
 Consider this ...

<p>Finding food in Australia. Finding food in Sudan. Morning tea in Australia. Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner in Sudan Alfresco dining in Australia. Alfresco dining in Sudan.</p>	}	(images important)
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Did you know...
 Rich countries throw away 3 million tonnes of food each year.
 That's equivalent to filling up the MCG 5 times!
 \$5.2 billion of food is wasted every in year in Australia.
 This could feed all the hungry children in the world.
But in a world of plenty, a huge number go hungry.

In poorer countries, cereals like wheat, rice and maize (corn) are staples in most people's diets.
 The world produces around 300kg of grain per person per year.
If the food was shared equally there would be enough to feed everyone.

Chapter 2 – Causes of Hunger (1:36 – 2:14)

Over 9 million people die of hunger worldwide each

year.

That's like the whole population of both NSW and WA wiped out every year.

These deaths are preventable and we can do something about it!

But there are so many causes of hunger we feel we don't have the power to change:

- War
- Famine, disaster, drought
- Soaring food prices
- Unreliable crops due to the effect of climate change
- Overfishing
- Trade rules that favour the rich

Chapter 3 – Results of Hunger (2:15 – 3:00)

It's so hard to hear the constant statistics, like how

- A child dies from hunger every five seconds
- Chronic hunger stunts growth
- Hunger increases the threat of disease and leaves people feeling weak.

"I am worried about caring from my children. There is not enough food for them. They are hungry and so complain and cry". Alimerina from Sudan

- Hunger stops children attending school and reduces learning when they do attend
- Hunger stops adults from working
- Hunger increases health risks for babies and pregnant mothers.

There are so many things we feel we can't change.

But there are ways we can help people become self-sufficient.

"What I'm interested in seeing you do is: Sharing your food with the hungry Inviting in the homeless and poor into your homes..." Isaiah 58:6





Food Matters—ALWS Awareness Week 2012



Chapter 4 – ALWS Support (3:00 – 5:00)

Through ALWS you help farmers and households produce good crops all year round. And year after year. Without going into debt or destroying their land.

In Mozambique poor communities were encouraged by Lutheran staff to grow fruit and vegetable gardens. Now these communities are healthier and happier. Farmers can provide for their families and also sell any extras at the markets. ALWS work with people to plant crops for the coming season so that they are not reliant on handouts any longer than necessary, but are self-sufficient.

ALWS introduce grain banks of rice, wheat and corn in communities where drought is common. Mrs Chim from Cambodia was helped by a rice bank. She was given 50kg of rice seed to plant. After harvest, Mrs Chim repaid the 50kg plus 10kg of interest. Each harvest provides about a tonne of rice. So there is plenty for the family to eat and the rest could be sold at market.

ALWS also encourages livestock banks where poor families can raise animals to sell at the markets, or raise herds as a small business. In Nepal, chicken and goat banks are used to support poor families and their communities.

ALWS strongly supports local industry, products and labour so that communities can benefit in the long term.

It argues for fairer trade in agricultural products, ensuring food producers in developing countries are less disadvantaged.

ALWS works hard to ensure that people are living with dignity.

FREE from oppression and poverty.

Chapter 5 – World Food Program (5:00 – 5:30)

ALWS works alongside the World Food Program. The WFP supports the people by providing food aid so they can survive.

When drought was affecting southern Sudan, the WFP gave out food aid for the short term survival for the people, And Australian and NZ Lutherans supplied seeds and tools for crops to be planted.



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At the end of the drought, crops helped feed the people for the long term.

Chapter 6 – What Can I Do? (5:30 – 6:45)

World hunger can seem overwhelming and we ask ourselves ...

What can I do?

- We could complain that our politicians should do something about it!
- Or expect rich people to donate more!
- Or demand successful businesses develop ideas!

But are **you** willing to be part of the solution?

What if you could help end world hunger without spending any money or even leaving your house?

Would you do it?

Here are some ways you can help reduce hunger ...

- Write a letter to your local newspaper about global poverty.
- Eat less meat.
- Link ALWS to your Facebook, Twitter or MySpace page.
- Reduce food wastage in your household—only buy what you can eat.
- Look for the 'fair trade' label on produce such as coffee, chocolate and crafts.
- Tell your government that you care about poverty.
- Host an educational fundraiser – help others learn about world poverty.
- Support long-term projects run by ALWS.
- Give a little – impact a lot.

It is time to stand up, speak out and take action.

“It is important for people to realise that we can make progress against world hunger, that world hunger is not hopeless. The world enemy is apathy.”

Reverend David Beckmann

What will you choose to do?



Australian Lutheran World Service
Awareness Week
Food Matters
Focus on food in the developing world

**Dare to
Dream a
Different World**