Isaiah 61:2 (ESV)

to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;

Steve Corbett & Brain Fikkert said, "The systems are broken, reflecting humans' relationships. Moreover, in addition to sinful human natures and behaviors, Satan and his legions are at work, wreaking havoc in both the individuals and systems."

Uganda

"When one is poor, she has no say in public, she feels inferior. Sha has no food, so there is famine in her house; no clothing, and no progress in the family".

Cameroon

"The poor have a feeling of powerlessness and an inability an inability to make themselves heard."

Vietnam

"If you are hungry, you will always be hungry; if you are poor, you will always be poor."

Moldova

"For a poor person, everything is terrible- illness, humiliation, shame. We are cripples; we are afraid of everything; we depend on everyone. No one needs us. We are like garbage that everyone wants to get rid of."

Bryant Myers said, "Poverty is the result of relationships that do not work, that are not just, that are not for life, that are not harmonious or enjoyable. Poverty is the absence of shalom in all its meanings."

Mother Teresa said, "We think sometimes that poverty is only being hungry, naked, and homeless. The poverty of being unwanted, unloved, and uncared for is the greatest poverty. We must start in our own homes to remedy this kind of poverty."

If we believe the cause of poverty are:

a. A lack of knowledge – Let's then educate the poor.
b. Oppression by powerful people – Then let's work for social justice.
c. The personal sins of the poor – Then let evangelize and disciple the poor.
d. A lack of material resources – Then let's give the necessary resources to the poor

Assets vs. Needs

a. Relief

b. Rehabilitation

c. Development

As we respond from crisis, and rehabilitation, to the denser of long-term development work. We must:

a. Empower the people we serve.

b. Foster strong and honest cross-cultural relationships.

c. Seek to improve the quality of their lives.

d. Anticipated to have long-term partnerships.

Ministering in Cross - Cultural Characteristics:

1) Guilt-innocence culture

2) Shame-honor culture

3) Fear-power culture

Ministering in cross-cultural

1) Guilt-Innocence cultures: Removing guilt requires a sinless Savior, who was able to bear the consequences of our sin and cancel our record of debt from our wrongdoing. In Christ's death and resurrection, we receive his righteousness and can be in the right relationship with God—this is nothing of our merit.

Ministering in cross-cultural

2) Honor-Shame cultures: Removing shame requires more than just the forgiveness of sins, it requires the remaking or transformation of an individual's identity by someone of a higher status.

Ministering in cross-cultural

3) Fear-Power cultures: Removing fear requires to have a personal relationship God through Jesus and His power raising Him from the dead. Consequently, the same power given to believers through His Holy Spirit to transform, empower, and to give control.