

**TOPIC: POVERTY AND INEQUALITY**

Definitions:	
<b>poverty</b>	The condition of being poor, or a critical lack or deficiency
<b>inequality</b>	Lack of equality, being unequal in amount, size, value, rank or lack of evenness, regularity or uniformity

<b>THE ROOT CAUSES of POVERTY AND INEQUALITY</b>	1. Marital unfaithfulness, divorce, lack of vision, lack of trust
	2. Lack of unity, undermining one another in the family, Church, community, offices, court, hospital, etc.
	3. Greed, corruption, misuse of the merit system
	4. Lack of proper education
	5. Mismanagement of funds
	6. Lack of vision for the people's improvement
	7. Injustice, lack of communication
	8. Tribalism, nepotism, lack of creativeness, laziness
	9. Not nationalistic, poverty in the mind, lack of transparency justice in the court
	10. Lack of trustworthy leaders in the Church and the society

<b>POVERTY AND INEQUALITY - CONSEQUENCES AT THE INDIVIDUAL LEVEL</b>	1. Infant mortality
	2. The spread of HIV/AIDS
	3. Separation, divorce
	4. Criminal behavior

<b>POVERTY AND INEQUALITY - CONSEQUENCES AT THE FAMILY LEVEL</b>	1. Premature death
	2. Unemployment
	3. Health problem
	4. Illiteracy
	5. Self-centeredness
	6. Insecurity
	7. No respect
	8. Self-reared children

<b>POVERTY AND INEQUALITY - CONSEQUENCES AT THE COMMUNITY LEVEL</b>	1. Underdevelopment
	2. No roads
	3. No good health care, hygiene, sanitation
	4. Lack of electricity, etc
	5. High illiteracy rate
	6. Untrained teachers, doctors, etc.

<b>POVERTY AND INEQUALITY - CONSEQUENCES AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL</b>	1. Underdevelopment
	2. Depend on other countries for support
	3. No roads
	4. No good health care, hygiene, sanitation
	5. Lack of electricity, etc
	6. High illiteracy rate
	7. Untrained teacher, doctors, etc.
	8. High rate of crimes

#### **POVERTY AND INEQUALITY: THE WAY FORWARD**

<b>POVERTY AND INEQUALITY - WAY FORWARD AT THE INDIVIDUAL LEVEL</b>	1. Should seek counsel and know it is wrong to believe you were born to be poor
	2. Seeks training and learn to work for him/herself
	3. Begin to make back yard gardens and eventually start farming
	4. Go to school
	5. Be part of a Susu (form of local microfinance) club
	6. Respect others and do not cheat anyone

<b>POVERTY AND INEQUALITY – WAY FORWARD AT THE FAMILY LEVEL</b>	1. Families should begin feeding themselves through backyard garden
	2. Learn to manage your income
	3. Parents should teach their female children to stop being prostitutes
	4. Educate the members of the family/start a family business
	5. Start a small scale business
	6. Join a Susu (form of local microfinance) club
	7. Respect one’s family members and that of other families
	8. Avoid stealing from your family members
	9. Have family devotions daily

<b>POVERTY AND INEQUALITY – WAY FORWARD AT THE COMMUNITY LEVEL</b>	1. Encourage community-based leadership and regularly have meetings
	2. Conduct community development initiatives: roads, schools, sanitation and hygiene, vocational schools, recreation activities, sports, etc
	3. Develop policies and rules to govern the community
	4. Discipline community members who violate rules
	5. Speak against corruption, injustice, etc.
	6. Have a community church

<b>POVERTY AND INEQUALITY – WAY FORWARD AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL</b>	1. Develop a national development plan
	2. Train citizens to do the work
	3. Decentralize specialized educational programs: vocational schools, colleges, medical schools, engineering schools, agricultural schools, etc
	4. Train citizens to be nationalistic
	5. Panelize corrupt officials - private and public servants