#### Welcome

Thank you for taking part in the 21st Century Evangelicals online research.

These surveys are designed by the Evangelical Alliance working with a group of other Christian organisations – our research club partners.

This quarter's survey is about poverty – your practical responses to it, the issues that concern you and the way the Bible and your Christian faith influence your thinking in this area.

A report from this survey will be published in spring/summer 2015, helping the Church across the UK to shape mission and ministry in this field.

All answers are anonymous. If you'd really rather not answer a particular question you can always leave it blank. People vary, but we estimate the survey shouldn't take longer than about 20 minutes, unless you choose to write a lot in open-ended comment boxes.

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In every survey we need to ask everyone a few short background questions so that we can easily break down the responses from different groups of people. We apologise if you have completed this for a previous survey – unfortunately we cannot carry over your demographic data.

C 1990s

1. Yo	our	gen	der:
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○ Male	Female			
2. In which decade were you born?				
C 1920s		O 1960s		
C 1930s		C 1970s		
C 1940s		C 1980s		

Poverty survey November 2014				
Are you a Christian?	Are you a Christian?			
3. Do you consider yourself to be a committed Christian (ie someone who believes in God, tries to follow Jesus, practises your faith, prays and attends church as you are able)?				
O Yes	C No		O Unsure	
4. Do you consider yourself to be an e	vangelical Christian?			
C Yes	C No		O Unsure	
5. Are you a church leader or minister	?			
Tick all that apply				
$\square$ Yes, with lone (or senior) responsibility for one (or more	) congregation(s)			
Yes, as part of a team of leaders, elders or ministers				
I serve on a church Council (PCC), Board of Trustees or	deacons group			
$\ \square$ I have responsibility for leading a group, ministry or acti	vity within the church (eg home group	or children's work)		
No, I am not a recognised church leader				

### Where do you live?

6. In which region or nation of the UK do you normally reside?				
0	London (within M25)			
0	South-east England outside London (Kent, Hampshire, Sussex, Surrey, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire)			
0	East Anglia (Essex, Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, Suffolk)			
0	East Midlands (Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Rutland, Northamptonshire, Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire)			
0	West Midlands (Herefordshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Birmingham & West Midlands conurbation, Worcestershire)			
0	South-west England (Bristol, Gloucestershire, Somerset, Dorset, Wiltshire, Devon, Cornwall)			
0	North-west England (Cumbria, Lancashire, Greater Manchester, Merseyside, Cheshire)			
0	North-east England (Northumberland, County Durham, Tyne and Wear, Teesside)			
0	Yorkshire and the Humber			
0	Wales			
0	Scotland			
0	Northern Ireland			
0	Elsewhere or outside UK			

Type of neighbourhood			
7. Which of the following best desc	cribes the place where you live?		
Affluent urban neighbourhood	O Deprived urban neighbourhood	C Economically average or mixed urban neighbourhood	
Affluent suburban neighbourhood	O Deprived suburban neighbourhood	C Economically average or mixed suburban neighbourhood	
C Affluent small town	O Deprived small town	C Economically average or mixed small town	
C Affluent rural area or village	O Deprived rural area or village	C Economically average or mixed rural area or village	
Other (please specify)			

### Ethnicity

8. F	low would you describe your ethnic backgro
0	White British
0	White (but not British)
0	Black (Caribbean background)
0	Black (African background)
0	South Asian (Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Sri-Lankan background)
0	Chinese or other East Asian background
0	A mixture of two or more of the above
0	Prefer not to say
0	Other background or preferred description (please specify below)

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#### **Disabilities**

9. In terms of your caring responsibilities, personal health and capabilities, which of the following apply to you?

Ple	Please tick all that apply		
	I am very fit physically		
	I am in generally good health		
	I have a long-term illness or medical condition		
	I have some mental health difficulties		
	I have a recognised disability which I would declare on official forms		
	I am in receipt of benefits in recognition of my disability		
	I am restricted or limited in my mobility		
	I have responsibilities for caring for someone with a disability or special needs		
	I have been unable to take up or stay in employment because of my illness, disability or caring responsibilities		
	My household finances are badly affected because of my illness, disability or caring responsibilities		
	Other (please specify)		
	A		
	▼		

### Your church background

	Anglican (Church of England, Church in Wales, Episcopalian)	
	Baptist	
)	Charismatic – independent or non-denominational (eg Vineyard, Pioneer,	Newfrontiers or local community church)
)	Church of Scotland or other Presbyterian	
)	Free Church denomination (eg Methodist, URC, Salvation Army)	
)	Other evangelical church, denomination, assembly or fellowship	
)	Pentecostal (eg Elim, Assemblies of God, New Testament Church of God,	Redeemed Christian Church of God)
)	Uncommitted to any church at present	
	Other (please specify)	
•	How large (approximately) is the main Sunday	congregation or gathering of this church (including all children and adults)?
	Fewer than 25 people	C 101 to 200 people
	25 to 50 people	© 201 to 300 people
		More than 300 people

You	ir own experience of wealth or poverty
12.	In terms of your current level of finances which of the following phrases best applies?
0	Wealthy or affluent
0	Comfortable with no financial worries
0	Usually getting by
0	Often struggling to pay the bills
0	Constantly battling with poverty and debt
0	Destitute

#### If you are struggling

#### 13. Over the past 12 months have you needed to do any of the following?

Ple	lease tick all that apply		
	Rely on means-tested benefits		
	Borrow money to get you through to the next pay day		
	Ask for help from a foodbank		
	Receive financial support from your church or Christian friends		
	Keep your heating turned off when it was needed		
	Seek advice on dealing with your debts		
	Take on an extra job or work more hours than you wanted to		
	Go without meals		
	Give up holidays or leisure activities		
	Sell some of your more valuable possessions		
	Cut down on your spending		
	Rely on God's financial provision just in time		
	Other (please specify)		
	_		
	<u> </u>		

#### Change of financial circumstances

#### 14. At earlier stages of your life have you ever been any of the following?

Ple	ase tick all that apply	
	Significantly better off than now	
	Significantly worse off than now	
	Really struggling to pay your way	
	Living in poverty	
	In serious debt problems	
	Needing to rely on means-tested welfare benefits	
	Unable to stay in employment because of illness or disability	
	Unable to stay in employment because of caring responsibilities for an adult or sick or disabled child	
	None of the above	
Plea	se feel free to tell us about your changing experiences of poverty or affluence	
		<b>A</b>
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#### **What constitutes poverty?**

# 15. What are the living standards you feel all adults should have in the UK today? Which of the items listed below do you think are necessary?

	Necessary for an adequate standard of living	Not necessary
A safe, basically furnished home	О	O
Washing machine	O	O
Heating to keep home adequately warm	O	O
Replace worn out clothes with new (not second-hand) ones	O	O
Car (or affordable use of a preferred means of transport)	O	O
A warm waterproof coat	O	O
To be able to pay an unexpected expense of £500	O	O
Mobile phone	O	O
A small amount of money to spend each week on yourself, not on your family	O	O
Internet connection at home	©	O
Nutritious food most days (such as fresh fruit, vegetables, meat or fish)	O	O
Television	0	0

#### 16. Can you personally afford the items on the list above?

Plea	se specify any which you go without
0	No, there are some I can't afford
0	I could afford them all but I choose to go without some
0	Yes, all of them

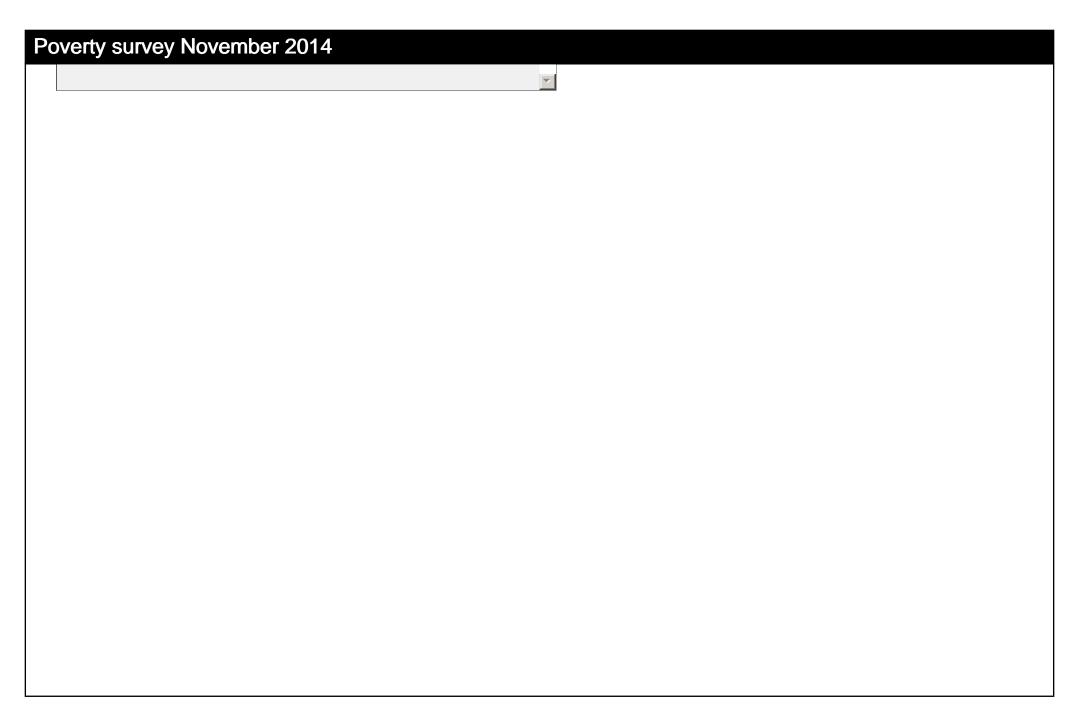
Poverty survey November 2014				
Comparative incomes				
17. What is your own household's monthly disposa	able income?			
(Please include take home pay after tax of all earne	ers - plus any benefits, pensions and other unearned income)			
C Less than £500	© £1,501 to £2,000			
© £501 to £750	© £2,001 to £3,000			
© £751 to £1,000	© £3,001 to £5,000			
© £1,001 to £1,500	O More than £5,000			
18. Without checking online or in reference books,	, do you know or can you hazard a guess about the income levels given below?			
Please type number in pounds, without using the £	sign			
The hourly rate for people aged 21 and over on the national minimum wage				
The hourly rate for an adult on 'the living wage' (national, excluding London)				
The weekly rate of Job Seekers Allowance for an adult benefit claimant living alor	ne			
The annual total pay (before tax) of the CEO of Barclays Bank				
The average daily wage of a worker in a clothing factory in Bangladesh				

#### **Causes of poverty**

#### 19. What do you think are the top five causes of poverty in your neighbourhood, in the UK and in less developed countries?

#### Please tick up to five in each column

	In my neighbourhood	In the UK as a whole	In less developed countries
Welfare dependency			
Family breakdown			
Corruption	Г		
Poor management of household budgets			
Lack of employment	Г		
Inequality or social injustice			
Addictions	Г		
Educational inequality			
Caring responsibilities or personal disability or poor health	Г		
Inadequate government or community provision for the vulnerable			
Personal debt	П		
Laziness			
Lack of economic growth	Г		
Unfair trade structures or practices			
Low pay	Г		
Excessive interest rates on loans			
Racism, sexism or other forms of discrimination			
High cost of living			
Any other comments			
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#### Welfare and dependency

WGL	Tare and dependency
20.	Which of these statements comes closest to your view?
0	The welfare budget is too high and should be reduced
0	The welfare budget is about right
0	The welfare budget is too low and should be increased
0	Don't know
21.	Which of these statements comes closer to your view?
© such	Britain's current welfare system has created a culture of dependency, whereby many people, and often whole families, get used to living off state benefits; the system needs to be radically changed to get people to take more responsibility for their lives and their families
○ help	Most people who rely on welfare benefits are victims of circumstances beyond their control. The benefits they receive are far from generous, and are the least a civilised society should provide in order to them and their families avoid abject poverty
0	Don't know

#### The best ways to tackle poverty

#### 22. Do you think the following are good ways to tackle poverty in the UK?

#### Please tick one per row

	One of the best ways	A good way	Not sure	Not a good way
Cutting welfare benefits as an incentive to get people into work	0	0	0	0
A fairer and more generous benefits system	0	O	$\circ$	0
Getting a good education	0	0	0	O
Tackling addictions	0	0	0	0
The Church getting involved in social action	0	0	0	0
Individuals working harder	0	0	0	0
Removing the barriers to equal opportunities	0	0	0	0
Government policies to redistribute wealth	O	0	0	0
Developing strong businesses which offer employment	0	0	0	O
Organising poor communities to struggle for justice	O	0	0	0
Credit unions and other micro-finance schemes	0	0	0	O
Training programmes that help people get decent jobs	0	0	0	0
Debt advice and money management courses	0	0	0	O
Providing food, furniture and clothing through food banks and similar charities	O	0	0	O
Preventing family breakup	0	0	0	O
Sustained economic growth	O	0	0	O
Other suggestions of ways to tackle poverty in the UK				

#### Poverty, the Bible and the gospel

#### 23. From your reading of the Bible how far do you agree...?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
The poor will always be with us, so there is not much hope of making an impact on poverty	0	0	0	0	0
We should do as Jesus said to the rich young ruler – sell all our possessions and give to the poor	0	0	$\circ$	0	0
God is on the side of the poor and the oppressed	0	0	0	0	0
Everyone has a duty to work to support themselves and their family if they can	0	0	$\circ$	0	0
Spiritual poverty is a bigger problem than material poverty	0	0	0	0	0
We should follow the example of Jesus and make most of our friendships among people who are poor and marginalised	0	0	$\circ$	0	0
Our financial responsibility towards others is first to our family, then to fellow Christians in need and only then to poor people in the world	0	0	0	0	0
If we are faithful to God we will prosper materially	0	0	$\circ$	0	0
We will be judged harshly if we neglect to care for the poor	0	0	0	0	0
We should work for justice for the poor	0	0	$\circ$	0	0
God expects a more equal distribution of the world's resources	0	0	0	0	0
Other things you think the Bible tells us about poverty					

#### Your personal response to poverty

#### 24. Have you, in the last 12 months, personally done any of the following to respond to the issue of poverty?

Ple	ase tick all that apply		
	Given money to someone begging on the streets		Given long-term support to, or befriended someone, who is facing poverty
	Bought food or drink for someone begging on the streets		Shared a meal in your home with someone who was hungry, destitute or homeless
	Given money directly to someone you know personally who is in financial need		Sponsored a child or other person who is facing poverty overseas
	Given money to help an individual through an online scheme such as Acts435		Fulfilled a calling to live or serve in a community facing poverty
	Given food to a food bank		Contacted a politician or campaigned about an aspect of poverty in the UK
	Given a donation to an international disaster appeal		Contacted a politician or campaigned on international poverty issues
	Given money to a charity tackling poverty in the UK		Prayed regularly for or with people who are facing poverty in the UK
	Given money to a charity tackling poverty overseas		Prayed regularly for or with people who are facing poverty overseas
	Volunteered some time to a church project or Christian charity which aims to tackle poverty		Been employed by or on the management group of an anti-poverty organisation or
	Volunteered some time to a secular community project or charity which aims to tackle poverty		None of the above
	Other (please specify)		
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Fulfilled a calling to live or serve in a community facing poverty
Contacted a politician or campaigned about an aspect of poverty in the UK
Contacted a politician or campaigned on international poverty issues
Prayed regularly for or with people who are facing poverty in the UK
Prayed regularly for or with people who are facing poverty overseas
☐ Been employed by or on the management group of an anti-poverty organisation or project
☐ None of the above

#### In the last 12 months

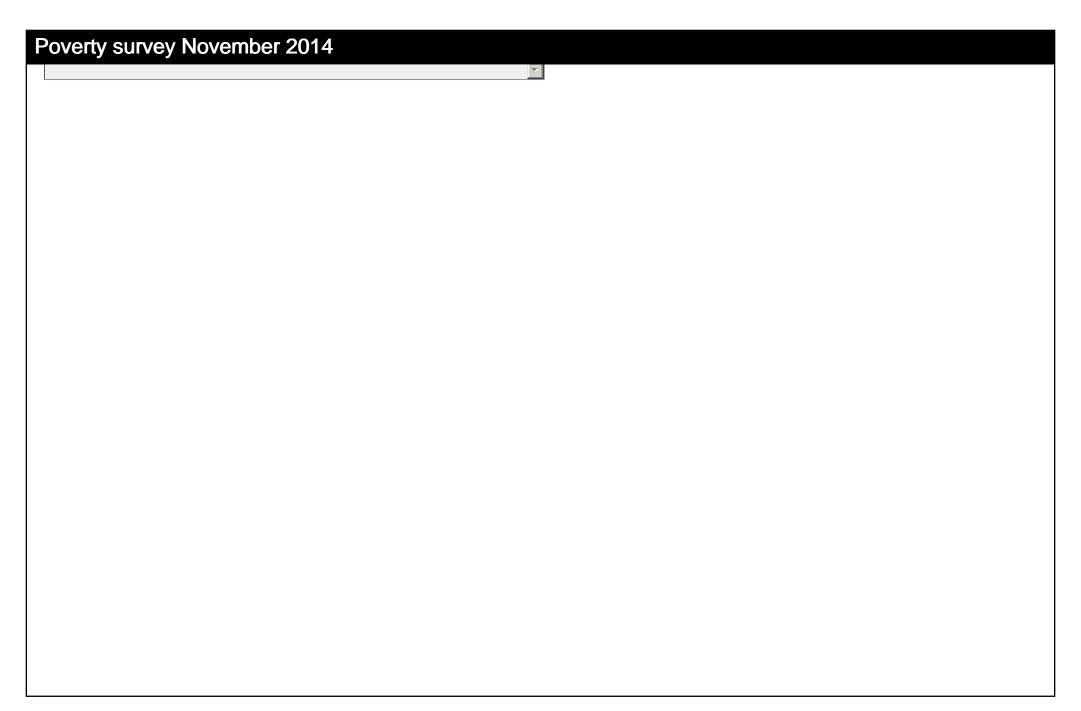
#### 25. Have you personally experienced any of the following in the last 12 months?

PIE	ase tick all that apply
	Felt guilty that you did not give money or time to someone in need when you were able to
	Felt God convicting you that you need to give more time/money to the poor rather than spending it on yourself
	Caught yourself treating people differently because of their social status/income level
	Continued to give to your church or charities the amount you had tithed, promised or committed despite facing financial difficulties
	Experienced miraculous provision when you were in financial problems
	Responded when you felt that God was prompting you to offer help, money or time to a particular person or situation to do with poverty
	Known that you were giving really sacrificially of your time or money in obedience to God
	Had to reduce your giving to church and charity because your own disposable income has gone down significantly
	None of the above
Plea	se give some details

#### Your church's response to poverty

#### 26. In the last 12 months have any of the following taken place at your church?

Please tick all that apply		
	A sermon on what the Bible says about poverty	
	A study course looking at biblical material on poverty	
	A meeting to consider how best to respond to poverty	
	A prayer meeting or event focusing on poverty issues	
	Work on a project to tackle poverty in your community	
	Work on a project to tackle poverty overseas	
	Encouragement from the leadership to campaign on poverty issues	
	A special appeal for money to help support poor people in your church or local community	
	A special appeal for money to help support poor people overseas	
	The church made (or continued) a commitment to support a charity or ministry tackling poverty in the UK	
	The church made (or continued) a commitment to support a charity or ministry tackling poverty in less developed countries	
	We have seen people experiencing poverty come to faith in Christ	
	We have had people experiencing poverty involved in public ministry or leadership in the church	
	The church has been a good model of a fellowship where people from different economic and social backgrounds are equally welcomed, valued and involved	
	None of the above	
Activities around poverty happening at your church (please give details or comments about those you ticked or other activities)		



### Your opinions on poverty at home and abroad

#### 27. How far do you agree with the following statements?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Growing inequality is a major problem in the UK	0	0	0	0	0
Over the last few years my concern and giving of money and time has become more directed towards poverty in the UK rather than overseas	$\circ$	0	0	$\circ$	0
The international community is making good progress in programmes to tackle global poverty	$\odot$	0	0	0	0
Compared with some overseas countries the UK is spiritually destitute	0	0	0	0	0
Churches in the UK are not very good at evangelising and discipling the poorest sections of society	0	0	0	0	0
In the UK our society and culture make poor people feel ashamed and worthless	0	0	0	0	0
God has provided enough resources on the earth for every person's need, but human greed makes some people poor	0	0	0	0	0
The UK welfare state is a good model for less developed countries in that it provides an adequate safety net so that no one need face extreme poverty	0	0	0	0	0
Compared with some overseas countries there is no significant poverty in the UK	0	0	0	0	0
We should assign as much (or more) of our monetary giving to help the poor as we do to the general work of our church	0	0	0	0	0
Local churches should organise themselves to share their God-given wealth so that none of their members experience serious poverty	O	0	0	0	0
It is more important for churches to share the gospel with poor people they encounter than to meet their material needs	0	0	0	0	0
My church is already doing lots of good and effective work to tackle poverty in its local community	0	O	0	0	0

### Views on government policy

#### 28. How far do you agree that (in the UK)...?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
The government should take stronger action to limit high interest rates on products such as pay day loans	$\circ$	0	0	0	0
Poorer people often find they have to pay more than average for items such as fuel, food, domestic appliances and insurance	$\odot$	0	O	$\odot$	$\odot$
Current government economic policy is hurting the poor more than the rich	$\circ$	0	0	0	0
The "bedroom tax" or "removal of the spare room subsidy" is a reasonable policy to address housing issues	0	0	0	$\circ$	$\circ$
Government is right to ask charities, communities and churches to deliver a greater proportion of welfare provision and support to people in need	0	0	0	0	0
Government should act to ensure large companies cannot avoid paying their taxes	0	0	0	0	0
The government is right to withdraw benefit payments if people cannot prove that they are willing to work	0	0	0	0	0
Welfare reform policies are being successful in encouraging more people to take responsibility and get into jobs	0	0	0	0	0
Current government economic policy is working well to produce a more prosperous future for all	0	0	0	0	0
The government understands the needs of people who are carers for their family members and offers adequate help	0	0	0	0	0
Economic policy is failing to raise most people's income to meet the increased cost of living	0	0	0	0	0
UK governments have a good record on policies to tackle global poverty	0	0	0	0	0
Welfare reform policies are having a negative impact on people who are disabled or sick	0	0	O	0	0
Other comments on the government's approach to poverty					

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Any other comments				
29. Please tell us briefly in your own words anything else you would like to say about issues of poverty locally, nationally or worldwide.				

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Have you read the latest report?					
Finally, we would like to know if you have seen or heard about our mos	st recent report.				
30. Our 'Are we good neighbours?' report was publish	ed in August 2014.				
In the last few months have you?					
	Yes	No	Can't recall		
Read the report?	O	O	O		
Heard a church leader refer to the report?	O	O	O		
Read, seen or heard any media coverage about that report?	O	O	O		
If you have seen it do you have any comments about the report?					

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Email address			
31. We would like to invite you to take part in future research.			
So, to make sure we can reach you, please enter your current email address below.			

Poverty survey November 2014		
You have finished.		
Thank you for completing this survey.		
For more details about the project and to read our previous reports, please visit www.eauk.org/snapshot		
Please tell your Christian friends and people at your church about our surveys and encourage them to go to the website and take part.		