

The background is a composite image. It features a hand in a white sleeve holding a white sheet of paper, which is partially obscuring the view. Behind the paper, there is an aerial view of a winding road through a lush green landscape with trees and some buildings in the distance.

GOVERNANCE & THE VULNERABLE IN SOCIETY

Moderated by IFU Northern Uganda

Tuesday 26th August 2025

Introduction

- Vulnerability means exposure to risks, harm, or hardships with limited capacity to cope.
- Vulnerable persons include children, women, elderly, PWDs, refugees, and the poor.
- God's heart is for the weak, oppressed, and marginalized (Psalm 82:3, James 1:27).

State of Vulnerability in Uganda

- 30% of Ugandans live below the poverty line.
- 56% of children experience violence before age 18.
- 2.5M refugees (largest in Africa), mostly women & children.
- High youth unemployment (over 60%).
- Gender-based violence & child marriages remain high.

Role of Governance

- Government policies should protect vulnerable groups.
- Provision of education, healthcare, and social protection.
- Enforcement of laws against exploitation & abuse.
- Collaboration with faith-based and community organizations.

God's Heart for the Vulnerable

- God is Father to the fatherless, defender of widows (Psalm 68:5).
- Proverbs 31:8–9 urges us to ‘speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute’.
- James 1:27 reminds us that true religion is to look after orphans and widows in their distress.
- Matthew 25, “Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.”

Let's worship God together

Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker; for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care. Psalm 95:6–7:

Prayer Points: Thanksgiving

- Thank God for peace and stability in Uganda.
- Thank God for Uganda's policies and programs aimed at supporting the vulnerable, such as refugee protection, free universal primary and secondary education, and social protection grants.
- Thank Him for the many churches, NGOs, and individuals who stand in the gap to care for orphans, widows, refugees, and the poor.
- Thank Him for Uganda's hospitality in hosting refugees from neighboring nations.

Prayer Points: Repentance

- Repent as a nation for corruption and mismanagement of resources that should benefit the vulnerable.
- Repent for turning a blind eye to the cries of the poor, orphans, widows, and refugees.
- Repent for injustices such as gender-based violence, child neglect, and marginalization of persons with disabilities.

Prayer Points: Petition

- Pray for God's provision and protection over vulnerable groups: children, widows, orphans, refugees, the elderly, and persons with disabilities.
- Pray for wisdom and integrity among leaders to design and implement policies that uplift the vulnerable.
- Pray for the Church to rise as the hands and feet of Jesus to care for those in need.
- Pray for peace in the Great Lakes region so that refugee influxes reduce.

Prayer Points: Declaration

- We declare that Uganda shall be a nation where justice rolls on like a river, and righteousness like a never-failing stream (Amos 5:24).
- We declare that the vulnerable in Uganda will not be forsaken, for the Lord is their defender.
- We declare that Uganda's resources shall be used for the benefit of all, and that corruption and exploitation shall be uprooted.
- We declare that Uganda shall be a land of compassion, equity, and opportunity for all people.

Announcement and closing benediction

Thank you for Participating