



**FAIR TRADE**  
Association  
of Australia and New Zealand

# **10 Principles of Fair Trade Bible Study**

Faith Group Resource





## Faith Groups Resource

### Introduction to the 10 Principles of Fair Trade Bible Study Guide

This bible study guide is designed for followers of Jesus Christ to learn more about the Fair Trade movement and how these 10 Principles link with biblical truths and values. You will reflect on how we do our shopping and how business and trade operate in the world today.

The [World Fair Trade Organisation](#) (WFTO) defines Fair Trade as "a trading partnership, based on dialogue, transparency and respect, that seeks greater equity in international trade. It contributes to sustainable development by offering better trading conditions to, and securing the rights of, marginalized producers and workers – especially in the South.

Fair Trade Organisations have a clear commitment to Fair Trade as the principal core of their mission. They, backed by consumers, are engaged actively in supporting producers, awareness raising and in campaigning for changes in the rules and practice of conventional international trade."

The 10 Principles of Fair Trade are the global benchmarks set by the WFTO. Organisations that implement the 10 Principles of Fair Trade are consciously putting people and planet first before profits. They ensure environmental sustainability and economic viability of their business and trade activities.

### How to use this guide:

This bible study guide is suitable for individual study or with a small group of friends to dig deeper into God's heart for justice when it comes to doing business and trade, and how we consume products.

Before you start on the study, give an acknowledgment that the Earth belongs to God and for those in Australia, to acknowledge that people have occupied and cared for the place where you are for up to 60,000 years. Give thanks for their custodianship and remember the First Nations People of Australia who continue to care for the land.

Next, read and re-read each principle summary. What does it say? What does it mean? What thoughts, emotions or images come to you? Sit quietly with it for a while. If you are in a group, share your thoughts, feelings, if necessary, reading the longer version of the Principle at the end of the studies. Before you peek ahead on the recommended scriptures to study further, does it prompt you to think about any particular Bible verses or passage?

Then use the W-R-A-P study structure.



**Word** Read the scriptures suggested to see how these connect to the Principle. Can you think of a worship song or hymn that relates to the Principle and scriptures?

**Reflection** How has your thinking changed?

**Action** What will you do in response to this study?

**Prayer** Compose a prayer that combines the Principle, the bible and your response.

You may find that it is difficult to match specific scriptures with any one of the 10 Principles of Fair Trade. For example, 'The Golden Rule' – 'In everything do to others as you would have them do to you; for this is the law and the prophets.' from Matthew 7:12, not unique to Christianity, is a universal principle undergirding all 10 Principles.

Another passage relevant to all 10 Principles is where Jesus castigates the religious leaders for being punctilious about observing the Law as indicated by their diligence in tithing herbs while neglecting the weightier matters; Justice, Mercy and Faith. (Matthew 23:23)

The two greatest Commandments, mentioned above also permeate all 10 Principles.

Did you know that there are 2,000 Bible passages, which speak of issues of justice and the poor? You may be drawn to relevant passages, which are different from our suggestions.

Our prayers are that this study guide will become a useful resource as you embark on learning more about Fair Trade from a biblical lens. If you have any written prayers, poems or imagery,

which you would like to share with us as a result of doing this study, we would love to hear from you. Please send it in to [info@fta.org.au](mailto:info@fta.org.au)

### What does the Bible say?

It is possible to pull a verse from the Bible out of context to back up almost any claim you can make. For example, the greedy entrepreneur could back his or her action with James 4:13 which says 'Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a town and spend a year there, doing business and making money"' (NRSV)

In the Pentecost 2020 issue of *With Love to the World*, Chris Goringe wrote: "How often have you stared at a passage of scripture and wondered what on earth it has to say to you? Or have you pondered over how the God described in it fits with God as revealed in Jesus Christ? Or what sense you can make of it in the context of the modern day and in the light of modern science? Given that it is a library of texts written over hundreds of years by dozens of authors and editors over two thousand years ago, the incredible thing about the Bible is not that it is sometimes hard to understand, but that it ever makes any sense at all!" (Vol. 16, No. 4, 21 May)

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In the Bible, there are things we simply cannot accept. Slavery is a given in the Bible, but it was Evangelical Christians who reacted against slavery in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century.

These studies are a dialogue between the 10 Principles of Fair Trade and what the Bible is saying to us. It is not an attempt to squeeze Bible verses and passages to suit the 10 Principles. These studies are designed to help us reflect on our faith and action.

There are several ways to study the Bible. We can start with a book of the Bible. With this approach we must be aware that whether we are reading Numbers in the Old Testament or Revelation in the New, these words came out of a particular context for a particular people with quite a different understanding of how we view 'facts' and 'history'.

The approach we are taking to Bible study is by themes suggested by the 10 Principles.

Where we start with the Bible probably says more about where our Christianity is on the Fundamentalist / Evangelical / Charismatic - Liberal / Progressive spectrum than about the Bible itself. These studies avoid claiming a particular position on this scale. Here the Bible is taken seriously as a witness to the living Word, Jesus Christ, in our context.

We all have favourite Bible passages. Some may start with a few verses in Paul about being justified by faith. Others may focus on the Sermon on the Mount or the Ten Commandments or elsewhere.

The Biblical principle that undergirds these studies is the English word 'Love', a translation of the Greek word *agape* (ἀγάπη)



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First there is the Love God has for the whole creation (cosmos κόσμος) as expressed by Jesus in John 3:16.

Second, is our response to God's love. When asked about the greatest commandment, Jesus' response was to Love God with our total being and to love our neighbour as ourselves. (Matthew 22:34-40, Mark 12:28-34, Luke 10:25-28)

In Luke the 'Who is my neighbour?' question was answered with the Parable of the Good Samaritan.

Although not stated in theological terms this word, 'love', is also foundational to all of the 10 Principles.

### Acknowledgement

Members of the Executive Committee of the Fair Trade Association of Australia and New Zealand who work on growing Fair Trade awareness with the Faith Groups have compiled these studies.

We acknowledge the assistance of the Rev Dr Chris Walker, Adjunct Lecturer in the School of Theology, Charles Sturt University and former National Consultant on Theology and Discipleship in the Uniting Church in Australia National Assembly.

Bible verses are from the New Revised Standard Version.

**10 PRINCIPLES OF FAIR TRADE BIBLE STUDY****BIBLE LESSON 1****PRINCIPLE 1: OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISADVANTAGED PRODUCERS**

**Poverty reduction through trade must form a key part of the organisation's aims. The organisation or business must assist vulnerable producers to move from income insecurity and poverty to economic self-sufficiency and ownership.**

“The prophets and others who disturbed the status quo did not seek only justice. They sought blessing, blessing for the many, not just the few.”

Matthew Fox

I know that the LORD maintains  
the cause of the needy,  
and executes justice  
for the poor.

Psalm 140:12

Study these scriptures in relation to Fair Trade Principle 1:

<b>1 Kings 21</b>	Naboth's Vineyard
<b>Micah 6:6-8</b>	What God wants...justice, love and fellowship with God
<b>Micah 6:9-16</b>	By contrast this is how people are behaving.
<b>2 Samuel 12:1-7</b>	Nathan's parable of the ewe lamb – resource taken
<b>Matthew 25:14-30</b>	Parable of the talents – resources provided
<b>Luke 1:46-55</b>	Mary's song of praise

A detailed line drawing of a flowering plant, possibly a lily or similar, with several large, open flowers and long, pointed leaves. The drawing is in a light gray color and is positioned in the upper left quadrant of the page, partially overlapping the teal header and the white content area.

*Word*

*Reflection*

*Action*

*Prayer*



**BIBLE LESSON 2****PRINCIPLE 2: TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY**

**The organisation must be transparent in its management and commercial relations.**

**The organisation finds appropriate, participatory ways to involve employees, members and producers in its decision-making processes.**

"If I want to lead an ethical life, and I do, then I need to be actively seeking to understand the ways in which I wield power, the places I hold unexamined privilege, the prejudices I have unthinkingly acquired. I also need to be able to think critically about the strategies I am employing or participating in as part of trying to create social change."

Mary Heath

A false balance is an abomination  
to the LORD,  
but an accurate weight  
is his delight.

When pride comes, then comes  
disgrace; but wisdom is with the  
humble.

Proverbs 11:1-2

Study these scriptures in relation to Fair Trade Principle 2:

<b>Ruth 4</b>	Boaz redeems Ruth
<b>Genesis 27:1-27</b>	Isaac blesses Jacob – deceives father and cheats brother
<b>Luke 12:42-48</b>	The faithful and unfaithful servant – do right or take advantage
<b>Luke 16:1-13</b>	Parable of the Shrewd manager
<b>Psalms 72</b>	A prayer for the King to rule with justice



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**BIBLE LESSON 3****PRINCIPLE 3: FAIR TRADE PRACTICES**

**The organisation must have concern for the social, economic and environmental well being of marginalised producers. It is responsible and professional in meeting its commitments in a timely manner. Suppliers respect contracts and deliver products on time and to the desired quality.**

“He comes in the form of a beggar,  
of the dissolute human child in ragged  
clothes asking for help. He confronts  
you in every person that you meet.  
As long as there are people, Christ will  
walk this earth as your neighbour.”

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

O Lord, who may abide in your tent?  
Who may dwell on your holy hill?  
Those who walk blamelessly, and do  
what is right, and speak the truth from  
their heart; who do not slander with  
their tongue, and do no evil to their  
friends, nor take up a reproach against  
their neighbours; in whose eyes the  
wicked are despised, but who honour  
those who fear the Lord;  
who stand by their oath even to their  
hurt; who do not lend money at  
interest, and do not take a bribe  
against the innocent. Those who do  
these things shall never be moved.

Psalm 15

Study these scriptures in relation to Fair Trade Principle 3:

**Amos 2:6-8**

God's judgment – unjust practices

**2 Chronicles 2:1-10**

Solomon negotiates materials and workers for building of the Temple

**Psalm 15**

Honourable behaviour. No interest charged.

**Luke 19:1-9**

Jesus and Zacchaeus

**John 2:13-22**

Jesus drives out unfair traders etc. in the Temple

**Luke 4:14-21**

Jesus's Manifesto

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*Word*

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*Prayer*

**BIBLE LESSON 4****PRINCIPLE 4: FAIR PAYMENT**

**A fair price is one that has been mutually agreed by all through dialogue and participation, which provides fair pay to the producers and can also be sustained by the market, taking into account equal pay for men and women and a Local Living Wage.**

“If we are in relationship with God and if we are living under his kingdom, we will seek justice for all those around us. Social justice isn’t a new gospel; rather, it flows directly from the gospel of forgiveness and the new life of Christ. Seeking justice in society has gone hand in hand with past revivals; great leaders in the history of the church understood the relationship between the gospel and justice. Seeking justice and true social concern aren’t options; they are marks of true discipleship.”

John Wimber

Come now, you rich people, weep and wail for the miseries that are coming to you. Your riches have rotted, and your clothes are moth-eaten. Your gold and silver have rusted, and their rust will be evidence against you, and it will eat your flesh like fire. You have laid up treasure for the last days. Listen! The wages of the labourers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, cry out, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. You have lived on the earth in luxury and in pleasure; you have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter. You have condemned and murdered the righteous one, who does not resist you.

James 5:1-6

Study these scriptures in relation to Fair Trade Principle 4:

<b>Isaiah 58:1-12</b>	True fasting and just wages
<b>Jeremiah 22:13-17</b>	Importance of fair wages
<b>Matthew 20:1-16</b>	The Labourers in the Vineyard. A fair day’s pay for a fair day’s work
<b>Luke 15:11-32</b>	The parable of the lost son – realises his father treats servants fairly
<b>1 Timothy 5:17-18</b>	Labourers deserve to be paid
<b>James 5:1-6</b>	Payment of fair wages
<b>Psalms 10</b>	A prayer for justice

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*Prayer*

**BIBLE LESSON 5****PRINCIPLE 5: NO CHILD LABOUR. NO FORCED LABOUR.**

The organisation must adhere to the United Nations' Convention on the Rights of the Child, and local law on the employment of children. Any involvement of children in the production of products is disclosed and monitored and does not adversely affect the child's well being.

"His (Christ's) appearance in our midst has made it undeniably clear that changing the human heart and changing human society are not separate tasks but are as interconnected as the two beams of the cross."

Henri J. M. Nouwen

Then little children were being brought to him in order that he might lay his hands on them and pray. The disciples spoke sternly to those who brought them; but Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs.' And he laid his hands on them and went on his way.

Matthew 19:13-15

Study these scriptures in relation to Fair Trade Principle 5:

<b>Matthew 18:1-6</b>	Punishment for those who cause children to sin
<b>Matthew 19:13-15</b>	Jesus blesses children
<b>Exodus 2:23 to 3:12</b>	God hears the cry of His people
<b>Philemon 16.</b>	Treating a 'slave' as a 'brother' implies the end of slavery.
<b>Galatians 3:28</b>	'... no longer slave or free ... for all of you are one in Christ Jesus'
<b>Leviticus 25:35-55</b>	Laws regarding loans and slavery. Jesus Christ removes the 'them' and 'us' approach. See Galatians 3:28
<b>Psalms 10</b>	A prayer for justice
<b>Amos 5</b>	A call to repentance

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**BIBLE LESSON 6****PRINCIPLE 6: NO DISCRIMINATION. GENDER EQUALITY. FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION.**

The organisation does not discriminate in hiring, remuneration, access to training, promotion, termination or retirement. The organisation has a clear policy and plan to promote gender equality and respects the right of all employees to form and join trade unions of their choice and to bargain collectively.

“Your ordinary acts of love and hope point to the extraordinary promise that every human life is of inestimable value.”

Desmond Tutu

There is no longer Jew or Greek,  
there is no longer slave or free,  
there is no longer male and female;  
for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.

Galatians 3:28

Study these scriptures in relation to Fair Trade Principle 6:

<b>Galatians 3:28</b>	No differences. Racial, gender, economic status.
<b>Acts 16:11-15</b>	Lydia of Thyatira. A woman trading in her own right.
<b>Proverbs 31:10-31</b>	The capable wife
<b>Ruth 2:1-23</b>	Ruth's treatment as a worker
<b>Acts 2:1-21</b>	Spirit poured out on all people
<b>Matthew 15:21-28</b>	A Canaanite woman's faith – her persistence gets Jesus to act
<b>Acts 10:34-48</b>	Gentiles receive the Spirit – God shows no partiality
<b>Micah 6:6-8</b>	What the Lord requires

A detailed line drawing of a flowering plant, possibly a hibiscus, with several large, open flowers and long, pointed leaves. The drawing is in a light gray color and is positioned in the upper left quadrant of the page, partially overlapping the teal header and the white main content area.

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## BIBLE LESSON 7

### PRINCIPLE 7: GOOD WORKING CONDITIONS.

The organisation provides a safe and healthy working environment for employees and / or members. It complies, at a minimum, with national and local laws and International Labour Organisation's conventions on health and safety. Fair Trade organisations are aware of the health and safety conditions of their producer groups.

“Doing justice includes not only the righting of wrongs, but generosity and social concern, especially toward the poor and vulnerable.”

Timothy Keller

Slaves, obey your earthly masters with fear and trembling, in singleness of heart, as you obey Christ; not only while being watched, and in order to please them, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart. Render service with enthusiasm, as to the Lord and not to men and women, knowing that whatever good we do, we will receive the same again from the Lord, whether we are slaves or free. And, masters, do the same to them. Stop threatening them, for you know that both of you have the same Master in heaven, and with him there is no partiality.

Ephesians 6:5-9

Study these scriptures in relation to Fair Trade Principle 7:

**Exodus 1:8-14**

Israelites treated cruelly in Egypt

**Ecclesiastes 3:9-13**

Everyone entitled to enjoy the results of their toil

**Isaiah 65:17-25**

Isaiah's vision of the new heavens and new earth – everyone has good conditions

**Ephesians 6:5-9**

Relationships between slaves and masters. The hint of the end of slavery?

**Psalms 146**

In Praise of God Saviour and Rescuer

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*Word*

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*Prayer*

## BIBLE LESSON 8

### PRINCIPLE 8: CAPACITY BUILDING

The organisation seeks to increase positive developmental impacts for producers through Fair Trade. Organisations working directly with small producers develop specific activities to help these producers improve their management skills, production capabilities and access to markets.

“God’s justice is done when arbitration is transformed by reconciliation; when people become more than objects of desire, manipulation and profit; when poverty is confronted by asking, not how the poor require, but how much the rich need; when the goods of the earth are looked upon, not as sources of private profit, but as sacrament of divine and human inter-communication. As and when such things occur, then God’s justice is done, and there the kingdom of God becomes manifest. For the justice of God is the kingdom of God.”

Mark Searle

Enlarge the site of your tent, and let the curtains of your habitations be stretched out; do not hold back; lengthen your cords and strengthen your stakes.

Isaiah 54:2

Study these scriptures in relation to Fair Trade Principle 8:

**2 Chronicles 2**

Solomon prepares to build the temple – seeks out expertise

**2 Chronicles 34:8-13**

Encouragement to the repairers of the Temple

Also **2 Kings 22:3-7**

**Ephesians 4:14-16**

Growing to maturity and unity in Christ

**Psalms 113:7**

He raises the poor from the dust,  
and lifts the needy from the ash heap.

**Proverbs 14:31**

Those who oppress the poor insult their Maker,  
but those who are kind to the needy honour him.

**Matthew 25:31-45**

When the King comes

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*Prayer*

**BIBLE LESSON 9****PRINCIPLE 9: PROMOTE FAIR TRADE**

The organisation raises awareness of the aim of Fair Trade and of the need for greater justice in world trade through Fair Trade. It advocates for the objectives and activities of Fair Trade according to the scope of the organisation.

“Until the great mass  
of the people shall be filled  
with the sense of responsibility  
for each other’s welfare,  
social justice can never be attained.”

Helen Keller

What good is it, my brothers and  
sisters, if you say you have faith  
but do not have works?  
Can faith save you?  
If a brother or sister is naked and lacks  
daily food, and one of you says to  
them, “Go in peace; keep warm and eat  
your fill,” and yet you do not supply  
their bodily needs, what is the good of  
that? So faith by itself, if it has no  
works, is dead.

James 2:14-17

Study these scriptures in relation to Fair Trade Principle 9:

- Micah 3:8-12** Against Israel’s leaders – they should promote just practices, not take advantage of their positions
- Luke 16:19-31** The rich man wants his brothers to be aware of indifference to the poor
- James 2:1-18** Warning against prejudices. Faith and action.
- Ezekiel 45:9-11** God’s call for justice and ceasing of oppression



A detailed line drawing of a flowering branch, possibly a rose, with several large, open flowers and long, pointed leaves. The illustration is rendered in a light gray or teal color, blending with the background. It is positioned on the left side of the page, partially overlapping the colored circles.

*Word*

*Reflection*

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*Prayer*

**BIBLE LESSON 10****PRINCIPLE 10: RESPECT FOR THE ENVIRONMENT**

Organisations which produce Fair Trade products maximise the use of raw materials from sustainably managed sources in their ranges, buying locally when possible. They use production technologies that seek to reduce energy consumption and where possible use renewable energy technologies that minimise greenhouse gas emissions.

“The crucified planet Earth  
should it find a voice and a sense of  
irony, might now well say of  
our abuse of it, “Forgive them Father,  
they know not what they do.”  
The irony would be that  
we know what we are doing.”

Kurt Vonnegut

The earth is the LORD’s  
and all that is in it, the world, and those  
who live in it;  
for he has founded it on the seas  
and established it on the rivers.

Psalms 24:1-2

Study these scriptures in relation to Fair Trade Principle 10:

**Genesis 1:24-31**

Human responsibility to care for God’s good creation

**Psalms 24:1**

The World and all that it contains belongs to God

**Job 38**

God answers Job – God the Creator

**Matthew 6:24-34**

God’s provision – for all creatures

**Psalms 8:6-9**

The place of humans and our responsibilities.

**Psalms 50:9-12**

God’s ownership of creation

**Psalms 65:9-13**

God send rain to the fertile soil

**1Chronicles 16:31-34**

All creation praises God (See also Psalm 148)

**Isaiah 40:1-11**

Words of hope

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*Word*

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**APPENDIX A – DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE 10 PRINCIPLES OF FAIR TRADE**

Year: 2017

World Fair Trade Organisation (WFTO) prescribes 10 Principles that Fair Trade Organizations must follow in their day-to-day work and carries out monitoring to ensure these principles are upheld:

**Principle One: Creating Opportunities for Economically Disadvantaged Producers**

Poverty reduction through trade forms a key part of the organization's aims. The organization supports marginalized small producers, whether these are independent family businesses, or grouped in associations or co-operatives. It seeks to enable them to move from income insecurity and poverty to economic self-sufficiency and ownership. The organization has a plan of action to carry this out.

**Principle Two: Transparency and Accountability**

The organization is transparent in its management and commercial relations. It is accountable to all its stakeholders and respects the sensitivity and confidentiality of commercial information supplied. The organization finds appropriate, participatory ways to involve employees, members and producers in its decision-making processes. It ensures that relevant information is provided to all its trading partners. The communication channels are good and open at all levels of the supply chain.

**Principle Three: Fair Trading Practices**

The organization trades with concern for the social, economic and environmental well-being of marginalized small producers and does not maximize profit at their expense. It is responsible and professional in meeting its commitments in a timely manner. Suppliers respect contracts and deliver products on time and to the desired quality and specifications.

Fair Trade buyers, recognizing the financial disadvantages faced by Producers and Suppliers of FT products, ensure orders are paid on receipt of documents or as mutually agreed. For Handicraft FT products, an interest free pre-payment of at least 50 % is made on request. For Food FT products, pre- payment of at least 50% at a reasonable interest is made if requested. Interest rates that the suppliers pay must not be higher than the buyers' cost of borrowing from third parties. Charging interest is not required.



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Where southern Fair Trade suppliers receive a pre-payment from buyers, they ensure that this payment is passed on to the producers or farmers who make or grow their Fair Trade products.

Buyers consult with suppliers before cancelling or rejecting orders. Where orders are cancelled through no fault of producers or suppliers, adequate compensation is guaranteed for work already done. Suppliers and producers consult with buyers if there is a problem with delivery, and ensure compensation is provided when delivered quantities and qualities do not match those invoiced.

The organization maintains long term relationships based on solidarity, trust and mutual respect that contribute to the promotion and growth of Fair Trade. It maintains effective communication with its trading partners. Parties involved in a trading relationship seek to increase the volume of the trade between them and the value and diversity of their product offer as a means of growing Fair Trade for the producers in order to increase their incomes. The organization works cooperatively with the other Fair Trade Organizations in country and avoids unfair competition. It avoids duplicating the designs or patterns of other organizations without permission.

Fair Trade recognizes, promotes and protects the cultural identity and traditional skills of small producers as reflected in their craft designs, food products and other related services.

### **Principle Four: Fair Payment**

A fair payment is one that has been mutually negotiated and agreed by all through on-going dialogue and participation, which provides fair pay to the producers and can also be sustained by the market, taking into account the principle of equal pay for equal work by women and men. The aim is always the payment of a Local Living Wage. Fair Payment is made up of Fair Prices, Fair Wages and Local Living Wages.

#### **Fair Prices**

A Fair Price is freely negotiated through dialogue between the buyer and the seller and is based on transparent price setting. It includes a fair wage and a fair profit. Fair prices represent an equitable share of the final price to each player in the supply chain.

#### **Fair Wages**

A Fair Wage is an equitable, freely negotiated and mutually agreed wage, and presumes the payment of at least a Local Living Wage.

#### **Local Living Wage**

A Local Living Wage is remuneration received for a standard working week (no more than 48 hours) by a Worker in a particular place, sufficient to afford a decent standard of living for the Worker and her or his family. Elements of a decent standard of living include food, water, housing, education, health care, transport, clothing, and other essential needs, including provision for unexpected events.

### **Principle Five: Ensuring no Child Labour and Forced Labour**



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The organization adheres to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, and national / local law on the employment of children. The organization ensures that there is no forced labour in its workforce and / or members or homeworkers.

Organizations who buy Fair Trade products from producer groups either directly or through intermediaries ensure that no forced labour is used in production and the producer complies with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, and national / local law on the employment of children. Any involvement of children in the production of Fair Trade products (including learning a traditional art or craft) is always disclosed and monitored and does not adversely affect the children's well-being, security, educational requirements and need for play.

### **Principle Six: Commitment to Non Discrimination, Gender Equity and Women's Economic Empowerment and Freedom of Association**

The organization does not discriminate in hiring, remuneration, access to training, promotion, termination or retirement based on race, caste, national origin, religion, disability, gender, sexual orientation, union membership, political affiliation, HIV/Aids status or age.

The organization has a clear policy and plan to promote gender equality that ensures that women as well as men have the ability to gain access to the resources that they need to be productive and also the ability to influence the wider policy, regulatory, and institutional environment that shapes their livelihoods and lives. Organizational constitutions and by-laws allow for and enable women to become active members of the organization in their own right (where it is a membership based organization), and to take up leadership positions in the governance structure regardless of women's status in relation to ownership of assets such as land and property. Where women are employed within the organization, even where it is an informal employment situation, they receive equal pay for equal work. The organization recognizes women's full employment rights and is committed to ensuring that women receive their full statutory employment benefits. The organization takes into account the special health and safety needs of pregnant women and breast-feeding mothers.

The organization respects the right of all employees to form and join trade unions of their choice and to bargain collectively. Where the right to join trade unions and bargain collectively are restricted by law and/or political environment, the organization will enable means of independent and free association and bargaining for employees. The organization ensures that representatives of employees are not subject to discrimination in the workplace.

### **Principle Seven: Ensuring Good Working Conditions**

The organization provides a safe and healthy working environment for employees and / or members. It complies, at a minimum, with national and local laws and ILO conventions on health and safety.

Working hours and conditions for employees and / or members (and any homeworkers) comply with conditions established by national and local laws and ILO conventions.



## Faith Groups Resource

Fair Trade Organizations are aware of the health and safety conditions in the producer groups they buy from. They seek, on an ongoing basis, to raise awareness of health and safety issues and improve health and safety practices in producer groups.

### **Principle Eight: Providing Capacity Building**

The organization seeks to increase positive developmental impacts for small, marginalized producers through Fair Trade.

The organization develops the skills and capabilities of its own employees or members. Organizations working directly with small producers develop specific activities to help these producers improve their management skills, production capabilities and access to markets - local / regional / international / Fair Trade and mainstream as appropriate. Organizations which buy Fair Trade products through Fair Trade intermediaries in the South assist these organizations to develop their capacity to support the marginalized producer groups that they work with.

### **Principle Nine: Promoting Fair Trade**

The organization raises awareness of the aim of Fair Trade and of the need for greater justice in world trade through Fair Trade. It advocates for the objectives and activities of Fair Trade according to the scope of the organization. The organization provides its customers with information about itself, the products it markets, and the producer organizations or members that make or harvest the products. Honest advertising and marketing techniques are always used.

### **Principle Ten: Respect for the Environment**

Organizations which produce Fair Trade products maximize the use of raw materials from sustainably managed sources in their ranges, buying locally when possible. They use production technologies that seek to reduce energy consumption and where possible use renewable energy technologies that minimize greenhouse gas emissions. They seek to minimize the impact of their waste stream on the environment. Fair Trade agricultural commodity producers minimize their environmental impacts, by using organic or low pesticide use production methods wherever possible.

Buyers and importers of Fair Trade products give priority to buying products made from raw materials that originate from sustainably managed sources, and have the least overall impact on the environment.

All organizations use recycled or easily biodegradable materials for packing to the extent possible, and goods are dispatched by sea wherever possible.

*Version: December 2017 (with the latest EGM 2017 changes)*



## APPENDIX B – MORE INFORMATION ABOUT FAIR TRADE

### What's the difference: Fair Trade and Fairtrade?

**'Fair Trade'** is a Movement: a socially innovative response to market failure - the failure of the conventional trade system to provide just wages, safe working conditions and environmental standards for vulnerable communities. Fair Trade challenges unfair trading practices by creating an alternative approach to international trade. Fair Trade provides: a system that seeks greater equity in price setting for producers, farmers, artisans and workers; a fair payment that covers the cost of production; a local living wage that covers the basics of food, shelter, clothing, education and medical care; reinvestment into community schools, health care clinics and skills development and respect for the environment.'

**'Fairtrade'** is a product certification label. A business can use the Fairtrade Label on products certified as meeting international Fairtrade standards. In Australia, common Fairtrade<sup>TM</sup> products include Chocolate coffee, tea, and cotton.' Visit [fairtrade.com.au](http://fairtrade.com.au) (FTA Mothers Day Shopping Guide, 2020)

### Distinctive features of Fair Trade

Based on the definitions the differences between 'Trade' and 'Fair Trade' become apparent. **Trade**, as defined, is purely a transaction. There is no hint as to whether the trade contract has any ethical component. It is simply a business deal and totally exposed to corruption, cheating and exercising of financial pressure by the more powerful partner.

**Fair Trade**, by contrast, has a highly ethical component. It is based on relationship where people are more important than pure profit. Key words are 'dialogue', 'transparency' and 'respect'.

### How do we know it's Fair Trade?

If a claim is made that a product is 'Fair Trade', then there needs to be some supporting evidence. Increasingly discerning consumers want to ensure that the people who produced the products they purchase were paid a fair wage, worked in healthy conditions in an environmentally sustainable way. With the rise of the desire to purchase ethically sourced goods has also come the emergence of false Fair Trade claims.

Thus the WFTO has produced '10 Principles of Fair Trade' as global benchmarks against which all products claiming to be 'Fair Trade' must be assessed. For detailed descriptions of the 10 Principles, refer to our list of Appendices.

## APPENDIX C – BRIEF HISTORY OF FAIR TRADE

(**Bold applies to Australia**)

18, 19<sup>th</sup> Centuries. Anti-slavery movements, especially UK & US.

1791 Sugar Boycott in England. The public, and especially women, were encouraged not to buy or use sugar produced in the West Indies by slaves. As a result about 300,000 people boycotted sugar and sales began to drop.

1901 Cadbury family (Quakers) distressed to find slaves used in the cocoa plantations.

1946 Ten Thousand Villages (formerly Self-Help Crafts) in the US began buying needlework from Puerto Rico.

1958 The first formal “Fair Trade” shop opened in 1958 in the USA.

**1965 Community Aid Abroad established Trade Action Pty Ltd in, selling goods that had been handmade by project partners.**

1965 Oxfam in the UK established the Bridge scheme as an Alternative Trading organisation.

1967 Fair Trade Original was established in the Netherlands.

1968 second UNCTAD conference (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development) in Delhi communicated the message “Trade not Aid.”

1973, Fair Trade Original in the Netherlands, imported the first traded coffee from cooperatives of small farmers in Guatemala. After the success of coffee, many fair trading organisations expanded their food range and started selling commodity products like tea, cocoa, sugar, wine, fruit juices, nuts, rice and spices

**1977 Tradewinds Tea and Coffee Pty Ltd began as the World Development Tea Cooperative (WDTC)**

1978, Trade Action had 22 stores nationally, with profits being used to subsidise Community Aid Abroad’s administration costs.

1979 Traidcraft commenced in the UK

1984 The first European World Shops conference took place

1987 European Fair Trade Association (EFTA) was formed

1988 Dutch Max Havelaar Quality Mark Established

1989, The International Federation of Alternative Trade formed in the Netherlands.

1992 Fairtrade Foundation set up in UK.

1994 The Network of European World Shops (NEWS!) was formally established

1997 Fairtrade Labelling International (FLO, now Fairtrade International) was created

2002 The International Fair Trade Mark established by Fairtrade International (FLO)

2002 (4thMay) The first World Fair Trade Day. This involves the worldwide Fair Trade movement and now takes place on the second Saturday of May each year. [www.wftday.org](http://www.wftday.org)

**2003 Fairtrade Australia and the Fair Trade Association commence**

2003 The first products bearing the FLO International Fairtrade Certification Mark sold in Australia

2009 The International Federation of Alternative Trade changed its name to World Fair Trade Organization

**2011 The first endorsed "Fair Traders of Australia" achieved their seal**

2013 WFTO AGM approved the new Guarantee System based on 10 Principles of Fair Trade and International Labour Organisation (ILO) conventions.

Source: [Tribes and Nations](#)

## APPENDIX D – OUR FAIR TRADE JOURNEY STORY

***Noelene and John Martin are an example of a committed couple who lived and advocated for Fair Trade from the late 1970's to present time. Noelene sadly passed away in 2014. Her husband, John continues with the advocacy work with passion as he has seen how Fair Trade has positively impacted lives. This is an inspiring story written by John.***

Our first encounter with fair trade was in the early 1980s when I was the minister of a small group of Uniting Churches based on Coolamon (population 1200) near Wagga Wagga in NSW. Through the World Development Tea Cooperative, we acquired a tea chest full of woven baskets of broken orange pekoe tea to sell through the church and community.

<https://www.tradewinds.org.au/page/about-us/our-story/> People loved the little baskets and enjoyed the tea but as non-tea drinkers we could not evaluate.

In 1985 our family moved to Shropshire in England where I became a United Reformed Church minister. A mailing from the central church office arrived with all sorts of information including a Traidcraft catalogue. In the catalogue was an appeal for volunteer representatives. Noelene said, "I would like to do that." Six words that changed our lives. Noelene trotted around North Shropshire to Church and community groups talking about fair trade and lugging boxes of tea, coffee, chocolate, honey, sugar, baskets, crafts, paper. All squeezed into our in our Mini Metro. All fair trade products. If it was an event where the whole family went lighter boxes were placed on the laps of anyone not driving the car, children included. Often Noelene would work with Charles Worth the local Christian Aid man and our families became friends. There was great excitement when fresh supplies arrived at our rural manse with children keen to see what treasures lay in the boxes.

For more on the history of Traidcraft see <https://www.traidcraft.co.uk/traidcraft-history>

Back in Australia, in Taree in 1988 there was nothing quite like Traidcraft. Noelene established her own little informal business which she called 'Taree Third World Trading'. Products were sourced principally from the World Development Tea Cooperative, and a group importing fairly traded crafts mostly from the Pacific called 'Trading Partners' and 'Community Aid Abroad'. She organised Fair Trade days in the church, tea tastings in our home and talked to groups.

By 1996 when we moved to Penrith Uniting Church she started again. A small group established the Global Market Place which was designed to sell fair trade products from an arcade shop in Penrith and provide a surplus for Lifeline. Unfortunately, as the case with many fair trade enterprises customers were put off by the price they had to pay when goods are produced where fair wages are paid. We held tea tastings in our home and other events.

In 2006 I became an aged care chaplain and we joined the Springwood Uniting Church. Each Sunday we ran a small tea, coffee and chocolate stall at the Springwood Uniting Church with supplies from nearby 'Tribes and Nations'. In 2011 Springwood became a Fair Trade Faith Group using tea and coffee from Tribes and Nations.

By now sufficient small businesses specialising in Fair Trade products had developed and in 2012 Noelene was instrumental in bringing more than 20 together to establish the Springwood Uniting Church Fair Trade Fair which continues to be held annually in November.

By now Fairtrade labelled products such as tea, coffee and chocolate were becoming available in Supermarkets and health food shops.

I had seen an appeal for volunteers with the Fair Trade Association and thought that would be a good opportunity for when I retired. However, with Noelene's sudden death in August, 2014, retirement was hastened by a year along with a move to Queensland to be near my daughter and her family.

And here, with the inspiration of Noelene and the certainty that this is God's plan for my life, I continue to promote Fair Trade as an expression of the Justice component of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

### APPENDIX E – HYMNS TO HELP REFLECT GOD'S HEART FOR JUSTICE

We limit not the truth of God  
To our poor reach of mind,  
By notions of our day and sect,  
Crude, partial and confined.  
No, let a new and better hope  
Within our hearts be stirred:  
The Lord hath yet more light and truth  
To break forth from His Word.

Our faithful forebears searching went  
The first steps of the way;  
This was the dawning yet to grow  
Into the perfect day;  
And grow it shall, our glorious Sun  
Will brighter rays afford:  
The Lord hath yet more light and truth  
To break forth from His Word.

O Father, Son and Spirit, send  
Us increase from above;  
Enlarge, expand all living souls  
To comprehend your love;  
And make us all go on to know  
With nobler powers conferred:  
The Lord hath yet more light and truth  
To break forth from His Word.

*George Rawson (alt), Together in Song 453*

God has spoken by his prophets,  
spoken his unchanging Word;  
each, from age to age proclaiming  
God the one, the righteous Lord.  
In the world's despair and turmoil  
one firm anchor holds us fast,  
God is king his throne eternal,  
God the first and God the last.

God has spoken by Christ Jesus,  
Christ, the everlasting Son,  
brightness of the Father's glory,  
with the Father, ever one:  
spoken by the Word incarnate,  
God from God ere time began,  
Light from Light, to earth descending,  
God revealed as Son of man.

God is speaking by his Spirit  
speaking to our hearts again;  
in the age-long Word expounding  
God's own message, now as then.  
Through the rise and fall of nations  
one sure faith is standing fast:  
God still speaks, his Word unchanging,  
God the first and God the last.

*George Wallace Briggs (alt), Together in Song 158*