

# THE EMBER

THE YOUTH EDITION OF DC. NEWS AT DELIVERANCE CHURCH MAKERERE HILL



Welcome to The Ember, the heartbeat of Deliverance Church Makerere Hill's youth!

In a world that's constantly changing, it's easy to feel like our flames are dwindling, our passions waning, and our purpose getting lost in the noise. But we're reminded that even in the darkest moments, a single ember can spark a fire that burns brighter than ever before.

The Ember is that spark, a beacon

of hope and inspiration for young believers to reignite their passion for Christ. Like a glowing coal, we're

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 "For this reason I remind you to *fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands.*" - 2 Timothy 1:6-7  
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proof that the fire of faith isn't dead; it's just waiting for a breath of wind to blaze again.

Our prayer is that this newsletter will be that gust, stirring you to action, reigniting your zeal, and propelling you to be the light in a world that desperately needs it. Join us as we explore what it means to live a life ablaze for God, to fan the flames of faith, and to let our light shine brightly in the darkness.

**Let us ignite a fire that refuses to be snuffed out!**

# FOREWORD

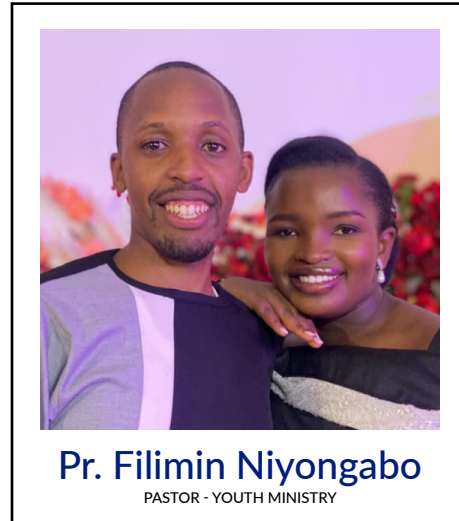
Greetings in the matchless Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It is with deep gratitude to the Gracious Almighty God, who ordains times and seasons, that I welcome you to The Ember, the youth-led newsletter of Deliverance Church Makerere Hill.

When the Lord, in His sovereign wisdom, opened new seasonal gates, He impressed holy burdens upon the hearts of our Youth Ministry leadership to advance His Kingdom in four sacred pursuits: the teaching of the infallible truths of God's Word through Bible-centred fellowships; the cultivation of a prayerful lifestyle; intentional leadership development; and the stewarding of worship and creative expression.

The Ember stands as a creative testimony of God's faithfulness, made evident through His works among the

youth.

The Apostle Paul exhorts the youthful Timothy to "fan into flame the gift of God" (2 Timothy 1:6). An ember,



**Pr. Filimin Niyongabo**  
PASTOR - YOUTH MINISTRY

though small, carries the promise of a blazing fire. In the same way, God has deposited within our young people gifts of grace, calling and destiny –

awaiting nurturing, obedience and faith to burn brightly for His glory.

This publication is more than a newsletter; it is a chronicle of discipleship, a witness to transformation, and a voice of a generation being shaped for Kingdom impact.

Within these pages are stories of faith refined, leadership forged, creativity sanctified and lives aligned to God's purposes. I am encouraged by the faithful stewardship of our youth, today's torchbearers of God's mighty works across generations (Psalm 145:4).

My prayer is that The Ember will stir hearts, awaken devotion and strengthen resolve until every gift entrusted is faithfully stewarded and every life shines as a light in a darkened world.

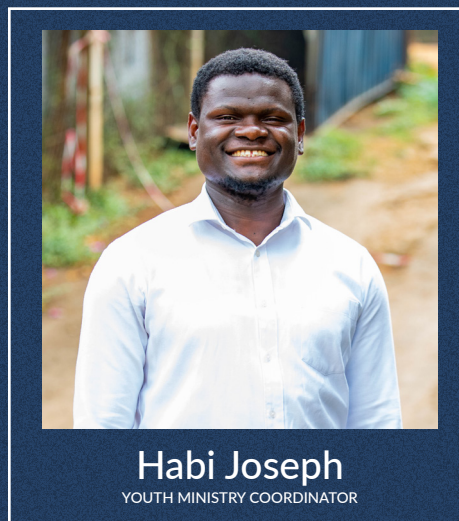
Greetings in the Name of the Lord! We are glad that you have spared time and interest to read through our very first edition of our Youth Newsletter.

I draw great inspiration from the life and ministry of the Apostle Paul: the fact as he traversed the known world with the Gospel, he never for once forgot to write and update his partners in the same ministry about the exploits, experiences and reminding them of the basis of the ministry (Christ Jesus), sharing encouragement and transacting through prayer for the saints. He did not forget to give thanks for help or even to ask for more when he was in need.

In the same way, the Youth Ministry desires that through this initiative, we can keep in the warmth of our partners and all stakeholders who add flesh to what we do. You being part of such

gracious people, we are very glad that you spared time to catch this update. May God bless you.

Many thanks to our very first team of



**Habi Joseph**  
YOUTH MINISTRY COORDINATOR

editors, who worked tirelessly to have this first edition done, and done so well. Thank you Dismas Nuwaine for

accepting to be thrown into the deep waters as we pioneer this great vision. May God richly bless you.

Finally, thanks to the leadership of Deliverance Church Makerere Hill for providing the blessing and cover to nurture this vision. We are very eager to serve under your watch, and we pray that we shall do it with a humble and teachable spirit. We pray and believe that we shall contribute to the vision of *Discipling the Nations* through this gesture of servant leadership in the information era.

To all our readers and partners in this great calling, I pray that you enjoy reading this, and we are very available to receive feedback as we seek to continue improving our delivery. Thank you for the support and love. Blessings.

# ... but, how are you?

## The Editor's Note

Yes, you, the one reading this. Who else would I be asking? And just in case you're wondering, I'm well... at least for the most part. You know these days, we have learnt to be very diplomatic with how we answer the "How are you?" question.

I keep hearing some very interesting responses, two of which stand out. Funny enough, I've used them myself, yet I'm still not sure I fully understand them. The first is: "I am managing." The second: "I am trying." Someone please, if you can, and you have my number, explain to me these responses in detail.

On a serious note however, I welcome you to the first edition of *The Ember*, our Youth Newsletter.

Now, working on a newsletter for young people in this day and age, many of whom are more thrilled by the swipe and scroll than by the flipping of a page, might seem counter-intuitive, even

strange. But let's pause and examine the psychology behind it.

When Habi Joseph, the Youth Ministry Coordinator, first shared this idea with me on that Thursday evening, I found



myself smiling from ear to ear. Almost instantly, my mind began to wander, to imagine what this could become.

I envisioned a nursery bed: a platform

where young people can tell the young people's stories in the most creative way they know how, in the language they best understand, both here at Church and across the wider community of believers.

These are stories that transcend events. Events after all, happen on specific days. They are planned, scheduled, and can be revisited in hindsight. But the stories from these events often go untold, the impact unnoticed.

This newsletter therefore exists to bridge this gap. We want to spotlight and preserve these stories; to ensure that what God is doing among the youth is not only experienced in the moment, but also documented, reflected upon, and shared for the encouragement of many.

**Choose to be part of this move and write with us.**



# Genesis and the Road to Parliament

By. Dismas Nuwaine

His radiance is hard to miss. Conversational and so full of life, a visionary with dreams the size of a truck. His suit, a warm shade of blue, is tailored to a fault! He knows it and is not shy about it. "I bought it myself," he tells me.

He's already a founder; a fact he'll tell anyone who cares to ask. Folks, say hello to Genesis Akampwera: entrepreneur, restaurateur, master of ceremonies, and soon, perhaps, your next Member of Parliament.

He's quite the extrovert, this Genesis! Effortlessly confident and very comfortable in his own skin. So it hardly comes as a shock that he has thrown his weight into the political ring, gunning for the Rubanda West Constituency seat, a swath of land with well-sheltered hills, tucked between Kabale and Kisoro in the greater Kigezi sub-region.

Asked why he has chosen the road of politics, his answer is typical of the man. "Why not?" he shoots back, rhetorical and self-assured, as though the question itself misses the obvious.

To him, it was never if but when. The time, he insists, is now. "Why must we keep claiming that politics is dirty when we leave it to dirty people?" he asks sharply. "It's about time we start playing this game."

This confidence is part of what makes

Genesis both intriguing and polarizing. Friends call it courage, some critics call it arrogance. He calls it clarity.

For him, dismissing politics is a luxury Ugandans can no longer afford. Those

- formulating policy and repealing and making laws - who set the climate for socioeconomic transformation. That's why we need clear-headed individuals in the August house."

He pauses, leans forward, and adds calmly, "And this is where I come in."

## Omuhigi - "The Hunter"

Genesis has adopted a striking mantra for his election bid. "Omuhigi" - a Runyankore-Rukiga word for hunter. "I've come to hunt, lobby and feed my people," he explains.

The phrase is more than a catchword, he says, it is symbolic; a pointed critique of the politics of empty promises.

"These traditional politicians present themselves as Messianic figures, making unrealistic promises, and in the end, they leave our people reeling in disappointment," he says.

He added, "They talk about building roads and hospitals as if they can do it by their own power. My manifesto is different - it's based on what we can realistically achieve. I must manage expectations."

Genesis' vision for Rubanda West spans infrastructure development, youth empowerment programs, improved health care, and expanded access to clean water.

"I must lobby to set up a mineral refining



who distance themselves from it, he argues, simply don't understand its reach.

*"Why must we keep claiming that politics is dirty when we leave it to dirty people?"*

"People who say they don't like politics are just ignorant," he declares without apology. "Politics is the master of all arts. It's the men and women in Parliament

factory for my people," he says. "Why should iron ore from our rich deposits be taken all the way to Tororo for refining? What if that process happened here? Wouldn't it create more jobs?"

He sees job creation as the key to broader social transformation. "When people have work and income, they can afford education, better health care, and other essential services."

He adds, "It's about creating a cycle of opportunity that benefits everyone."

## Making of the man

Genesis traces his roots to Rugarambiro, a small village in Muko Sub-county, West Rubanda - once part of greater Kabale. It is home to stunning hills, well-sheltered valleys, and an old culture that is nestled into them. It is also the land of Irish potatoes, and a people for

whom celebration is second nature.

This was the first world Genesis ever knew. As a young boy, he mapped the winding footpaths on the long, bumpy and often tedious trek to Muko-Butale Primary School, where he began his education.

His time there was short-lived. When his father found work in Kampala's Central Business District, the family relocated, and Genesis transferred to Kazo Junior Primary School, where he completed his primary studies.

His first choice secondary school was a no brainer. He went back to his home region, joining Kigezi High School for O'levels. Later, he studied his A'levels at Makerere High School Migadde in Wakiso.

This Genesis comes from a long line of leaders. His great-grandfather had

been a respected village chief. At university, Genesis followed in those steps. He became speaker for the School of Computing and Information Technology.

Before long, he threw his hat into the ring for Guild President. He lost, but the defeat did little to dent his resolve. "It could have gone either way," he reflects with a shrug.

Business came next. Genesis shifted gears, focusing on building ventures of his own. Politics, seemingly, was behind him, or so he thought.

One day a man of God, whom he only calls "Chosen," challenged him not to run from his calling.

And so, he is back. Back, as he likes to say, "like I never left." Only this time, the stakes are much higher.

## Maximize YOUR NOW

By Mrs. Christy Ainembabazi

One thing I've learned is this: seasons don't last forever. High school, campus, even the "waiting seasons" in between - they all pass quicker than you expect. And if you don't maximize them, you'll look back wishing you had done more with the opportunities right in front of you.

For me, high school laid the foundation. It's where I first set goals: to excel academically, to choose uplifting friends, and to serve God in ministry. Those three became my compass. By the time I got to campus, I already knew that friends shape your destiny, time is a kingdom resource, and saying "no" is sometimes the most spiritual word you can utter.

Campus itself was like being handed a buffet - so many options, but you can't

eat everything. There were nights when my friends were planning yet another outing, and I had to laugh and say, "Not this time - I've got an early class and a movie to finish." (Okay, sometimes I wanted the nap more than both!)



But choosing wisely is what kept me anchored.

Of course, the journey wasn't without surprises. I once stood for MP in the School of Education and lost. At first, I thought it was a failure. But that "loss" turned into a set-up - God later opened the door for me to serve as the Minister for the Presidency. That taught me that closed doors often mean He's

redirecting us to higher ground.

And then there were moments of divine favor. One of my lecturers noticed my work and invited me into the Honors College. That invitation wasn't just about grades - it was about stewardship. Excellence, I realized, is not just for applause; it's for God's glory and the service of others.

Looking back, the secret was never perfection. It was trusting God step by step, doing well with what was in my hands, and remembering that every season counts. King Solomon said it best: there's a time for everything.

We may not see the big picture as God does, but we can steward our time and gifts in ways that have generational impact. So to every student reading this: maximize your now.

**Set goals. Choose wisely. Serve joyfully.**

And trust God with the seasons you can't yet see - because each one, whether exciting or ordinary, is preparing you for something greater.

# HEAD, HEART, AND HANDS?

By. Habi Joseph

For over two decades, Deliverance Church Uganda has passionately invested in outdoor experiential learning through annual residential youth camps. These have extended to regional experiences across the nation to cover nearly all the branches. To improve the experience, the church has taken an initiative to learn from the deep wells of others who went ahead of us.

In September this year, a team of seven representatives from both the Children's and Youth Ministry departments had a chance of traveling to Mombasa, Kenya joining a team from Musana Camps, for the annual African Christian Camping conference. Additionally, we were also joined by nationals from Kenya, Ethiopia, Rwanda, South Africa, UK, and USA.

The experience started with a roadtrip from Kampala to Nairobi on September 30th, resting for a night before continuing to Mombasa via the modern train transportation network (SGR). Truth be told, it is such an experience I would wish for everyone to partake at least once in a lifetime.

Aboard, we continuously met the members who had also arrived in



Nairobi on a collective expedition to Mombasa.

## What is ACC?

The African Christian Camping (ACC) brings together churches, organizations, and venues that facilitate Christian formation and grow leaders through intentional camping programmes with an objective of

discipleship and multiplication of good camping practices on the African soils.

ACC holds annual training conferences within the region to share knowledge and build connections among various practitioners.

## Why Christian Camping?

This is one of the favorite things our own pastor Filimin Niyongabo loves to share while training youth leaders and volunteers about outdoor learning. He loves to summarize it with the acronym, T.I.M.E. Camping usually requires us to move away from our comfort zones to a temporarily set up place for given period of time.

**T**ransformation, he says, is a key factor in Christian camping.



Giving an example of Jesus and His disciples; he often took them away from the crowds to teach them intricate details about the Kingdom of God. This separation alone set them apart from those who simply came for specific needs and left.

Therefore, one of our focus points in camps is for each of us to have a chance for transformation through Christ.

Another vital part of Christian Camps

is **Interaction**. As one would expect, it is inevitable to meet new faces at the camping site, and as social beings, we would desire to know about those we are sharing the experiences with. It is in the time of separation with His disciples that Jesus asked the disciples a very profound question, **“But what about you?”** he asked. **“Who do you say I am?”** (Matthew 16:15). This seemingly innocent question brought about deeper understanding to the disciples, though it was complete much later after His resurrection.

Similarly, through Christian camps, we are able to dedicate time to reading of the Word, share in small groups, and learn from the natural environment. It is not just enough to be at a camp, but we encourage interactions to trully

understand what each one of us is going through, and through that we increase chances of being helped or helping others. Let alone lessons we can learn from one another.

The third aspect of why we do

**M** Christian camps is **Modeling**. It is very important to have Christ at the center of our lives. To do this, enormous effort is put on “modeling Christ” for every camper in every activity from the time waking up until bed time.

I for one have benefited from this, as I longed to be just like my first camp facilitator, who not only led Bible study so well, but also played the keyboard so skilfully. To this day, I love to facilitate teens camps because I know how much impact and influence it can have on another generation. And I have seen so many young people remain very active in ministry and grow in the faith from such commitment to model Christ in their own lives.

Lastly, Christian camps value

**E** **Experiential** learning. Camping experiences are carefully crafted to deliver practical lessons. Some of these are never forgotten, and form profound memories for the campers as they participate.

Though the activities are shared by all

campers, each draws a unique lesson from the experience in relation to their own life circumstances and other sessions in the camp.

## Head, Heart, and Hands?

To sum it all up, we take in information through our heads and intellect; our interactions and perceptions are sparked off our hearts; and then we learn best by doing with our hands.

Christian camping is not just about leaving home, but to take quality time to learn from every activity, meditation, and interaction with those we go with. These and many more are some of the key lessons the shared through the Africa Christian Camp conference in Mombasa. The team traveled safely, connected, shared the very native dishes of kenyan origin, and of course had a beach experience at the Indian Ocean.

We are more than grateful to the leadership of Deliverance Church Makerere Hill for the dedication to honoring the annual subscription and investing in the training experiece. We are excited to keep sharing this knowledge to improve our camping experience back at home.



# Pambazuka: The African Dream

By. Cronnie Owomugisha

James Musinguzi took his seat at the Uganda National Theatre expecting nothing more than a good show. After all, it was his first time at the theatre. What he walked out with, however, was a wake-up call.

Pambazuka: The African Dream, a play by Deliverance Church Makerere Hill, told a story that felt uncomfortably close to his own life as a university student. Like many of his peers, James was navigating campus life under the quiet weight of peer pressure, trying to fit in, and slowly drifting into circles that did not reflect the future he hoped for.

Hosted on 4th October, the production took audiences through a relatable portrayal of campus life in a typical Ugandan university. It captured the friendships, struggles, dreams, and small victories that define student life in the four walls, holding up a mirror to choices students make every day.



It was a rollercoaster of emotions throughout the play. Some moments grew tense, and the theatre fell silent. Others evoked hearty laughter. As the story progressed, James saw reflections of his own life on stage.

Behind the scenes, just before the big reveal, the cast and crew moved with high energy, each trying to stay calm. Play minders and stage managers, mostly unseen by the audience, stayed busy, moving between the band and the actors to ensure everything flowed smoothly.

The costumes of the actors were adjusted in realtime and the last-minute prayer made by the play Director, Deacon Judah Muwanguzi settled even the most nervous performers.

The actors gave their all, and while at it, improvised hilariously. They delivered

heart-stopping drama, bringing this campus story to life.

Lighting, sound, and scene changes flowed seamlessly, making village compounds, hostel rooms, and campus clubs feel real. The choir's melodious voices added rhythm and soul, tying the performance together.

For James, his lesson was clear.

The play had shown him that peer pressure does not always arrive loudly; sometimes it comes disguised as friendship, fun, and belonging. He realized that the circles he kept were slowly shaping the man he was becoming.



# The Unstoppable Kingdom

## Reflections from Nairobi and Harare

By. Filimin Niyongabo

In 2025, the Lord graciously afforded me the privilege of participating in two significant international gatherings: the Salt & Light International Leaders' Conference held in Nairobi from 13th–16th May, and the INUKA Africa Leaders' Retreat in Harare, Zimbabwe, from 28th October to 2nd November. Both gatherings were anchored on the theme “The Unstoppable Kingdom,” with the latter drawing deeply from Joshua 6–1:3. These moments were not merely conferences attended, but divine encounters that reshaped my understanding of God’s Kingdom and my responsibility within it.

One of the most profound revelations I carried home was the distinction and relationship between the Kingdom of God and the Church. The Kingdom is God’s sovereign rule – eternal, spiritual and unstoppable, while the Church is the community of redeemed people called to manifest that Kingdom on earth. As emphasized in the teachings, the Church does not create the Kingdom; rather, the Kingdom gives birth to the Church. We are therefore not merely gathering people into institutions, but discipling them into alignment with God’s reign, values and

purposes.

Equally transformative was the emphasis on spiritual fatherhood and sonship as God’s chosen strategy for advancing His Kingdom. The Kingdom grows through inheritance, not competition, through relationship, not isolation.

leadership, global collaboration, and the strengthening of African voices in the global Church was both humbling and inspiring.

On a personal level, I remain profoundly grateful to Pastor Nibert Tugume, our Lead Pastor at Deliverance Church Makerere Hill, whose continued



Scripture and lived examples repeatedly affirmed that lasting impact flows from fathers and mothers who intentionally raise sons and daughters, imparting vision, character and Christ’s spiritual DNA.

Paul’s relationship with Timothy became vividly real: the Kingdom advances when sons carry the mantle faithfully into new territories. I was deeply encouraged to attend these gatherings alongside fellow youth leaders from Deliverance Church Uganda, among other Ugandan delegates, under the leadership of our General Overseer, Pastor Peter Idembe. Witnessing generational

openness and trust have positioned me and several young people for mentorship and exposure beyond our local context. His investment reflects true spiritual fathering – raising sons not to remain dependent, but to be released for Kingdom service.

These journeys reaffirmed one truth: the Kingdom of God is indeed unstoppable, and God advances it through surrendered lives, rooted relationships and generational faithfulness. May we, as a youth ministry, continue to steward this revelation – living not for ourselves, but for His ever-expanding Kingdom.



# Elijah: The Making of a Deacon

By. Dismas Nuwaine



When Elijah's primary school teacher asked for a volunteer to lead a kids' service, a young Elijah, in primary four at the time - lean and tall with a wide, eager smile - quickly raised his hand.

Hoisting his shorts as he stood, the young boy, who had first raised his hand to receive salvation just two years earlier in Primary Two, stepped forward and led a simple service before his classmates.

At the time, he could never have imagined it, and neither could his school teacher, but that one small act of courage at such a young and tender age, foreshadowed a greater calling.

Years later, the same teacher was present in church, brimming with joy as she watched the same boy she once taught being ordained Deacon. In her

eyes, he had become a man. And maybe this is what makes this story even more compelling. "To have her witness this moment was a delight," Elijah recalls.

## Becoming a Deacon

It is not unheard of, but indeed unusual, that a Church in the mould of Deliverance Church Makerere Hill would "move" to appoint an unmarried young man as a Deacon.

*"It was shocking. I didn't know how to respond."*

But this is exactly what happened on Sunday, June 29th, when Elijah Mugisha Kainginya's name was read among a select team of 24 new deacons set for ordination.

Unlike his colleagues, each flanked by his wife, Elijah stepped to the pulpit alone, moving with a gait reminiscent of a lion's stately stride. Standing a head taller than the rest, his commanding height ensured he could not be missed.

Now, you might think this is the moment Elijah had been waiting on. Far from it.

When Elijah was first informed that he was being considered to be ordained as deacon, his first reaction was disbelief. The youthful chairperson of the pre-marrieds couldn't believe his ears. To him, not being married should have been a very big red flag, or so he thought.

"It was shocking. I didn't know how to respond," he recalls. Elijah put himself together and told the elder who had first informed him that he would think

about it, but deep down, he expected another outcome.

“There’s no way I was going to meet the criteria,” he thought to himself, “Being disqualified felt like only a matter of time.” He knew for certain, or at least quietly hoped, that at some point he would be dropped. He waited for it. But it never happened.

## It’s not been a Bed of roses.

After his primary school, Elijah joined Ntare school, a prestigious all-boys boarding secondary school, located in Mbarara City, in southwestern Uganda for his O’levels.

Ntare is not ‘typical’ in any simple sense, but it still reflects many of the broader realities and challenges found in Ugandan schools, to serve as a fair example of them. Yes, it’s celebrated for shaping statesmen and noble figures. It’s true. But behind the polished reputation of this legacy school lay

*“I liked dancing. I led the dancing during fellowships, I led Bible Study, but deep down I was struggling.”*

another reality - one that Elijah was about to encounter firsthand.

Though he had recommitted his life to Christ in senior one and had a genuine desire to strengthen his relationship with the Lord, it was his longing to fit

in - to be valued and accepted among the ‘boys’ - that made him susceptible to peer pressure, the kind that pulled him onto paths far removed from that expected of him as a practicing Christian.

“One of the things that crept in was alcohol,” he admitted of the habit he was introduced to and wrestled with for most of his O’ levels.

Elijah wasn’t totally in the drain. He stayed close Christian Union circles. “I liked dancing. I still led the dancing during fellowships. I led Bible Study, but deep down I was struggling,” he confessed.

He did not enjoy the double standard and tried in his own power to break free to no avail. “I always feared what people would think of me if I confessed and this pride of shame had kept me mute,” he said.

## Redemption

In his A-levels, it was clear the Spirit was winning. After repeated promptings from God, Elijah let go of alcohol and other destructive habits. This was his Saul-to-Paul moment.

*“Soon after, the Lord drew me into fellowship with four peers who met daily after class to pray,”* he recalled. That small circle became a furnace of revival, fueling his spiritual growth.

He threw himself into Scripture. Cordoned off one week every month to seek God’s face. By the time he

joined Uganda Christian University (UCU), he was pursuing a life anchored in discipline, prayer, and devotion, something he has carried with himself ever since.

## Elijah the Deacon

The shock is over for Elijah. At least for now. “I have been adjusting and accepting the call of God over my life,” he says. “I am constantly seeking God’s face and asking Him to give me wisdom, guide me, to fulfill His purposes for this calling.”

Now a Deacon, he insists that for a Christian, it’s never about titles. For him at least. “Living as a Christian must be the foundation,” he noted, emphasizing the importance of genuine living as the pedestal upon which God shall judge our actions and motives, and not the titles that we carry.

If anything, every title, equally adds another layer of new found responsibility. This is a fact Elijah knows too well. “I am more intentional, than ever before, concerning my praying for youth, and looking out for those I oversee, within and out of Church.”

He has something to say to young people. *“Maximize the times and seasons the Lord brings our way. If you are at school and you have an opportunity to serve. Don’t hesitate, do serve the Lord in that capacity. It could be Christian Union, Class, Guild. Whatever. Just serve.”*



# A Christian in Hindi Majority India

By. Esther Nagwa

“Namaste.” That’s how we greet one another in India. I know this well because, for the past three years since September 2024, I’ve been pursuing my studies in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

Of all the cultural shifts I’ve experienced, the spiritual one has been the most profound.

Coming from a country where there is open reverence for Jehovah, I was curious to see how Christianity is perceived in India, where it is a minority faith.

On my very first weekend, my roommate suggested I visit one of the two nearby Pentecostal churches that Christian students from our campus attended. My heart leapt - thank God, there are churches! I can fellowship! And so, off we went.

The first church I stepped into was a small, intimate congregation of about sixty people. Worship flowed in several local languages and in English to accommodate everyone.

It was unlike the Pentecostal churches I was used to in Uganda. Men and women sat separately. Women covered their hair. The sermon, often preached in Hindi, was translated into English for those of us who needed it.

To get there, I would take a tuk-tuk - what we call an “auto” - and ride the 2.5 kilometers to church.

Purposely going to church took enormous willpower many times, because for some time the only motivation was obedience. I wasn’t expecting a crew of friends I would greet and laugh with after church, nor was I expecting ground breaking

worship.

There were moments when the band struck the wrong chord, and the whole song seemed to stumble. At first, it was distracting. But then it became a mirror, pushing me to scrutinize my motives behind fellowship, behind worship. I had to ask: why do I worship? Who is it really for?

If I call worship “bad”, whose measure am I using? God’s, or my own? Yes, Scripture urges us to play skillfully before the Lord (Psalm 33:3), yet too often we shift the focus from before

it. Worship and service belong to Jesus, and Jesus alone.

## Okay, where was I?

After a year of struggling to handle the language barrier, I switched to Green city bible church that conducted its services predominantly in English. Here men and women could sit anywhere and women didn’t have to cover their hair, as such, it was much closer to what I was familiar with.

This church is located 5.6km from school and they provide us with a bus



the Lord to before the people. When that happens, worship risks becoming about our enjoyment - or worse, our entertainment - instead of God’s glory. But true worship and service are not for us; they are for Him alone.

Consequently, at this church, I learnt that worship is not about me at all. It’s not about numbers, or how the music sounds, or even how much I “enjoyed”

to and from school; a journey of about 12 minutes. The church is situated just beside the feeder road and can accommodate 200 people.

Due to the larger size of the church, there was more opportunity to serve in the choir. It’s been humbling to know that there are brothers and sisters who are fervently praying for their fellow persecuted believers.



I've felt the deep joy of greeting someone with, "Praise the Lord, brother. Praise the Lord, sister," - a smile, a handshake, and a bond that feels sacred.

We carry so much treasure and hope as Christians, and often we don't realize it. Fellowship has taught me this: the beauty of looking around and seeing that I'm not worshipping alone.

That I am standing before the King I love, surrounded by people who love Him too. I have learned fellowship is a communal act of love to our God and Father.

Another riveting experience has been learning how to spread the gospel. When I had just arrived, I didn't know

how to start sharing the gospel, but I found that being an international student, people are always willing to hear your 'story' or culture.

This has been a God given way to share about the cross. It has been a humbling experience to unlearn and relearn some central dogma about our faith like the trinity and other doctrine with scripture. Paul tells us to be ready to give a reason for the hope that we believe in, and to always do it in love and in respect (1 Peter 3:15).

I am understanding how to be bold and proud of my faith and reject any other thing, still, with gentleness and respect. I remember having to decline

an invitation a close friend of mine gave me to some ritual celebrating one of the gods.

"Why?" she asked. I said, "Well, my God is a jealous God." I have loved seeing the passion and reverence my Indian Christian brothers and sisters have for God.

I have also enjoyed learning Hindi worship songs that have very strong lyrics. I still have so much to learn but for what I have, I thank God. I always look forward to returning to my church in Gandhinagar, living out obedience in both private devotion and public fellowship and service.



# DC has helped me move to a place of active faith

By. Dismas Nuwaine

Stephanie fondly remembers the day she first walked through the doors of Deliverance Church Makerere Hill. That Sunday, in mid-September 2024, was one of those, "Let me just try it out," moments for her.

For three successive months before that, she had tried joining about four other congregations. "I visited two Churches in Bweyogerere, and tried another in Naguru," she said. All this time, it never clicked for her. Something seemed to be off.

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*"I realised I needed more instruction, more study of the Word, not just scattered sermons online."*

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Her relationship with God mirrored this restlessness. "It was confusing," she admits. "Maybe because I was sitting under different priests without any understanding of the Word myself." She started to view God mostly as a magician, she says, "Someone who would just fix things, meet my needs, and forgive my sins."

Deep inside, she knew there had to be more. She longed for a deeper connection. Something real. She just didn't know what.

Before this church-hunt, Stephanie had taken to Youtube for sermons on Sundays. She watched anything she could find. "It quickly became too much," she recalls. "I realised I needed more instruction, more study of the Word, not just scattered sermons online."

Just weeks before this online camp, Stephanie had walked away from faith entirely. She no longer believed in God. She had become Atheist.

## The Genesis

A first born of five, Stephanie grew up in a Catholic home in Mbale City's urban metropolis. She was a good catholic. She met the routine. She attended Sunday Mass, celebrated Christmas and Easter, and confessed her sins to the parish priest.

It was in high school, at the prestigious all girls, Namagunga Secondary School where she gradually, but steadily slumped in her faith. And at campus, things really began falling apart.

"When I came to campus, I didn't know what Church to attend," she recalls. She tried out a few Churches and even some fellowships, but something just wasn't adding up anymore. And since there were no overbearing parents to drag her to Church anymore, she gave it up altogether.

She took offense at what she considered to be "strict rules" of the Church. She felt alienated by a lot of what they were preaching and at the end of the day, perceiving God as nothing more than a punisher - ready to judge, never to love - she decided this was not for her. At that moment she left Christianity. Her growing conviction was reinforced by her hobby.

Stephanie had always loved books. In high school she devoured novel after novel. But at campus, her reading

shifted to leftist writers - books that questioned God, minimized His role in society, and glorified human flaws as strength.

"I bought into that propaganda," she admits. "It only made me believe more and more that Christianity was anti-progressive and discriminatory."

Fast forward to mid-2024, something shifted. She found Christ, and everything began to change.

## Makerere Hill

Back at Makhill, on that first day when she wore that warm blue dress, and gently walked through the nave, at the lead of the usher, what she thought would be just another visit marked the beginning of a new journey she has come to relish.

And this - step of faith - took the

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*"They shared honestly about how scripture applies to everyday life."*

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convincing of a friend. "Faith dropped in my inbox and asked me to come and be part," she recalls, speaking of Faith Murket, her old schoolmate from Namagunga and a committed member of Deliverance Church Makerere Hill.

Her plan that day was simple - attend the Youth Bible Club (YBC), held after the Second Service in the Estates Department office. "I had been searching for a space where I could discuss the Word of God, ask questions, and grow in understanding," she says.

While attending the YBC, she noticed something peculiar about the youths. The young people were not just welcoming, but open and real. "They shared honestly about how scripture applies to everyday life," Stephanie remembers. For her, a young believer hungry to grow, this was exactly what she had been longing for.

At DC, Stephanie has found intentionality. "The variety of Sunday preachers and the monthly Feast Week sessions show that the leadership truly wants us to keep learning and growing in our walk with Christ," she notes.

More than just programs, she found a community. "DC has given me accountability, genuine friendships, and a family of believers," Stephanie says.

One thing she treasures most in her faith today is peace - peace she admits - and true to scripture - she cannot fully explain. "Jesus found me at rock bottom," she says quietly. "I was struggling with mental health, constant depression. He has literally loved me back to health."

***"The variety of Sunday preachers and the monthly Feast Week sessions show that the leadership truly wants us to keep learning and growing in our walk with Christ"***

Socially, embracing this new found freedom has not come without its own inconveniences.

Some friendships have fallen away - either because they no longer share the same values, or because she cannot help but talk about Jesus. Still, Stephanie carries no regrets.

The transformation has touched every part of her life. At home, she is more patient and loving. As the firstborn, she feels better equipped to guide her siblings. And with God's Word as her compass, she approaches decisions with newfound confidence.

Looking back, Stephanie knows that day at Makerere Hill was more than a visit - it was a turning point. "Deliverance Church has helped me move from passive expectation to a life of active faith - *faith with works*," she says with a smile.



# Joining the Dots:

## A Story of Kingdom Collaboration at Camp Musana

By. Filimin Niyongabo



There are moments in ministry when God quietly weaves together people, places, and purposes in ways we only fully appreciate later.

The Deliverance Church Donholm Ignite Camp, held from 1st to 5th December at Camp Musana in Buikwe, was one such moment, a living expression of Jesus' words in **John 13:7: "You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand."**

As Deliverance Church Uganda Youth Ministry, in partnership with Camp Musana, we had the privilege of hosting the youth from Deliverance Church Donholm (Kenya). What unfolded was more than a camp; it was a Kingdom collaboration marked by unity, shared faith and mutual learning across borders.

One of the greatest joys for me was journeying alongside fellow

Ugandan youth leaders who served diligently during this camp. Among them were Asubu Charity and Katsi Audrey Shiphrah from Deliverance Church Kira, alongside leaders from Deliverance Church Makerere Hill – Youth Coordinator Habi Joseph, Deacon Elijah Kainginya, Deaconess Patricia Masanga, Deaconess Jackie Masaba and myself. Together, we witnessed how God uses diversity of gifts and backgrounds to build one body with one purpose.

The beauty of international ministry collaboration was evident throughout the camp. Hosting our brothers and sisters from Kenya reminded us that the Kingdom of God knows no borders.

Worship flowed naturally across cultures, teachings resonated deeply and fellowship felt like family except the anticipated language barrier (Swahili).

In Christian camping, such partnerships sharpen leadership, expand perspective and model the unity Jesus prayed for in His Church.





Camp Musana itself played a significant role in this experience. Nestled in nature, the campsite provided a serene, well-organized and spiritually conducive environment. From quiet reflection walks and hiking trails to beach sessions, campfires and baptism moments, every space became an altar for encounter.



The facilitators and management at Camp Musana demonstrated excellence, not only well-trained and spiritually sensitive but also intentional about Christian camping as a tool for discipleship and transformation.

What stayed with me most was how God used simple moments including shared meals, laughter around the campfire, conversations and prayers under the stars to “join the dots” in the lives of many young people. Faith was strengthened, relationships were formed and purpose was clarified.



As we look back, we give thanks to God for what He did among us, for the leaders who served faithfully and for the partnerships that made it possible. Indeed, we may not always see the full picture in the moment, but in hindsight, we recognize the unmistakable hand of God advancing His Kingdom one camp, one collaboration, and one transformed life at a time.



# The Gospel tales of Luuka

By. Habi Joseph



Have you ever considered if Jesus understood how tricky the assignment of the Great Commission would get as one tried to implement? I mean, He gave us the authority, and commanded us to GO! Where does the part of speaking a foreign language in real time come in?

Every June, we have the opportunity to visit the fertile land of Luuka District (Eastern Uganda) and infiltrate the growing generation with the message of love on the Cross.

For starters, as a Kampala dweller, it would be very necessary of you to cram and recite a few Lusoga phrases to break the ice. The most common one is "Abaana muliyo?" This is meant to be a friendly greeting addressed to the young lads we find in the institutions of learning, but

you just need to hear it for yourself as the different conquerors of the City struggle to get the right pronunciations or even remember the two words. Let alone saying the phrase like one understands what they are saying. It is such an introduction to the Great Commission.

This year, I was privileged to lead a team of 21 young people to our annual school outreach. The students we ministered to were not ready for the energy and vibe we had carried all the way. For the team, these young people were our assignment to get them across the bridge to righteous living.

Shocking to our team, the average pupil pays Ugx. 20,000 in a UPE Primary School! And yet we found so many dismissed from school due to failure to cover that

much for their termly fees.

Regardless, together with the team, **we reached out to 21 schools, reaching 13,727 (Primary and Secondary) and won 4,484 souls to the Salvation of Christ.**

We are always thrilled by the generosity of individuals who highly value this work. We pray that your stores will never run dry.

**To the young people out there, wondering how you can be part of this great work, all you need to do is prepare and show up.** Your story and physical presence are the greatest resource you can carry to the mission field. God qualifies those he calls, and upholds those he sends in His name. We hope for you to join us on the next one.



# END OF AN ERA

## Timothy's three-year run as B.R.E.A.K Camp Chair concludes.

By. Dismas Nuwaine

It was a hot, humid afternoon at Deliverance Church Kiira. In the old, recently vacated Church hall, which faces the gleaming new sanctuary, Timothy Tendo sat with the B.R.E.A.K Camp committee he has served with as chair for three years.

Across from them, the incoming team, headed by Jethro Wabulembo, waited. After three years of leading this youth-centered annual Christian gathering that draws hundreds of young believers from across Uganda, the moment had come to pass the baton.

As Timothy passed the torch to the new leadership, he paused to take stock of what the journey had meant for him.

"It was an unexpected calling," he said with a small laugh, recalling the moment he was chosen. "I was startled, and thought to myself, am I really qualified? But I had to run with it, after all, it's God who calls and qualifies."

Tendo wasn't the type of leader who tried to do everything himself. He describes his style as 'very decentralized,' giving his team freedom to run their dockets with minimal interference. "It lessened my burden. I had a good team, very experienced people," he said.

And perhaps that is Timothy's legacy: that leadership, at its best, is less about

*"I was startled, and thought to myself, am I really qualified? But I had to run with it, after all, it's God who calls and qualifies."*

giving orders, but more about creating space for others to lead - allowing people to work freely in their roles while the leader guides and oversees.

Asked to sum up his term, Tendo's answer was precise: "The faithfulness of the Lord and His grace." He described it as a season of growth, and a "grand opportunity" to serve God on a big platform.



Tendo also leaned on his support systems. Friends and mentors made it a duty to remind him that the work was bigger than him. "Knowing it was God's work, and I was just a vessel, kept me going," he said.

### The boy from Kisaasi

Timothy Tendo, 25, grew up in the bustling Kampala suburb of Kisaasi, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Serukka. He was dedicated in Deliverance Church Makerere Hill as a baby and has since never strayed far from its orbit.

His first Break Camp was in 2012, during his P7 vacation. He has attended

every camp since. Maybe all but one. "I didn't attend the 2019 camp," he corrected himself, with a faint smile, after a long pause.

*"I realized I enjoyed setting up spaces for young people to meet, laugh, and encounter God."*

Somewhere along the way, he found joy in organizing Christian events. "I realized I enjoyed setting up spaces for young people to meet, laugh, and encounter God," he said.

In high school, and later at University, he was the student who volunteered to manage Christian-centered youth activities - often lying awake at night mapping out games, sessions, and song lists, and staying behind after events to make sure everything was in place for the next day.

That knack followed him to Break Camp. By the time he was asked to chair, he had already proven himself - serving as head of the programs department at the 2020 camp, where his work ethic and attention to detail quickly caught the eye of colleagues and pastors.

His experience almost made him a natural choice. But. Leading from the top would have to take more than that. It was a different ball game altogether - demanding more than hard work and a good track record.

Looking back after handing over, Timothy puts it simply: "It meant carrying a vision, shouldering

expectations, and leading a team through both the smooth and the storm."

## Resilience Through it All

An online Break Camp? While possible, it sounds almost inconceivable. Yet in 2022, at the height of the coronavirus pandemic - and in Timothy's very first camp since rising to the higher echelons

*"The beauty was learning how to work with them, not against them. That changed me."*

of leadership as chair - that's exactly what happened.

With the world at a standstill, the camp that had only known face-to-face fellowship since its inception, was forced to find new life on the screen. "This had never happened before,"

Timothy said. "We didn't know how it would work or if young people would even turn up." The young people eventually turned up but this moment tested him deeply. But it wasn't the only one.

Leading people with strong, and sometimes confrontational personalities tested his patience. "The beauty was learning how to work with them, not against them. That changed me," he noted.

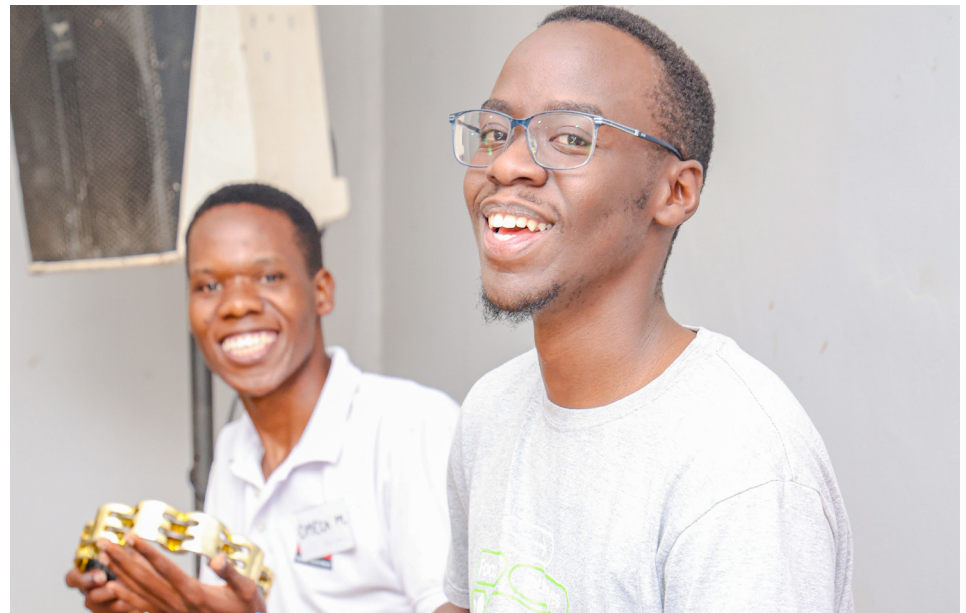
At the 2023 camp, held at the Scripture Union campsite, heavy rain spilled on some campers' beds. Alarmed parents called Timothy directly, threatening to withdraw their children.

'That moment breaks you,' Tendo reflected softly. 'You've invested so much, and it feels like it's all unraveling. I remember that day, I felt like hiding under a rock.' But Camp was never short

of moments of joy. He recalls the 2023 "Nyaka" camp, he was blown away by the working of the Lord. "People spoke in tongues, gave their lives to Christ, hungered for God in ways I had never seen. God was working."

Having once endured a camp with no recreational time, he was also always determined to make Break Camp different. "I've always been deliberate about the games. They give people space to play, unwind, and connect," he said. "At the end of every camp, those are the memories they carry."

Even after handing over to the new camp chair, Timothy says he's not going anywhere. "I'm still here," he smiled. "Still serving the youth and the body of Deliverance Church. But it's also time to seek God for more insights on what lies ahead."



# Akwaaba: YOU are welcome

An experience at the Africa Biblica Partners Conference in Accra, Ghana

By. Habi Joseph



Photo: Multinational delegates from across the African continent posing for a photo at the 2025 Biblica Africa Partners Conference in Accra Ghana held in May 2025

I am still buzzing from my trip to Accra, Ghana for the Biblica Africa Partners Conference! It was an incredible experience, and I am excited to share some highlights with you.

## The Journey

I traveled with Ethiopian Airlines from Entebbe to Accra, with a layover in Addis Ababa. The Biblica team in Ghana graciously arranged for my pickup at the airport, and I was warmly welcomed by Mrs. Olivia Akumani, the Regional Director of Biblica Africa in West Africa.

## The Conference

The conference was hosted at Hephzibah Christian Center in Aburi, Accra. It was all centred on celebrating over two decades of Reach4Life, a discipleship program for youth, and we heard amazing testimonies from several countries including Angola, Tanzania, Ghana, Nigeria, Botswana and South Africa.

**Did you know that Reach4Life is being used in every school in Botswana to teach proper sexual behavior and regulate drug abuse?**

## Key Takeaways

- Partnerships are key to achieving a greater harvest.
- We need to build capacity for funding our activities and be accountable for resources.
- The Great Commission is too big for any individual or organization; we need to collaborate.



## Gratitude

I am grateful to God for the opportunity, Development Associates International for contributing to my air ticket, and Deliverance Church Makerere Hill for trusting me to represent the ministry. Special thanks to Pr. Jairus Mutebe, Pr. Nobert Tugume, and the Biblica Africa team for their support.

## Next Steps

I am excited to share more about Reach4Life and explore ways to implement it in Uganda.

Thankfully, our friends at the Biblica East Africa Regional office have agreed to get us started with an inaugural training in January 2026.

We encourage youth leaders and youth enthusiasts to sign up for this opportunity to be trained to disciple our young people across the Nation and beyond.

# Catalyzing Leaders Training

By. Innocent Nuwa



Photo: The pioneer cohort of the CLT program enjoy a celebratory cake-cutting ceremony. They were joined by some dignitaries from The Bible Society of Uganda (BSU) and the International Bible Advocacy Center (IBAC).

Deliverance Church Makerere Hill was among the partners that inaugurated the Catalyzing Leaders Training (CLT), a 6-month Leadership training course organized by Bible Society of Uganda (BSU) in partnership with the International Bible Advocacy Centre (IBAC).

The CLT, attended by six (6) of our youth leaders in the pioneer cohort, is a global leadership training program designed to inspire Christian leaders to embrace authenticity, foster meaningful relationships and adopt a transformational approach to

leadership.

The training is designed for young and emerging leaders from diverse professional backgrounds who are passionate about transforming their professional spaces with a Biblical leadership blueprint.

The training attracted different Churches and organizations who sent their youth representatives to be trained over nine comprehensive modules by top tutors in the Christian leadership space, attached to experienced mentors, and embark on a task-oriented approach seeking leadership solutions to societal

challenges.

The program concluded with each participant presenting a project they would embark on to solve an evident societal issue in their locality and the participants were awarded certificates of completion in a ceremony held at the Bible House in Kampala on the 28th of November 2025.

The youth, who participated in the training appreciate the leadership of the Church for availing us this opportunity to be trained and fine-tuned to lead with excellence and vision in the different spaces God has called us.



# What happens after the event?

By. Nyalo Rhoda Triumph

This is a question I asked myself after the Brunch and Learn event by Miss Victoria Nyanzi, MCIPR, DipCIPR of the The African Sisters Network. The event was overwhelmingly insightful. We had an array of brilliant speakers, including Miss Quiin Abenakyo, Miss Sana Nandwani and my personal favourite, Miss Jacqueline Asiimwe Mwesige; all of whom poured into us generously from their boundless wells of wisdom. These speakers were followed by an empowering panel discussion of women who have made a significant mark in their respective fields.

## But after the day is done, and the noise turns into silence, what then?

Having listened to inspiring speeches and engaged in insightful conversations, having been charged to make the most out of our lives, what happens when we return to the silence of our rooms to face our lives?

What happens when we come back to face reality, be it the 5-9 jobs or 8am-6pm lectures in my case. What becomes of all the wisdom I received over the weekend? What becomes of my life? What happens after the event?

Does the wisdom stay in the pages of the notebook I thoughtlessly wrote away in during the speeches? Do the many resolutions I made up in my mind in the course of the event remain just thoughts until they slowly drift away to the backside of my mind, eventually becoming empty dreams and fruitless ambitions?

This had me thinking back to the many

conferences I have attended over the years. Being a “church kid”, I had the privilege of attending numerous church conferences and camps. The truth is that the order of programs was familiar through and through.

Much as the theme would differ for the different events, the standard was, there would be a couple of preachers in the morning hours, bible study groups in the afternoon for 2 hours or so and the day would end with games in the evening, with teams competing against each other and then an interactive session or talent show for the night.

But what happened after camp was done? What became of me, of the many other kids when we returned home after such a spiritually rejuvenating week? Did anything change in our behavior? Did we suddenly become better people? Were we nicer? Were we kinder? Since it was a church camp, were we holier?

## What happens after the event?

I have come to believe that the answer to this question is entirely dependent on the choices an individual makes after the event. As to whether the event was impactful is hardly about what was said; rather, it is about what becomes of those who heard what was said.

How much of what I have heard have I allowed, or better still, adopted, to make changes in my life for the better? This is what determines the power of the event. Action, this is the game changer. There has to be more to the event than just the cute images, and in the case of

camp, your camp name tag. But action is a choice you make.



# THE YOUNG MEN'S MEET-UPS

By. Innocent Nuwa

In times when male loneliness is at an all time high, exacerbating the already serious male mental health crisis, the Young Men's meet-up, has proved to be an essential lever that challenges young men to live out their redemptive purpose.

## What is the Young Men's Meet-Up?

Since its inception in July 2025, the young men's meetup, which draws an average of 20 young men each month to the home of Deacon Abraham Judah Muwanguzi in Kitetika, was born out of the collective desire to have a space where the men can grow together and keep each other accountable.

In October, the group took it a step further with a one-day retreat at Camp Besania.

"The meetings have been very engaging, therapeutic and enlightening with a lot of learning and sharing of stories and experiences," shared one of the participants who has consistently attended the meetups. "We are exhorted to live boldly and unapologetically as men like God intended."

The program started with the men agreeing on some rules of engagement to always keep time, always pay our bills, keep our commitments, share our stories honestly and leave no man behind.

The definition we took of who a real man is, is a male who takes initiative, lives responsibly, leads sacrificially, loves faithfully and leaves a legacy. Different stories and experiences have been shared within these meetups as we seek to live and thrive as men like

God intended, walking intentionally and purposefully, defined and guided by His holy word.

We explored the roles of a man as a servant king, a wise mentor, a tender warrior and a faithful friend who has been designed for destiny, raised for a reason, forged for fruitfulness, placed for prosperity and called for a cause.

We are excited about the future prospects of this tribe of the brave that has been steadily growing and we await to see the fullness of what God has intended for this group of men.

**The future is bright and sure and we encourage any man who may be looking for a community to belong to and grow with, kindly reach out to any of these men - Pr. Filimin Niyongabo, Deacon Judah Muwanguzi, Mwanje Denis Prosper or Innocent Nuwahereza.**



# signs to show that you have entered an overpriced restaurant

By. Innocent Nuwa

I've always been passionate about men's issues for as long as I can remember. I can't trace where the burden came from. It must be from listening to men's stories which all seem to have a common theme of having to deal with insurmountable odds.

This makes me passionate about creating spaces where men can commune together and come up with modern solutions for the modern problems they face. There are always men who have walked ahead and



leveled the path so that the ones that follow can sprint.

The saying goes, "Experience is the best teacher." One person modified it and added, "... for fools." Because why do you want to first experience something that I told you almost ended my life?

So, I've personally sat down with various men and listened to their experiences. On top of this, I've carried out firsthand

research on the topic, "The devastating effect of embarrassment on the male brain" and from the findings, gentlemen, I hereby present you: **Signs to show that you have entered an overpriced restaurant.**

## The waiters.

Bro, If the waiters are dressed better than you or you are wearing the same waistcoat as the waiter, please turn back and run. Don't mind them seeing you run. The embarrassment is nothing

compared to the embarrassment you'll get when you realize that the food costs more than your rent.

## The Menu.

Take a very careful look at the menu. If the menu is laminated, you can even laugh at the manager but if the menu is like an office journal with hardcover, or you see the waiter typing in your order

on a tablet, you are finished.

## If they have Dessert.

In any normal restaurant, they serve you with a menu that has both sections of food and drinks printed on one page or maybe on the back page. Now, if you enter a place and they hand you three separate booklets, one with food, another with drinks and the other with desserts, ask yourself where the money to print all that comes from? It's the money you are about to pay.

## The Music.

Brother, tune your hearing and eyesight senses to the maximum. If the restaurant is playing jazz, violin, that Frank Sinatra type of music, you have made a mistake already by being there. If there is a band in a corner playing, look carefully at the drummer, you are the one paying him.

## Temperature

If the room is freezing cold but you can't see where the cold is coming from, you are about to pay the restaurant tax. The colder the room ....

## Lighting.

Here, I don't need to explain much. If you see a chandelier hanging over you giving off gold light as if you have entered a museum, when the waiter brings the menu, ask him for the nearest exit.

## The customers

Bro, the customers. Look around carefully. If you see Indians or Chinese in the room, you're fine; those ones love cheap things. But if it's Lebanese or actual Americans -white folks - and you, straight out of Komamboga, are sitting in the same place... then you've



got to ask yourself: what are you really doing there?

## The parking.

First of all, if the car parking is inside a building, the parking fee is the beginning of your woes. If you see Subarus in the parking lot, just sit and order already, you can even put your feet on the table.

Subaru drivers spend their money on fuel to keep up appearances and opt for cheap food instead. But if you see G-wagons, and the security guards are dressed like paramilitary, please provoke one of them and get arrested.

A few days in jail and you won't regret it when they tell you the bill you were about to pay.

## The ceiling.

Anytime you step inside any eating place, the protocol should be to first check out the ceiling. If the ceiling looks like you are in the Vatican with statues and paintings hanging around,

just pretend to go out to pick a call and don't look back.

## The food.

Look at the servings on the tables around you before you order yours. If the serving is like a sample of food. Like as if you are just tasting, tell whoever you took out that there is food at home. The lesser the serving, ....

## Technology.

If there is sophisticated technology that waiters and waitresses are using.

**Me:** Did you get all that I ordered?

**The waitress:** Yes, sir, it's connected to the restaurant neuralink database Okkayyy, Elon Musk..

Brother, don't say another word. Run before that food arrives.

These and many others are the signs to look out for, gentlemen. I must say, I am giving this advice painfully because I also believe that embarrassment is essential in the life of any man.

There are some things in life that only shame can teach. But go ahead and be careful. This advice could also help y'all women. If you see that guy you are with missing out on any of the signs and on the verge of embarrassment, please remind him. Assuming you care about him and not the food, of course. Gentlemen, learn to first eat at home. You will thank me later.

## The writer has survived 13 situationships.



# OKELLO FOUND REVIVAL at CAMP NEHEMIAH

By. Dismas Nuwaine

Okello Emmanuel's room at camp Nehemiah was unassuming. But his roommates? They were anything but. By sheer coincidence - not by plan - he found himself sharing the room with nearly all of his old boys from Makerere High School Migadde, save for one.

It was the kind of surprise that made Okello's Camp feel less like a strange new experience and more like coming home. "Reconnecting with these guys refreshed me," he said with a smile, as he was visibly processing the pleasant surprise.

He couldn't have asked for a better weekend away from the hustle and bustle of the city. "At that time, I wanted to stir my prayer life. I

felt like I needed a spiritual reset, and this camp gave me exactly that," he confessed. "Overall, it was time well spent."

Before camp, Bible reading for Okello had become an afterthought. But since returning, he admits he cannot go more than two days without reading and meditating on Scripture.

"After I am done with my prayer I command my morning - speaking life into my day - something I learnt from Camp," said Okello, confessing that going to Church every Sunday is now

a common fixture of his weekly routine unlike before.

## The Journey to Camp

Okello didn't plan to be at Camp Nehemiah. In fact, he only learned about it the night before departure.

On Thursday, June 5th, after a long evening call with a friend, the invitation

Inside Okello's room was another Emmanuel - his namesake, Othieno - also attending camp for the first time. He too speaks of renewal.

"I've been commanding my morning with powerful meditations," Othieno said, referring to Pastor Laban Jjumba's message on the revival and renewal of Africa. "These are habits I carried straight out of Camp Nehemiah."

Just like Amito Daisy, the camp chairperson, for him, the camp was not just a weekend away. It was the start of something bigger.

"Camp isn't just an event," Othieno insisted. "It's a revolution. We are changing the status quo and trusting the process. In a few

years, the results will be undeniably evident."



came abruptly. He had a choice: take on a weekend gig that would earn him some money as a student, or attend a camp he hadn't planned for.

## The decision, he says, was easy.

"June is my birth month, and I usually set it apart for prayer and fasting," he explained. "This time I didn't know what to do. When my friend called, I knew instantly - this was what I had been waiting for. I packed a few clothes and left."



# Rethinking Money

## Jesse Shares His Financial Vision

Jesse Jeremy Ainembabazi, a youth at Deliverance Church Makerere Hill, is rethinking how money works - and in the process, challenging conventional ideas about finance. He has turned his vision into action, launching **Royaume Finance**, a four-tier financial institution that prioritises stewardship and Kingdom principles rather than profit.

## Jesse Shares his story

About a year ago, the Lord began to speak to me concerning my finances. At that time, I was wallowing in debt and weighed down by the consequences of poor financial decisions. Even the “good” decisions I had made were premised on shaky foundations, rooted in wrong ideology and misunderstanding of money.

My motive for work revolved around money, and so did my worries - the anxiety of not having enough, and the fear of losing what I had.

This is not just my story; it is the reality of many people, both Christians and non-Christians alike. While not everyone may be in debt or undergoing financial hardship, their relationship with money still dictates the course of their lives in unhealthy ways.

The issue isn't always the presence or absence of money but the outlook, the ideology, and the heart posture towards it.

Toward the end of last year, I got

married. By then, the Lord had not only corrected my view of money but had also reshaped my view of business itself. I came to understand that true business is first about meeting a need—being a solution—before it is a source of income. This shift in mindset birthed the conviction that what God was teaching me personally was not for me alone. Others could also draw life and direction from these insights.

Out of this conviction came **Royaume Finance**, a financial enterprise not patterned after conventional microfinance institutions that are laser-focused on profit. Rather, **Royaume** is built on the foundation of stewardship, service, and kingdom-minded principles. While profitability is necessary for sustainability, it cannot be the heart of the vision.

For some, money has ceased to be a



tool and has instead become a master. For others, their outlook is shaped by the economy of scarcity, rather than the Kingdom's economy of abundance. Still others wrestle with the difference between stewardship and ownership, forgetting that money is entrusted, not possessed, and that we are called to be faithful servants rather than bound in a servant-master relationship with it.

**Royaume** steps into this spectrum of realities, not with a single answer for all, but with a commitment to help each person reimagine their relationship with resources and find practical pathways to thrive financially.

The approach of **Royaume** is inspired by the story of the widow and prophet Elisha (2 Kings 7-4:1). In that passage, the actors who often go unnoticed are

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*“Royaume is built on the foundation of stewardship, service, and kingdom-minded principles.”*

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the providers of the jars the ones who gave the widow the capacity to receive the miracle.

**Royaume Finance** exists to provide jars today—practical financial vessels that facilitate and house the increase of people's oil (their income, potential, and ideas). We not only teach how to fish, we also provide where to fish from.

We have a range of financial products that serve as jars for growth and multiplication.

## How Were We Able to Start in These Times?

I am a proponent of the idea that provision usually follows vision—hence, pro-vision. What people often think they lack to start is money, which is a corollary lie. What they truly need is

vision.

Vision is not necessarily a picture you get after some mystical trance or some sort of prolific divine encounter, as we may imagine it to be. Essentially, vision is simply ideas, a solution, a picture of how things could be better.

Even without the money to start initially, God entrusted me with ideas that were birthed from my recent experiences and the things He had been teaching me as I have already stated. With those, I could now trust Him for provision—and He made it. Provision can come in the form of wisdom on how to raise funds, through divine partnerships, and other avenues.

It therefore follows that it takes faith to begin, not perfection. Just small steps taken in faith. I have learned that the next steps only unfold once you have

started. They remain a mystery until you move. So, if you have a dream, vision, or ideas, start. Starting can mean different things for everyone, but it will never be exempt from the utility of faith.

## Our primary target: The Youth

At the heart of national transformation lies the insights and decisions made today by young people. If we can equip them with the right perspective on money, shifting from scarcity to abundance, from ownership to stewardship, from survival to thriving, we not only empower individuals but also lay foundations for generational change.

We have savings and investment products tailored for the youth, as well as access to credit. I admonish each

youth to visit our website, [www.royaume.finance](http://www.royaume.finance) and sign up for an account to be able to leverage these products. I also encourage them to join our WhatsApp channel for insightful financial content and practical guidance on growing and managing resources effectively.

### Royaume Finance

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# Indifference of 'Effort'

By. Innocent Nuwa

I have never really been a fan of generation slander. This thing we do where you find boomers blaming millennials, the millennials blaming the Gen Z, the Gen Z frustrated with the Gen Alphas and the whole cycle continues.

I feel like nothing good ever comes out of it. Of course, there are often stark differences in the ways different generations approach different situations which are worth highlighting but if we all agree that times change, then we must agree that the approach towards life will often change as well. Nevertheless, there are some things always worth highlighting and unfortunately, there is often no other way to address those issues without slandering a whole generation.

This is me saying that the intention of this article is not to slander GEN Zs. It may seem so, but I promise I love you guys. "No Cap" as you would say. I hold nothing against you. Okay, in all honesty I do hold something against you and please hear me out - this may save your relationship.

The issue I hold against you is a small six-letter word, "Effort." No one can trace exactly when the trend started but we can all agree that there is a problem with today's dating scene. It's like there is a decreasing trajectory of effort when it comes to dating and pursuing lovers. The old movies we watch or the stories we hear from our parents and their agemates consist of men doing daring things all to win the heart of their one true love.

Stories like that of a WW2 soldier who wrote a letter and put it inside a bottle

and threw it in the Mediterranean hoping the waves would carry it from the coast of Spain through the Atlantic to the shores of Manhattan where the girl he made eye contact with on the day he was drafted lives.

Even talking of us millennials, we grew up in an era of lovers professing their love in the rain outside her house when the father had declared that their daughter cannot marry a guy who has dreads.



We wrote soliloquies as early as primary school and had to suffer shame when the teacher on duty decided that reading the letter on assembly was the best punishment to accord (in case you are wondering where our shamelessness stems from.)

We laid down and took canes for the girl we loved in primary school (and at break, she would leave you for the guy with the new uniform.) I know of a youth pastor in DC Makhill who trekked from Kasangati to Makerere to see his fiancé. They now have 2 children.

I know of another youth leader still in DC Makhill (names withheld on request) who walked from MUK to MUBs just to see a girl at Ideal Classic Hostel only to find her with another guy and told her, "I was just in the neighborhood, so I decided to check on you." (This one's still single though. He never recovered but we commend the effort.)

Now, contrast all this with a people who think the best expression of love to a prospective female lover is liking her story on IG. A people who think double texting is an act of despair. Men who think a lady should pick up on hints because they liked her status on WhatsApp.

I don't even blame the men though because if the lady posts herself and she gets less than 10 likes, then all the men in her contacts that did not like are nonchalant. It's a whole circus show. Men used to go to war, slaughter entire tribes over one woman and today, you need Chat GPT to help draft words you will use to say hello.

Women used to reject their family's arranged choice for them who are rich and educated and run away to distant lands to start a new life with their farmboy who showers twice a week - but now if he sends a text without emojis, apparently, he's emotionally distant.

What happened to effort? As a generation, y'all (to use your diction) need to step up. You can agree to hold a convention maybe at City Square or at Sharing Hall since Garden City rooftop can't accommodate all of you and decide on what actionable steps you are going to take to curb this Wi-Fi

enabled cowardice that is plaguing your generation.

This can be worked on if we act early enough. As millennials, we are ready to stand with you. We can't lose out on the tradition of beautiful "How did you meet/ How did you know she was the one?" stories.

I am personally not attending a wedding of people who knew they were meant for each other just because they happened to repost the same post on TikTok. Sending each other reels is not the foundation you want to establish your long-term relationship upon. If we move swiftly and with urgency, we can

salvage this otherwise the Gen Alpha that is coming after you is so cooked. (Another word I learnt from y'all) Together, let's bring back the 90's kind of love. E for Effort.

The writer is a Christian single man.

## Upcoming events this January, 2026

### 1 New year celebration

JAN. 2026 WE PRAY FOR YOU TO ENTER IT TRIUMPHANTLY

### 2-6 B.R.E.A.K. Camp 2026

JAN. 2026 OUR ANNUAL YOUTH CAMP

### 2-22 Prayer and fasting (21 days)

JAN. 2026 OUR ANNUAL YOUTH CAMP

### 6-9 Youth Conference

JAN. 2026 LANGO SUB-REGION

### 11 Teens discovery class | Youth Bible Club

JAN. 2026 FOR ALL OUR TEENS STARTING AT 10AM EVERY SUNDAY AFTER 2ND SERVICE

### 15 Vacists fellowship | General youth fellowship

JAN. 2026 WE WELCOME ALL OUR VACISTS AT 2PM FOR ALL YOUTH STARTING AT 5PM

### 18 Teens discovery class | Youth Bible Club

JAN. 2026 FOR ALL OUR TEENS STARTING AT 10AM EVERY SUNDAY AFTER 2ND SERVICE

### 22 Vacists fellowship | General youth fellowship

JAN. 2026 WE WELCOME ALL OUR VACISTS AT 2PM FOR ALL YOUTH STARTING AT 5PM

### 25 Teens discovery class | Youth Bible Club

JAN. 2026 FOR ALL OUR TEENS STARTING AT 10AM EVERY SUNDAY AFTER 2ND SERVICE

### 27 DC. Kampala Regional youth overnight

JAN. 2026 ALL YOUTH ARE INVITED AT DELIVERANCE CHURCH MAKERERE HILL STARTING AT 9PM

### 29 Vacists fellowship | General youth fellowship

JAN. 2026 WE WELCOME ALL OUR VACISTS AT 2PM FOR ALL YOUTH STARTING AT 5PM

### 30-31 Reach4Life youth leaders' training

JAN. 2026 MORE INFORMATION TO BE COMMUNICATED

# Here are some highlights from the year 2025



