

P.O.BOX 9277-00200: NAIROBI, KENYA TEL: +254 202 047 117/+254 725 830 020

E-MAIL: visionministrieskenya@gmail.com *WEB:* <u>www.visionministrieskenya.org</u> FACE BOOK: Vision Ministries KENYA

DATES: 20TH, 21TH & 22ND –NOVEMBER - 2020

VENUE: GRACE CHAPEL, HOMA-BAY.

THEME: 'MOVING FORWARD WITH GOD IN THE ERA OF COVID-19'

INTRODUCTIONS

Nyanza was our third region to hold a conference this year.Nyanza conference was a little different from others. This is because most of the delegates boarded unlike other regions where all delegates were day scholars except for the speakers and the host team.



Registration at the registration desk on arrival

CONFERENCE DAY ONE

Most leaders arrived the previous day and boarded waiting for the conference to start the next day. Many of the leaders were anticipating for the next day's event. For the last eight months since Covid-19 disrupted the normal life, meetings such as these had not been organized by most of our network churches. Leaders were therefore very eager to participate and indeed there was thirst for conferences.



Brother Ishmael on church planting



Sister Molline addressing the leaders

The meeting started very early. By 8.30 AM all the delegates were through with the breakfast and had settled at the sanctuary waiting for the conference moderator to start the meeting.

Bishop Omala, VMK-Nyanza region chairperson started with introductions then later welcomed Brother Ishmael to continue. He reminded leaders on the principle of delegation and the effective church planting.

There was a delegation of Maasai leaders who attended the meeting from Kajiado. This was a team of eight leaders being led by Rev. Theophilus Mokinyo.



Kajiado leaders who attended the Nyanza Conference during the introductions

Remarks from Ishmael;

✓ The gospel is the life of church. An effective church planter should therefore be rooted in the scripture. Bible is the constitution for church planting. A church cannot grow beyond the gospel. Don't just plant a church to create an impression in your leadership.



Bishop Gilbert commanded you:.."

✓ As much as the gospel is removed from front and center, life slowly but surely ebbs away. The Father is not well pleased when the Son is not well honored, and the Spirit will not stay long where the King is despised. Dear leader you have to honor God with that work you are doing. The church planting work.

Plenary Session one

Bishop Gilbert was the main in-person speaker in Nyanza Conference. He handled the topic 'Discipleship'.

In his teachings he highlighted the following;

In the Great Commission, Jesus commanded His followers (Matt.28:19-20), "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I

• The command to make disciples applies to all who follow Jesu, not just to pastors.

- Every Christian has a spiritual gift that they must fulfil. The gift should serve Christ
- Part of the command to love one another involves helping others be what God wants them to be. That's discipleship.
- Use you God given gift to help others become more like Christ
- Every church should have a culture of discipleship. I mean every member in the church should aim at helping other become more like Christ.
- A real discipleship should begin from our homes. Evangelize to your children, spouse, and families members if possible. Extend this love now outside the home.

In the session for questions and answers a leader commented that he is really good at evangelizing and disciplining other people but not his children and wife.

Plenary Session two

The session two was Brother Gord's teaching on 'Doing Greater Things than Jesus'.

AFTERNOON SESSION

Pastor Matthias was the speaker handling 'Spiritual Life of A leader' topic.

- Every spiritual leader should have a goal of bringing people to Christ
- You can get people to do what you want, but if they don't change their heart, you have not led the spiritually. As a spiritual leader, you must lead yourself first before leading others.
- To lead effectively, you must be out ahead of your people in bible study and prayer.
- The spiritual leader should discern who is fit for what kind of work. Good leaders have noses. They can snoop out barnacles in a hurry: that is people who are forever listening but never learning or changing. They can hear in a short time the echoes of pride and hypocrisy and worldliness.

CONFERENCE DAY TWO

This was another successful day. Leaders were as punctual as the first day. During this day, we were able to accomplish the following;

- Present brother Doug's video
- Present brother Ralph's video
- Pastor Matthias finalized his teachings
- Bishop Gilbert finalized his teachings
- Ladies had their special teaching session
- Youths and teens had a special meeting time
- Certificates were issued

Bishop Gilbert's final highlights on 'effective discipleship'

- Effective discipleship should be built on a godly message, a godly manner and a godly motive
- The godly message is the gospel; the godly manner is evident love for others; and, the godly motive is to please God from the heart.
- If you're clear on gospel, evident in your love for others and doing everything to please God who examines your heart, God will use you to help others grow to be more like Christ.

'The gospel is good news for sinners because it promises freely to forgive all the sins of those who believe. As Paul states (Rom. 4:5), "But to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is credited as righteousness. "Jesus illustrated the same truth in His parable of the Pharisee and tax collector.'



Conference delegates during the conference

Question raised in bishop Gilbert's topic;

• Why does the gospel result in opposition? Why would anyone have a problem with such good news?

Some key questions raised after Doug's Session

- i. According to culture diversity, in Africa most men are taken as superior in the families. It will be rare seeing them play with Children. I fear that when I start playing with my children they won't take me that serious because most of them are now grown. How do you help me?
- ii. I have had some close friends whom I share with some of my struggles. The most hurting thing is that sometimes they share these confidential issues with the public. How do I handle



Certificates being presented to participants

this?

ii. Most pastors don't give us time as their wives. They dominate so much. Please help them understand us... (a comment from a lady...)

Certificate Presentations

All the leaders who participated who issued with the participants certificates.

JOINT SUNDAY SERVICE

The joint Sunday service brought in twenty church representatives. During this day there were sessions



for;

- Teens and Youths
- Ladies
- General joint service for all the believers
- Choirs performing session

• Pr. Matthias and the family were prayed for as the new pastor for Grace Chapel

The Holy Communion Service was conducted by Rev, Mokinyo while the Family service by Bishop Gilbert.

Pr.Matthias and family being prayed for as new Grace Chapel pastor

FAMILY SERVICE SERMON BY BISHOP GILBERT

Topic: 'Dangers of unforgiving'

Isaiah 43; 26, Micah 7:18&19,

- Jesus instructs people to forgive seventy times seventy
- Christianity is a marathon. You will meet many and many might hurt you but don't pay evil with evil.
- If you don't forgive people from the heart you develop bitterness
- Forgive because God has forgiven us
- When we ask God forgiveness He remembers no more your sins
- If you don't forgive people, you will not also be forgiven by God. We cannot go to even with the attitude of forgiveness
- *i.* Forgiveness opens away for the devil to attack us(Matt 6:14)
- *ii.* It gives Satan opportunity to form a stronghold in our life(Eph 4:26&27)
- iii. It is a highway to hell (1John 3:14&15)
- *iv. Prevents our prayers*
- v. Makes God not accept our giving



Presentations from the Sunday school and the youths' choirs

CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE DATA	CHILDREN	YOUTHS	ADULTS
ONE	20	15	45
TWO	30	35	65
THREE	40	50	80

CONCLUSION

During the conference;

- New networks were created. We bless God that VMK-Nyanza chapter was able to welcome seven new networks of churches to their regional network.
- Several pastors who attended the conference showed interest in joining the current ongoing Hope Bible Chapel/ VMK bible college. A follow up is to be done for them to start classes.

We appreciate all the donors, partners and participants for their prayers, support and kindness in seeing this event coming to pass.