

# CITAM



CHRIST IS THE  
ANSWER MINISTRIES  
[CITAM]

TO KNOW GOD AND MAKE HIM KNOWN THROUGH EVANGELISM AND DISCIPLESHIP

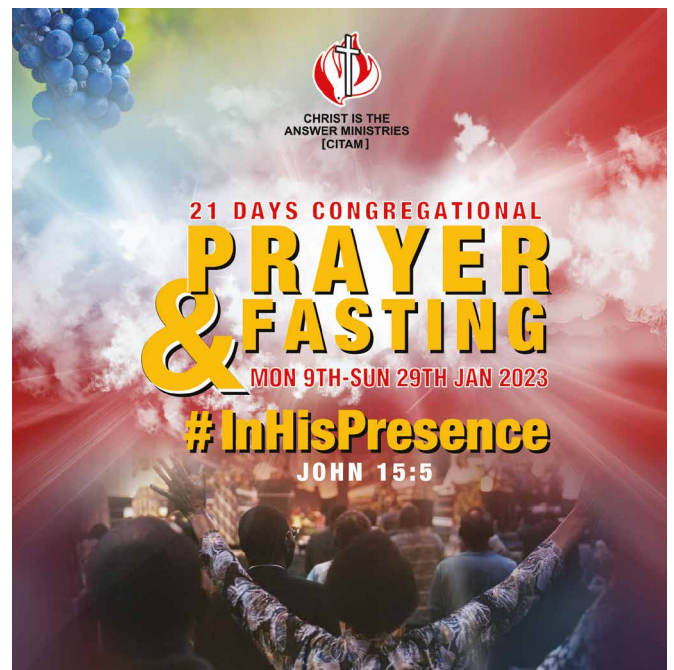
JAN-MAR 2023



## Prayer and Fasting

**W**e thank God for the successful 21 days of prayer and fasting among our congregants from 9th January to 29th January 2023. Some of our assembly groups and workers went to prayer mountains, while others individually went to their assembly sanctuaries for prayer. We are grateful for their dedication and faithfulness, and we pray that God will continue to move in their lives.

We praise God for the youth who prayed and fasted. 71 youth aged 12-24 years from CITAM Karen went for a 3-day prayer and fasting camp at the Heavens Gate Prayer Mountain in Gilgil. The theme for this camp was “An Outpouring of



His Presence” (Joel 2:28).

“The young people experienced deliverance, salvation, and many of them were filled with the power of the Holy Spirit for the first time,” Pastor Ian Bisset was elated to testify. “We are proud of the young people for taking the time to seek the Lord and grow in their faith. Their commitment to prayer and fasting is a testament to the power of God’s presence in their lives.”





## CITAM Youth Prayer Day

The joint CITAM youth prayer day took place successfully on the 28th January, 2023 at CITAM Valley Road. The theme was Soaking in God's Presence based on John 15:4-5.

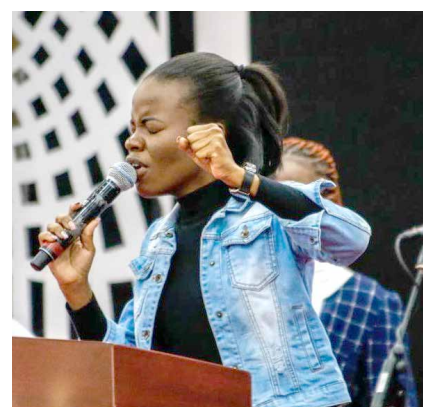
Young people from CITAM Assemblies within Nairobi and its environs were in attendance. We thank God for in-person attendance of 456 young people and many others who followed through CITAM YT Nation social media pages and HOPE Media platforms.

This was surely a great and powerful time in God's presence.

The Presiding Bishop, Rev. Calisto Odede ministered on, "Soaking in God's Presence," from John 7:37-44. The pastoral

team and Bishop Odede took time to pray for the young people. The Lord honored us with His powerful presence as many were filled with the Holy Spirit and encountered God in many other different aspects. The Bishop also prayed for the youth workers and pastors.

To God be all the glory for a wonderful and successful prayer





# The Bridge: Ex-Cans Programme



We thank God for the impactful Form 4 Ex-Candidates 9-week discipleship and capacity building programme emblazoned, “The Bridge.” This programme was specifically designed for Form 4 Ex-Candidates to bridge the gap between high school and university/college, or the next stage of their lives.

The 9-week programme ran in all CITAM assemblies from 31st January and ended on 31st March 2023. During this time, the Ex-Cans had the opportunity to participate in meaningful workshops and activities that equipped them with practical skills and biblical knowledge to help them navigate life’s challenges.

In addition to the 9-week programme, they went for a mission experience from 3rd to 8th April 2023. This has provided them with an opportunity to put their newfound skills and knowledge into practice and make a positive impact in the lives of others.

We believe that this programme had a life-changing experience for them and we are confident that they emerged from it better equipped and empowered in their personal lives, career and ministry.

But if we hope for  
what we do not yet have,  
we wait for it patiently.

**Romans 8:25**

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# CITAM Response On The Supreme Court Ruling

## On Right Of Association For Homosexuals

By Rev. Calisto Odede, The Presiding Bishop



**O**n Friday 24th of February, the Supreme Court of Kenya ruled in favour of the gay movement's right of association in Kenya. They stated that *"Despite gayism being illegal (in Kenya), they have a right of association"*.

This rather contradictory ruling has left many of us wondering whether other illegal practitioners like paedophiles and those involved in incest also have right of association and if not, how different they are from homosexuals. And perhaps criminal organisations as well.

We note that this comes to us soon after sections of the Church in the West decided to bless gay unions. We truly commend the judges who ruled for God's creative order and for cultural preservation and dissented from that majority ruling. Similarly we

also appreciate and stand with the sections of the Christian faith communities who have stood their ground on matters biblical in spite of the schism from their umbrella organisations.

We recognize that there may be many people who are struggling with different kinds of sexual desires but they have not gone to court for the whole nation to recognize them. For one to privately struggle with such issues is one thing, but it is unwise to try to get the whole country through its various structures to endorse one's deviant behaviour. Those who struggle with homosexual desires are not significantly different from persons who are heterosexual but also struggle with sexuality in singlehood through non-marriage or through widowhood or through marital separation of one form

or another. On top of this it is opposed to our cultural norms in Africa.

The Bible categorizes immoral thoughts in the heart and immoral actions as sinful, including homosexual behaviour. The Bible speaks 7 times about this kind of relationship directly: Gen.19:1-11; Lev.18:22; 20:13; Judge:19:22-25; Roman:1:25-26; 1 Cor.6:9; 1Tim. 1:9-10. In all these passages, homosexuality is not approved but rather, is viewed as sinful, unnatural and perverted. In the Leviticus passage, it is punishable by death. This kind of lifestyle is incompatible with the new life Christians are supposed to be living in Christ.

The Bible considers homosexual behaviour as sin because:

- It is disobedient to scriptural teachings.
- It is contrary to God's created order for the family and human relationships. Human life would become extinct if everyone practiced it.
- It comes under divine judgment.
- It is sin but reconciliation and restoration to God is possible.

While Scripture makes it clear that homosexual behaviour is sin and comes under the judgment of God, it also indicates that those who are guilty of homosexual behaviour or any other sin can be reconciled to God (2 Corinthians 5:17-21). It is also one of the sins that Christ died for and can be forgiven.

Because of the above as Christians, we do hate the sin,



but love the sinners with the love of Christ. Anyone struggling in these areas are welcome to any of our CITAM assemblies for counselling and prayer, as we believe God is able to forgive, restore and help one live a straight life that is God honouring.

On the other hand, we encourage Kenyans of moral integrity to reject, resist and oppose this supreme court ruling as it will erode our societal

norms and morals. We call upon Christians and Kenyans of good will to stand out in opposition to this ruling and express their disagreement openly.

Meanwhile we will continue to pray and use other acceptable means to preserve our national ethos and moral fibre against negative external influences.

## MISSIONS



# Asia Testify Segment

**S**tarting this year 2023 Hope TV in partnership with the CITAM Missions Head Office began a brand-new segment of Testify called Asian Testify. Partnering with Asian Outreach Ministry, Hope TV will be documenting life transforming testimonies from Asian Background Believer (ABB's). They will air them every 3rd Thursday of the month. In the month of January, Pastor Nigel De Mello from CITAM Missions Department opened the new segment with the first episode. He shared his candid journey of how God rescued him from slavery of addiction to substances and sin.

In the interview he narrated his dramatic journey into Missions in Northern Kenya where God delivered him from a poisonous snake bite.

The first episode of the Asian Testify segment received amazing feedback and was widely watched.

As a result, Pastor Nigel was invited to share his testimony again by the Vice Chancellor of Pan Africa Christian University Professor Margaret Muthwii during the V.C.'s Chapel.



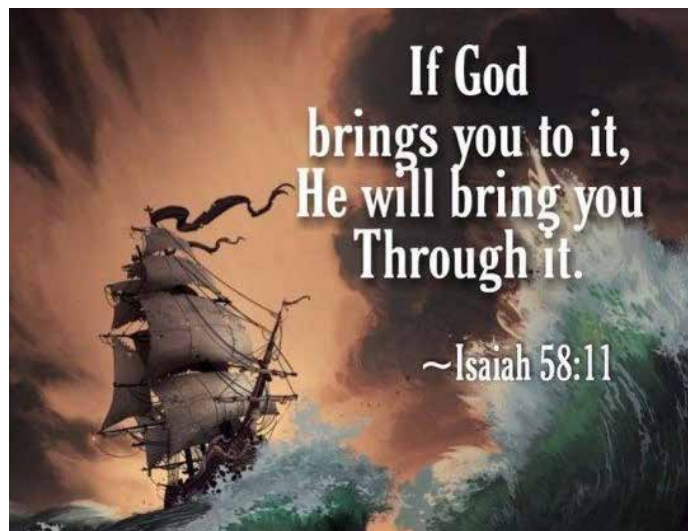
## CITAM Thika Town Outreach

**A**bout 7,000 people were reached with the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ where about 650 people got saved in Thika. CITAM Thika Town held a successful 4-day mega outreach from 16th - 19th February 2023. The outreach whose slogan was, "And Thika Shall be Saved," (Mathew 28:18 - 19) comprised of door-to-door evangelism in the mornings and crusades in the evening in Weitethie, Kiganjo, and Thika Town CBD.

"We are currently doing the follow up with the intention of discipling the new believers," Rev. Stanley Mung'athia, the Senior Pastor said. "The residents enjoyed listening to the preaching and music from the CITAM Evangelism Truck."

The assembly carried out mobilization of missionaries from not its members but from other CITAM assemblies, and surrounding university students.

The assembly's focus is to do a mega outreach every quarter.







# CITAM Kericho Assembly Caravan Crusade

**134** people got saved when CITAM Kericho had a caravan crusade covering Brooke Centre, Nyagacho Mti Moja, Kericho Shivling, Litein, and Kapsoit from 21st to 26th February 2023. "The caravan truck that caught the attention of people and came in

numbers to listen to the gospel," Rev. Ibrahim Ochieng, Lead Pastor CITAM Kericho was glad to say. "The gospel message touched and melted the hearts of the people." The sick and needy were prayed for.

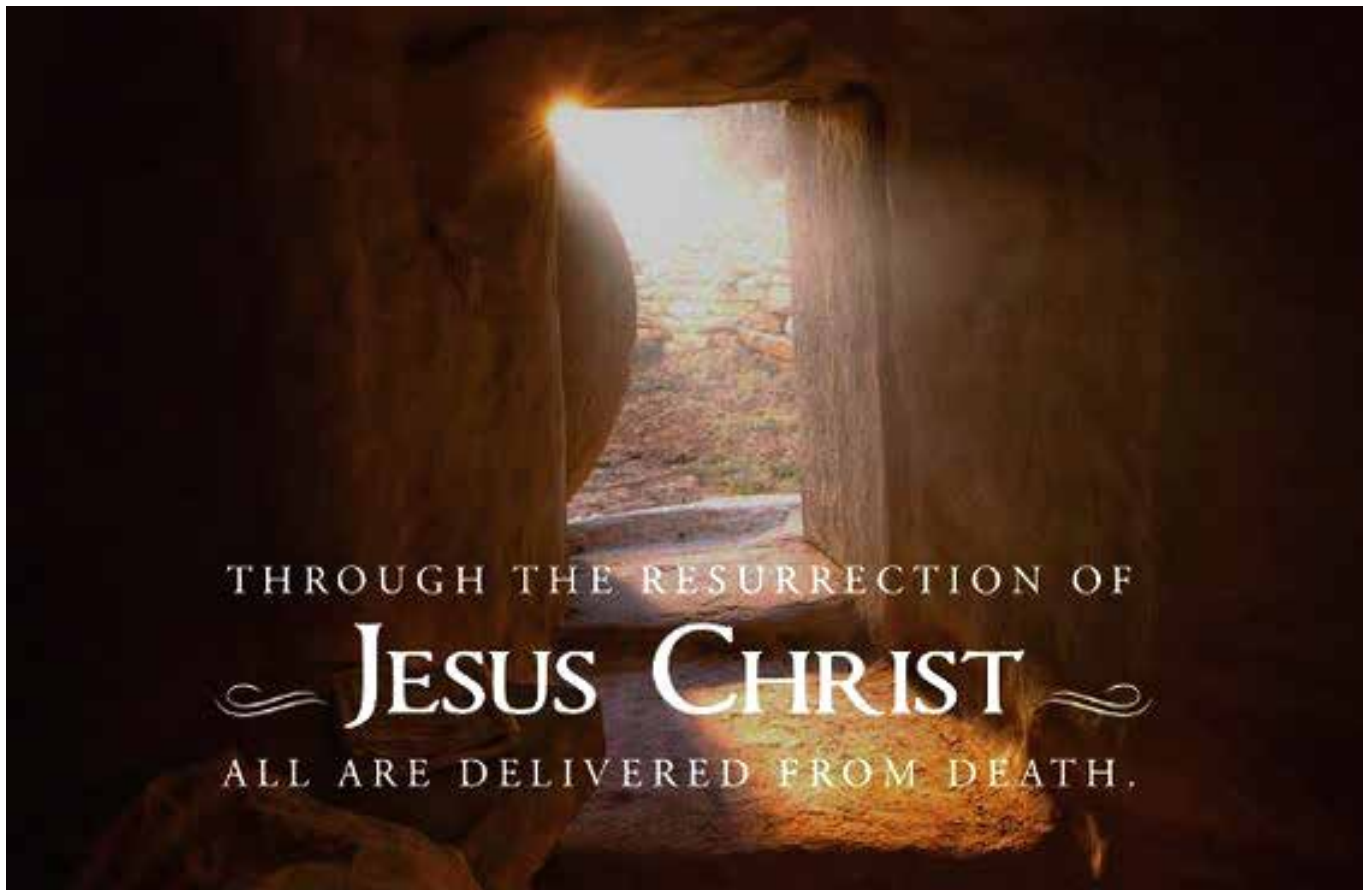






## CITAM Kitengela Sunday School block

**T**he joy of our children ministry as they officially occupy the new Sunday school block. Our appreciation to CITAM leadership and management team. Special thanks to DFA'S office and project.







This comradery has served to build a strong, united and consistent labor force of faithful and dedicated individuals from various CITAM assemblies as well as the Baptist church in equal measure. We take our time to talk, encourage pray and share the gospel with those who are open. At this point many Asians are willing to accept Jesus with the hope of being healed.

Every Tuesday in the month of February (7th to 28th February) after chaplaincy ministry the IMB team have been training the twenty spiritual care givers at Aga Khan Hospital on how to minister to South Asian and Muslim patients. This training includes how to lovingly and respectfully build kingdom relationships and share the gospel cross culturally.

With the team of twenty strong, we have for the first time (since its inception if 2015) been able to visit and minister to all the wards at Aga Khan hospital including HDU, ICU, Surgical,

# The Asian Outreach Aga Khan Hospital Chaplaincy

By Nigel De Mello

**A**fter the Asian Persuasion Training conducted at CITAM Parklands in October 2022; a large number of volunteers have signed up for ministry. In partnership with Rev. Grace Bukachi in the chaplaincy

ministry, and Mrs. Monica Landry form International Missions Board (IMB); we have twenty trained spiritual caregivers who are faithfully serving at the Aga Khan Hospital every Tuesday from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM.







Chaplaincy and are trusting God to open doors into M.P. Shah Hospital. We have already had initial conversations with the current HR Manager Mrs. Edna Kiptoon (who was a previous HR Manager at CITAM).

We are thus calling on your prayer support for open doors into M.P. Shah (the Visa Oshwal Community). We are also in need of growing the team to reach forty volunteers (spiritual care givers) if we hope to take on M.P. Shah Hospital Chaplaincy this year 2023.

Please keep the Asian Ministry in your prayers and if you feel called to reach Asians for Jesus please join the team and be equipped for the ministry in His presence.

General (Male and Female) and Pediatric wards.

This, in turn has granted CITAM immense favor with Aga Khan Hospital to the extent that they greatly supported our Medi-Vet missions Camps last year 2023.

This year they would like to do more including extending their Masters (Residency) Students to volunteer for the same.

This being said we are still looking for more prospects for low lying fruit in Hospital



## We must Change as the Cheese Moves

By Rogers Wambua

In December 2022 we launched a new strategic plan which will guide the ministry in the next five years. Additionally, we have just launched a new ERP system dubbed CITAM Connect. It is clear we are going through a major change, and we need to embrace it.

The reality that we are undergoing a change; a shift in the way we have been executing our mandate, has provoked me to reflect deeply.

What has come to my mind is Dr. Spencer Johnson's book, "Who Moved My Cheese?" which offers a narrative of four imaginary characters; two mice: Sniff and Scurry and two men: Hem and Haw. Every morning, the four characters ran through the Maze looking for cheese to nourish them and make them happy. They soon established their own routine of racing to enjoy the tasty new morsels that awaited them. However, this was not long lived and

the Maze ran out of cheese. The Sniff and Scurry quickly realized that the cheese was no more and moved on but Hem and Haw remained in the hope that the cheese would be available as usual.

The Sniff and Scurry, who had sniffed that the cheese was over and scurried out, found better cheese in another Maze. Hem and Haw would wake up every morning and rush to the Maze to check whether there was cheese and they would find nothing. Haw realized that they needed to move on but Hem could not heed to any counsel that they needed to go and search cheese elsewhere. After much persuasion, Haw decided to leave Hem behind. In his bold step to search out, he stumbled cheese in another



Maze.

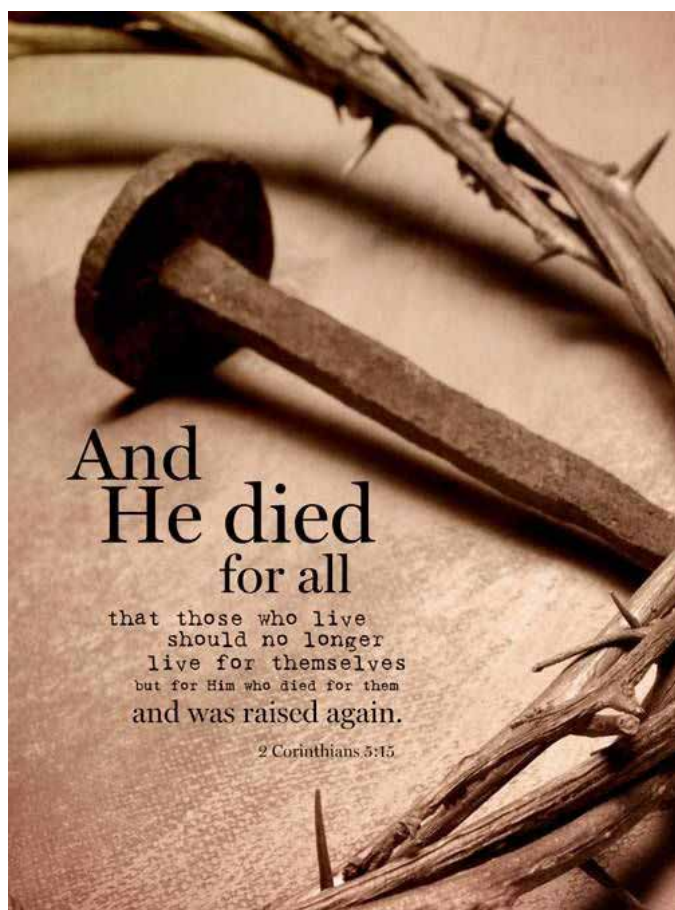
It is pitiful the state Hem remained. This is a great mercy, because in times such as our own—times of change when many familiar landmarks have shifted or disappeared—people are bewildered; they hanker after familiarity and “comfort zones”. Embracing change is difficult. It has been said that the only person who enjoys change is a wet baby. We naturally dread changes and we would prefer to keep the status quo.

We have an impatience with anything and anyone that suggests there might just be another perspective, another way of doing things, another way of looking at the same thing, another answer worth exploring regarding a changed life. There is a nostalgia for the

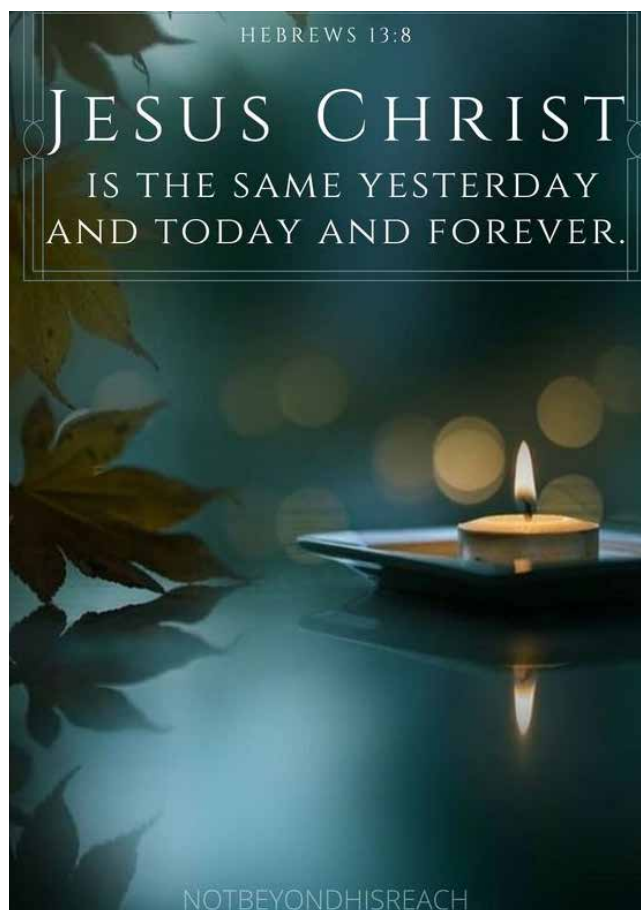
security in the womb of a safe sameness, and so we shut out the different ideas. We, therefore, resist change by looking for security in those who can provide answers that must be unassailable because we do not provide room for anyone to dissent and to question.

Doesn't God also expect us to exercise our faith in Him, our knowledge that God is in charge, and therefore be ready to take risks, to be venturesome and innovative? Christ displayed a good example when he challenged the conservative Pharisees because they clung to what they were used to; men's traditions. This caused them not to realize that the Messiah was amongst them but instead resisted Him.

For us to embrace the reality that we are in a changing world, we may need to wake up from our allergic slumber of maintaining the status quo. We must wake up, smell the coffee and move on. We may need to act like Sniff who sniffed out change early enough and Scurry who upon realizing the changing reality scurried into action. In the event we realize we have lagged behind; we may need to act like Haw who learns to adapt to new life after realizing changing can lead to something better. It would be sad for us if like Hem, we deny and resist change owing to fear of the unknown. We may soon become irrelevant or our impact pale into insignificance.



And  
He died  
for all  
that those who live  
should no longer  
live for themselves  
but for Him who died for them  
and was raised again.  
2 Corinthians 5:15



HEBREWS 13:8  
JESUS CHRIST  
IS THE SAME YESTERDAY  
AND TODAY AND FOREVER.

NOTBEYONDHISREACH



## SCHOOLS

### Junior Secondary School (JSS) in CITAM Schools

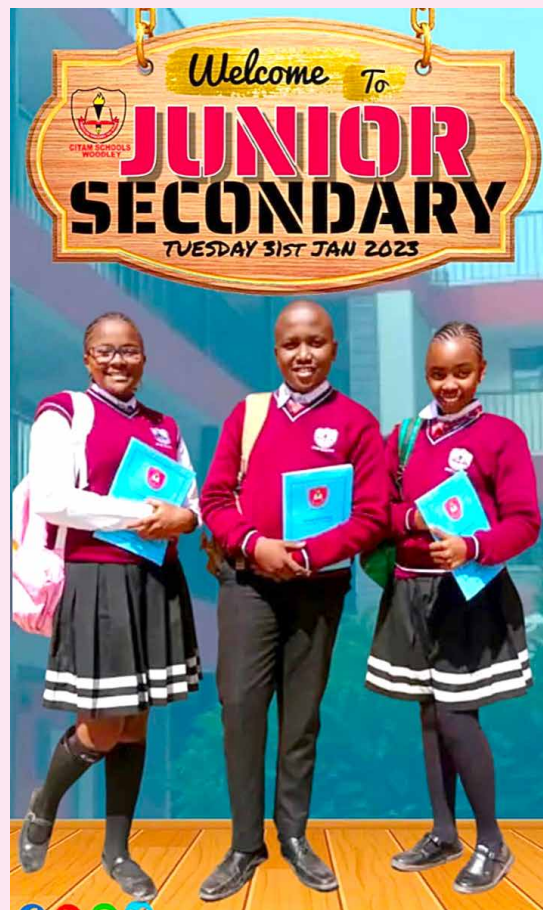
JSS in CITAM Schools opened its doors on 31st January 2023. Most of our regular learners have signed up to proceed to JSS in CITAM Schools. We also received some admissions from other schools.

All our 7 schools due for JSS were approved by Ministry of Education and added on the KNEC portal for selection.

Uniform items were ready and on the shelves for sale by Friday 27th January 2023.

Classrooms were ready in all our campuses. Most of the laboratory equipment, and other learning materials and resources had been procured.

Most of the staffing requirements expect for lab technicians and performing arts instructors were done.



Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

John 8:12 KJV





## » CITAM Schools Athi River

We are thrilled to announce that the new classrooms' block for CITAM Schools Athi River was officially opened and dedicated on Friday, 20th January 2023. The opening was a memorable occasion, attended by Rev. Ken Isige (Director for Administration), Rev. Charles Obara (Southern Region Overseer), David Omutanyi (Head of CITAM Schools), Rev. Ken Thiong'o (Senior Pastor-CITAM Athi River), Isabellah Kwaboka (Head Teacher), Head Office Managers, school staff and some pupils.

This new classrooms' block is a testament to our commitment to providing the best possible

learning environment for our pupils. The state-of-the-art facilities will enhance the pupils' learning experience and provide them with the tools they need to succeed in their studies.

We are grateful to everyone who has played a role in making this new addition to our school a reality, and we look forward to welcoming our pupils into their new classrooms.





# Successful Regional AGMs

**R**egional Annual General Meetings (RAGMs) were held successfully for Western, Southern and Northern on 11th March, 25th March, and 1st April at CITAM Kisumu, CITAM Karen, and CITAM Valley Road respectively.

One of the main items in the agenda of the RAGMs is the reading, discussion, and adoption of the respective regional overseers' reports. Members have the opportunity to engage and appraise matters that relate to their region. In addition, members vote on matters that affect their region like delegates' nominees to represent their region at the Annual Delegates Conference (ADC).

Besides, the Chairman (the Presiding Bishop) presents his report which is discussed by members but not adopted because it is done so at the ADC. The Treasurer makes a presentation on how the region performed in the previous financial year and gives an overview of the entire ministry's performance.

A key highlight is the members' engagement both at the floor and online where all their questions are answered by a panel of rapporteurs.



The completion of the RAGMs paves way for the ADC which will be held on 29th April 2023 at CITAM Valley Road.





## Updates from CED

# In His Presence Study Guide

The year began with the launch of the Bible study guide for 2023 on 15th January 2023. The guide is based on the 2023 CITAM theme 'In His Presence' launched by

Bishop Calisto Odede. It was written by nine writers who are pastors, elders and members of CITAM. It has 10 chapters and each chapter has four study guides that are being studied

monthly in the Safari groups and other ministries of the church. All 15,000 copies that were printed have been taken up in all 27 assemblies and 5000 copies are in the process of printing. The children's version of 'In His Presence' is being developed by a team of Sunday School pastors and workers. May God transform the lives of His people through His word.



## Visit with Akili Kids



**12** staff members and children workers visited Akili Kids following an invitation by Mr. Gerry Gitonga, a practicing Christian lawyer and the General Counsel of Akili Network. The CEO and founder Jeff Scion gave the history of Akili Network and shared their success story. The channel was launched in March 2023 as CITAM

was launching the children's program on Hope TV. Three years later, today Akili is the highest-viewed daytime TV station in Kenya. We look forward to more partnerships and training from Akili Network and other Christian partners on excellence and integrity in the development of good children's programs and impact the next generation for Jesus.



## CCO Moved to CED

The Christian Education and Discipleship (CED) was amalgamated with CITAM Church Online (CCO). The department is led by Rev. Kwame Rubadiri and deputized by Rev. Dr. Phidel Baraza and includes CED staff Pastor Joy Mindo, Emmanuel Cheruiyot, Charity Murimi, Mercy Mukiria and Carol Makezi. CCO staff under the leadership of Pastor Linda Mwaniki, are now part of CED including Humphrey Mutembe, Lilian Sifuma, Doris Njue, Betty Muzarika, and Patrick Kariuki. For team building and synergy, the team had a three-day staff retreat at Camp Kadolta on the 16th – 18th of February 2023.







# SMLD

**T**he School of Ministry and Leadership Development (SMLD) began in the assemblies with the goal of alleviating the shortage of effective leaders at the assembly level. There was a need for well-trained and qualified leaders for the ministry with leadership skills for maximum impact at the family, church, and marketplace. SMLD emphasizes excellence in lifelong learning and development and positive community engagement with skills in leadership, ministry, Bible knowledge, and the basics of Christian doctrine to positively impact families, communities, countries, and the world. Its curriculum under the leadership of Dr. Baraza has undergone a process of review, and needs and impact assessment to develop a standardized, harmonized, and contextualized curriculum to be offered to all CITAM Assemblies.

Though not fashioned for academic outfit parse, the program is raising a generation of God-fearing leaders with excellence in knowledge and spiritual maturity anchored in

Pillar 2; Discipleship, Pillar 4; Social Transformation, and Pillar 5; Organizational Development of CITAM's 2022-2027 Strategic Plan. The SMLD first draft is in its final stages and will be launched soon. Since its inception in CITAM in 2014, many leaders have been trained and graduated and are currently involved in ministry at the various CITAM assemblies. The latest graduation was at CITAM Buru Buru on 19th February 2023 where Rev. Dr. Phidel Baraza awarded certificates to the graduands.

On January 29, 2023, CITAM Clay City launched Cohort 2 of School of Ministry and Leadership Development (SMLD). A total of 144 church members have registered for this cohort and we believe it will be a great boost in enhancing the capacity of our ministry workers to serve in church and be impactful in society at large.

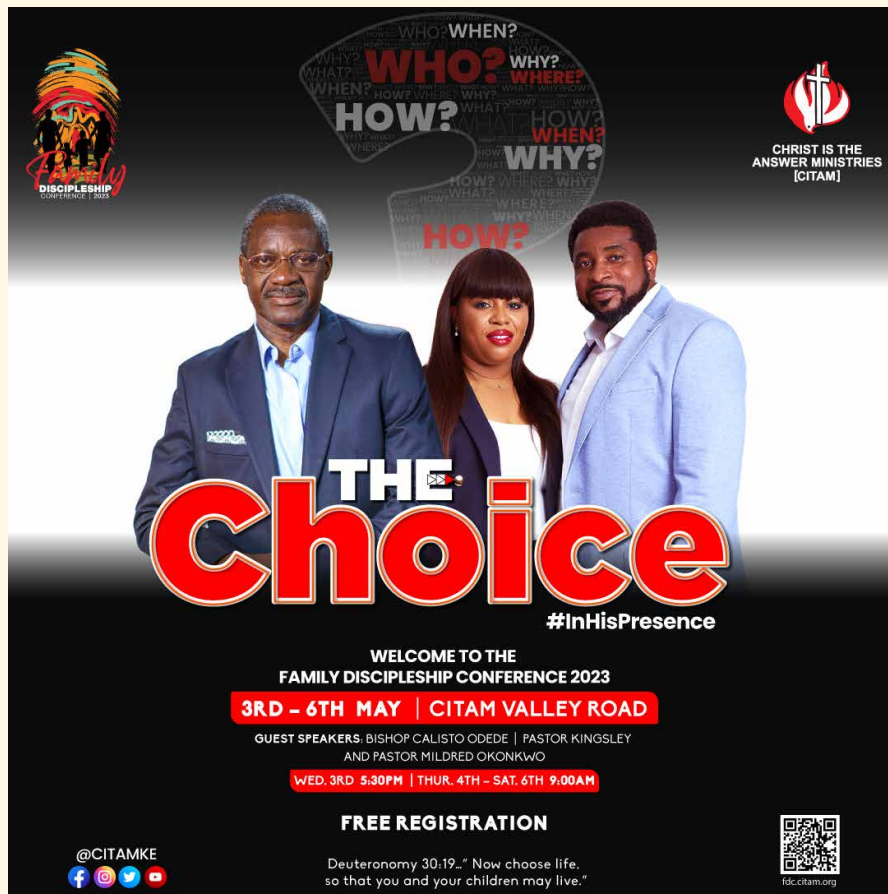
During the first cohort, 145 leaders and ministry workers registered for the program, with 122 successfully completing it and graduating. The feedback provided by this team has informed a few changes to improve the learning experience and enhance the program's impact on participants. The 144 participants have been grouped into 17 small teams, which is aimed at ensuring that the study becomes more impactful.

The assembly leadership is planning to have at least 400 members having gone through the training by 2026. Their target is to ensure that at an average of 100 members successfully complete the course every year. The occasion was graced by the Rev. Kwame Rubadiri, Head of C.E.D., as the keynote speaker. Present also was CITAM Clay City Senior Pastor, Rev. Elly Ochieng, and his deputy Rev. Stanley Amukoa.





# Family Discipleship Conference (FDC) 2023 is Loading



to secure school fees and favor from their teachers. Giving the impression that a simple choice can be made to embrace the deviant practices of the

We are witnessing a disturbing practice in young marriages (a few months to a year) where a spouse announces after a period in the marriage that they are gay and want to exit the marriage – having made a choice to pursue that lifestyle.

We are witnessing a number of couples (and singles) choosing not to be legally married and some making the choice not to have children. This is exacerbated by the increase in sexual activity from pre-teens.

We are witnessing an assault on the traditional nuclear family as a result of divorce – more “blended families” arising and a rise in depression and mental illness especially amongst children and youth.

These are just some of the issues in need of our attention and address; we will approach the most pressing at Plenary level during the Conference and convene a series of workshops where the matters can be looked at through expert eyes and deeper questions can be answered during the sessions. It is therefore our commitment at FDC 2023 to directly confront these seeming choices with the authority and accountability of the Word of God and invite our conference participants at all ages and social statuses to choose life.

The 2023 Family Discipleship Conference will be held at CITAM Valley Road from 3rd to 6th May 2023. Target audience will be Millennials and Gen Z in particular but there will be material for those over 50 years and for senior singles (including widowers, widows). The Conference will have an altar ministry following every evening's plenary.

The planning committee has started the plans led by Rev. Kwame Rubadiri, co-chaired by Rev. Stanley Mung'athia.

Our theme for this year's FDC is “THE CHOICE,” with Deuteronomy 30:19 as the biblical verse. “This day I call the heavens and the earth as

witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live.”

The theme is prompted by a prevailing set of occurrences in the family, in marriages, in our high schools and even in church. Most of this center around the growing influence of the LGBTQ agenda in Africa and Kenya in particular, as recently witnessed by the Supreme Court ruling on the right of association.

We are witnessing an aggressive push to recruit (or force) young people to the LGBTQ agenda in high schools across the country as youth are pressured to agree to align with the agenda in order



Our speakers include our Presiding Bishop Calisto Odede, Pastors Kingsley and Mildred Okonkwo (David Christian Centre in Lagos, Nigeria), our Deputy Bishop Karita Mbagara, Dr Stanley Mukolwe, Moffat Mshauri, Dr Wahome Ngare, Boniface Wanyoike to name a few.

The conference will entirely be free of charge but affordable

refreshments will be sold each day.

Please follow the Conference alerts on social media and help us spread the word to your family, friends, students, parents and newlyweds. kindly use our website and social media handles.



## » Safari

**S**afari Engage 3 Bible Study for the teens and youth will be launched on the last week of April 2023 when the high schoolers are home for their holiday break. It will be an interactive bible study using illustrations, digital interaction, Bible memory, and practical application of the word of God in the lives of the youth. We pray that God will guide this process to its completion.

## » SAA Launched in CITAM Ngong

**O**n Sunday, 12th March 2023, we launched the Social Action & Advocacy (SAA) Ministry at CITAM Ngong. The launch was spearheaded by Rev. Anthony Makena ( Head of SAA, CITAM) who was

accompanied by a strong team of partners from Kenya Christian Professionals Fellowship (KCPF) and Teens Challenge. Over 300 registered to be part of this ministry.







# Sound Techs Refresher Training

All Sound Technicians had a sound and media training, from 20th to 21st February 2023 at CITAM Valley Road. The training was part of the strategy program that has been put in place to ensure enhancement of sound in our meetings, synergy among the staff across the assemblies and



units, and ensuring there is better stewardship of the resources/ equipment related to sound.

On sound, the technicians were taken through the following:

- The arrangement of vocals and instruments for great worship mix.
- Proper frequency analysis and control.
- Sound theology.
- Sound set up.
- Effective sound check and preparation.
- Ringing out PA system
- Audio post production
- Inter-personal skills
- Stage Management

On video production, they were trained on key aspects of live streaming, light screens, and videography hardware and software.

The participants, besides theory presentations, had practical sessions in small groups to apply and integrate what they had learnt. They had the opportunity to ask questions and learn from each other. It was also an opportune for the new staff to be integrated into the team.

They left the training retooled and poised to implement skills learnt for the enhancement of sound in our assemblies.







# IN HIS *Presence*

**"IF YOU ABIDE IN ME,  
YOU WILL BEAR MUCH FRUIT..."**

**JOHN 15:5**



**YOUR FEEDBACK  
MATTERS**

**Talk to us: [communications@citam.org](mailto:communications@citam.org)**



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