



FOCUS BRIEFS

March 2018

God's Power at Commission 2017



The resounding theme for Commission `17 was *“His Power, His Witnesses: Transforming the World.”* The 10th FOCUS’ Missions training and mobilization convention held at Kabarak University, was in tandem with the mission of God as defined by John Stott—embracing everything which God sends His people into the world to do, encompassing the social, physical, and the spiritual aspects of the world. Planned amidst an unstable political environment yet 3,214 delegates would participate in the conference. Majority of the delegates committed to sharing the Gospel in their context, to be involved in cross-cultural missions, and to regularly intercede for the global Church’s involvement in world missions. The first miracle; more than 72 delegates gave their lives to Christ during the conference, and several committed to mission engagement wherever they are—now and in the future.

WORKING TOGETHER FOR A MISSION MOVEMENT

Commission '17 involved 31 Mission Agencies and 6 corporate Organizations through which delegates established contacts with the respective agencies whose vision and mission rhymed with their passion and calling. The Conference speakers, Associates (Graduates), and Exhibitors further guided the delegates to digest the conference content before making their commitments.

During the conference, Ksh. 700, 000 was raised to support a staff worker with Christian Student Fellowship (the IFES movement in Namibia), as one of FOCUS Kenya's mission causes. FOCUS Kenya has offered to support CSF Namibia for the next three years. We desire to see a vibrant students movement in the country in coming days, and are grateful to the Commission delegates who committed to financially support this mission initiative.



Mission Agencies in exhibition booths in Commission 17

ABANDONING EVERYTHING TO FOLLOW CHRIST

By Pauline Njoroge—JKUAT Main Campus
(Commission 17 Delegate)

When I signed up for Commission 2017, I had no idea what to expect. There was a comforting feeling in my heart about participating in a FOCUS event, and a conference for that matter. But, I must admit, as much excited as it was to participate, there were personal difficulties that weighed me down and I hadn't resolved to commit myself lest I fail to turn up. However, God opened doors in amazing ways and a new dawn it was during those 4 days. Like most Christians in our world today, I have been a safe player with regard to mission work. This is least expected especially with the kind of programs a Christian Union like mine offers—there is at least a mission per semester in Evangelistic Teams, mission weeks, and other evangelistic ventures. The problem is that sometimes that participation is an excuse to remain active in the fellowship and all the while overlooking the transformation therein through the witnessing. We cling so hard to other things that we count 'important' and tend to shy away from 'risks'; as we have constantly branded them. We claim to have 'surrendered all' but actually have 'withheld everything'. The conference helped me redefine the things I valued. The expositions on Acts, almost every seminar and the plenary sessions, and just about everything I engaged in was calling me out of the very things I had been clutching on. The call was so clear to live for more; to count greater gain and of complete satisfaction that which Paul in Acts 20:22-24 says, to finish the race marked for him, the work of testifying the gospel of God's grace. Reading through what amount of tribulations they gladly would endure, to see that they stayed faithful to

witness was very amazing for me. I understood that total surrender involves an intentional abandonment of self to pursue after a perfect will; the kind of surrender where I shall release myself to the leading of the Lord as He leads me in the way He knows best for me. There is no lasting joy in being 'dignified' and protective of my 'reputation', for he that loses his life for Christ's sake has found it. The richness of the conference to my life is not describable even in these many words. To God be the glory!



Pauline Njoroge and Colleague from JKUAT at
COMM 17



Pst. Peter Oyugi, The Bible Expositor at
Commision '17

CLARITY ON THE CALL

By Joy Ndung'u—Maasai Mara University
(Commission 17 Delegate)

Not so long ago, it dawned on me that I was born to make a difference and with the turning of events, indeed it seems to be my clarion call. The five days of Commission conference changed my life and most specifically, my way of thinking. The Expository preaching by Pst Peter Oyugi was on point. Characterized by eloquence and clarity, the exposition from the book of Acts spoke to me in different ways. It came to my realization that all that the apostles did, was the manifestation of the work of the Holy Spirit, who gave them strength, boldness

and all they needed to take the gospel to the ends of the earth. I have learned that for me to accomplish God's will, I need the Holy Spirit. As a Political Science student, there were many questions that had lingered in my mind. I used to wonder whether I would make it as a Christian since many refer to politics as a "dirty game." After attending a plenary session on Mission in the Political Space, my worked-up mind came to rest. Hon. Senator Samuel Poghismo (one of the speakers) a Christian in the political arena, gave us hope not only to survive but to make a difference. I left the room so confident that I am the agent of change the world needs. I have His power, I am His witness, I will, therefore, transform the world.

Hon. Senator Samuel Poghismo following a plenary session in COM' 17, Second left and One of the speakers who inspired Joy Ndung'u.



BEYOND COMMISSION 17

Commission 2017 has a comprehensive Follow-up plan that seeks to actualize the commitments made during and post the conference. The desired outcome is to lead all the delegates to long-term involvement in missions within areas of their calling. Towards this end, Commission`17 is employing four strategies:

First, we are seeking opportunities for involvement in mission activities to all the delegates interested in missionary work. Towards this end, we are partnering with mission agencies that were involved in Commission 17. We held the first consultation meeting with these agencies on the 22nd February 2018 where 23 agencies were represented. The Mission Agencies committed

to offer opportunities for both short and long term mission placements, training, and prayer for global missions.

Second, we are building support groups for delegates from the same institutions for continuity, accountability, and synergy to help in fulfilling the commitments by the delegates. We are also identifying opportunities for mission exposure and subsequently place the suitable candidates from among the delegates. In addition, we are supporting the Christian Union Annual Missions and other outreach ventures by providing the necessary resources for capacity building.

We shall regularly communicate with the individual delegates who made specific commitments with an aim of receiving feedback, networking and possible placements.

Mission Agencies in a meeting at FOCUS Centre for Commission Follow-up



Commission 17 Gallery



MENTORSHIP: THE MEANS TO A TRANSFORMED SOCIETY

Good leadership is essential for the transformation of a society. The need for Christians to be actively involved in politics, business and other strategic positions has never been this glaring. Many Christian students desire to engage in value-based leadership on campus and later at national level, but the ambitions are often met with a hostile environment. Often times, all they need is a role model or a person who has successfully walked the way to encourage guide and coach them. Unfortunately, not many of these successful professionals are involved in the business of mentorship. FOCUS is, therefore, responding to meet this need by launching mentorship programs among students in our colleges and universities on two levels.

The first level is to create platforms for enhanced interaction and support by Associates, Staff, and Christian Faculty to students. Through these interactions, the students shall maximize their potential, develop their skills, improve their performance, and become the person they want to be in various areas of interest. So far, the North Rift Region has had two successful mentorship fora for the Executive Committee members of the Christian Unions



Mr. Kamonjo and Lawyers after the Luncheon in Nakuru

in the Region. The one-day event took place on 10th March 2018 in Kitale and Eldoret bringing together 20 FOCUS Associates and 134 students. The FOCUS Associates in the Region have set the bar by their commitment to not only offer themselves beyond the event to walking with the students but by also giving their finances to facilitate the event as noted by one of the Region's staff.

The second level is a specialized mentorship program whose aim is to support, induct, and train strategic and high potential Christian student leaders interested in politics, business, academia, and church ministry. So far, 40 students have been identified for the one year mentorship program which began on 3rd March 2018.

In the same breath, a group of young lawyers who are attached to the Nakuru courts were hosted for a luncheon by one of our FOCUS Associate and a lawyer based in Nakuru, Kamonjo Kiburi in Central Rift Region. He is one among many FOCUS Associates who have given themselves into mentorship of upcoming professionals in varied areas.

Mentorship will be the theme of this year's FOCUS Associates Annual Retreat to be held at Arusha.

Every year FOCUS trains thousands of



Team Building activities during the mentorship day in Eldoret



student leaders. Last year alone, we trained, 3989 leaders serving in different capacities in colleges and Universities. Individuals of reputable character, who shape many spheres of our society, and the formation of strategic professional Organizations have emanated from the training. Over the years, this has been enabled by a competent and dedicated team of FOCUS staff and a big network of graduates in various professional fields who are involved in the training and development of students.

The efforts put in the development of character and values, have, however not been able to match the opportunities available owing to the limited infrastructure in which FOCUS operates. FOCUS operates in seven (7) Regions (Western, North Rift, Central Rift, Mt. Kenya, Pwani, Northern, and Southern Nairobi) with only one Students Leadership Training Centre

in Kasarani, Nairobi whose capacity is 49 occupants. We intend to construct 6 Student Training and Development Centres in the next 10 years so as to train at least 10,000 students a year, a figure that shall raise a critical mass enough to shape our country's leadership.

So far, we are in the process of purchasing land in three Regions: Pwani, Mt. Kenya and Central Rift. We have also raised at least Ksh. 3 Million towards the projects.

The first Phase of this project will involve constructing three Student Centres in Kasarani, Nakuru, and Mombasa. To this end, we are inviting you to be part of this great project of shaping of values, attitudes, and character of the young people by contributing towards Ksh. 60 Million required for the first phase of the project. You could join in the Regional Fundraising activities and the National Fundraising Dinner taking place on Saturday, 7th September 2018.

You can contribute to these projects through:

Paybill number: 412412

Account name: Hatua.

The current student Centre in Kasarani



60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MOTHER CU



The growth of FOCUS has reflected the Kingdom of God as demonstrated by Jesus in the parable of the mustard seed. It started with one Christian Union to the current 152, and from 30 students to more than 45,000 today. The year was 1958. About 30 students gathering in Ufungamano House would become the pioneers of what is known as the Main Campus Christian Union. On 11th March 2018, the CU alumni gathered to celebrate 60 years of existence. We appreciate the MCCU alumni for turning up for the event and encouraging the young brothers and sisters in the CU. The Christian Union's ability to manage her operations with a different set of leaders every year is a matter of God's grace as noted in the celebrations. It shows the potential among Christian Students when well guided as well as the constant faithfulness of God in FOCUS. The older generation called upon today's generation to go back to the old tested and true paths of quiet time with systematic Bible reading. Following the example of MCCU, we appeal to every CU alumni to consider mentoring the current generation in their respective Christian Unions because today's mentees are tomorrow's mentors.



MCCU Anniversary

National Students Executive Committee



National Students Executive Committee at FOCUS Centre in March 2018



NASEC Officials 2018



Northern Nairobi RSEC at FOCUS Centre

NOTICES

Welcome to our 45th
FOCUS General Annual Meeting (AGM)
on **28th April 2018** at
Technical University of Kenya TUK
from **9.00 am**.

**We wish you a reflective Easter Holidays.
May we live to remember the cost of the
cross that justified us before the Lord**

CONTACT US

FOCUS CENTRE, KASARANI

P.O BOX 781-00618, RUARAKA

TEL: +254 733 614 340, +254 722 564 851

focus@focuskenya.org

REGIONAL CONTACTS

Central Rift Region (Nakuru): +254 724 997057

North Rift Region (Eldoret): +254 724 997 058

Mt. Kenya Region (Nyeri): +254 728 067 067

Pwani Region (Mombasa): +254 724 997 056

Western Region (Kisumu): +254 724 997 059

HOW YOU CAN BE INVOLVED

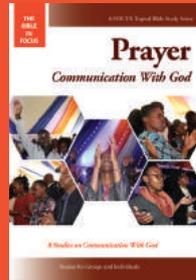
1. Praying for FOCUS ministry.
2. Donating gifts in kind.
3. Offering professional services.
4. Giving financial Support.

SENDING FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Write a cheque in favour of:
Fellowship of Christian Unions
MPesa Paybill:
Business Number: 412 412
Account Name: Support

BOOKSTALL: NEW BOOKS

Prayer: Communication with God



Prayer is one of the central doctrines in Christianity that every single Christian should reflect on from time to time. It is effective in that it has the ability to change the way God acts if it is done in His will and with faith. It demands obedience and trust in God.

The Life of Joseph



Joseph was a young man who excelled in leadership so much that he became the most powerful man in Egypt, second only to Pharaoh. But his ascent to the top was not without challenges. Hatred by his brothers imprisonment were some of the troubles he had to face yet he would not sin against God whether in public or in private. He presents to us a life worthy emulating. What a relevant and timely lesson for us today!

Deposit directly to our bank accounts:

Barclays Bank:

Market Branch,

Account No. 0948207400

Standard Chartered Bank:

Harambee Avenue Branch,

Account No. 0102073083700

Co-operative Bank:

Zimmerman Branch,

A/c No. 01128098633500.