



JANUARY NEWSLETTER 2023



Leaders called to radiate God's light and glory: Redeemed Gospel church, AMREF Grounds- Kibera, Nairobi County

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2023 dear friends and readers of our newsletter!

Salt and Light

You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven- Matthew 5:13-16

Why light? Light is meant to be seen by those in the darkness. It has no value if covered up and hidden. As disciples of Jesus Christ, we are called to be the light of the world. We display the light of Jesus by doing the good works which God intends for us. Our good deeds make our light shine to ultimately point the ones around us to the truth is Jesus.

This year, we are being called upon to be the salt of the world. Salt makes a difference when added to food by altering its flavor; it can make it taste better or horrible as well as preserve it. As believers our deeds must be genuine so that they bring godly difference wherever we are. Our deeds should at all times be geared at bringing glory and honor to God and not ourselves.

Many times we may have 1001 excuses to give for not doing what God wants us to do. God knows how to turn our weaknesses to strength. Just as He used Moses who was imperfect in speech, God uses our imperfections for His glory. All we need to do is to submit to Him and abide in His presence.

To being salt and light in this new year, we must learn to stay with God and allow Him to work on us.

Let us therefore be careful not to let arrogance get into us for being different because being followers of Christ sets us apart. Bad deeds corrupt and dilutes our light and saltiness but through total dependence and trust in Christ, we are able to continually do good deeds thus our light and saltiness is preserved and maintains its effectiveness through Christ.

We are delighted that in the month of January, God enabled us to be the hands and feet of Jesus to the men, women and youths in Jilore, Malindi and Redeemed Gospel church- Kibera slum (Nairobi County) in teaching and spreading the love of our Lord to those who are hurting, hopeless and the sick.

On 17th to 19th: PHARP team made a visit to the beneficiaries that meet regularly at the PHARP center- Jilore, Malindi, Kilifi County. The 18 group leaders present thanked God that they and their members have been enabled to see the new year. Although 2022 saw some members passing away or their extended family members pass, they are delighted to get another opportunity to serve God, family and the community. Their hearts desire is that, whatever they lay their hands on to do; be it farming, sewing or rearing of domestic animals, the Lord shall bless their hard work and double their efforts. It is amazing to read and learn how God used the staff of Moses to perform miracles. Likewise, we learnt that we should not limit God by any means. He can make use of what we each have to solve our problems and those of others. The leaders are determined to be salt and light in their families and communities as they seek to be better peacemakers and disciple makers.



PHARP staff encouraging the beneficiaries to use what they have in their hands for the glory of God and the good of the community.

On 27th: A new peacebuilding and discipleship class of training of trainers (TOTs) was launched in Kibera slum-Nairobi County. The location where the church is situated is within the AMREF grounds which is a hotspot for any type of violence, due to the many idle youths who abuse drugs and are unemployed. Every day the AMREF clinic near the church reports of many cases of abandoned infants every week; the pastor of the Redeemed church is not spared either. This class of 30 men, women and youth drawn from 6 neighboring churches seek to commit the first three months of the year being empowered and equipped to be better servant leaders as well effective peace ambassadors and disciple makers. These participants among others who will be trained throughout the year, will have comprehensive knowledge on personal growth and transformation in their walk with God, learn and understand the concept that encompasses, generates and sustains the full array of processes, approaches and stages needed to transform conflict toward more sustainable, peaceful relationships within families and communities. Kindly keep us in prayer for wisdom, strength and proper understanding on the part of the TOTs in order

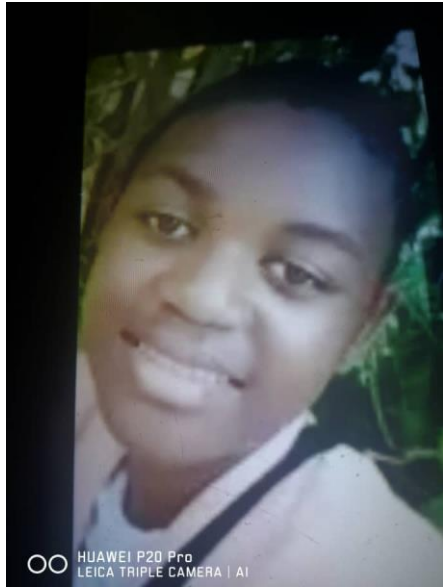
to know how best to impact their communities regardless of all the challenges staring at them in the face.



Left: Pastor Moses (lead pastor of Redeemed church) in prayer and worship. Right: PHARP staff doing and introduction of the three-month course.

THANKSGIVING AND PRAYER REQUESTS

1. We thank God for a new year; new opportunities to serve God and the communities entrusted to us.
2. We thank for each of our ministry partners and friends. We pray for more health upon each of you.
3. Pray for Rev. Lawrence in Blantyre, Malawi, who is a dealing with a case of a young girl in standard eight (12 years) raped, killed and abandoned in a maize farm. Pray for the parents' peace and comfort and provision for all burial expenses. Pray that the perpetrators are brought to face the law and most importantly that they meet with the saving Master Jesus Christ.



Left: The late pupil Mafotesa. Right: fellow pupils who gathered for prayers.

4. Pray for all the schools that have resumed, as the economic times are challenging, that the Lord will provide for every parent and guardian taking their children back to school, college or university.
5. Pray for the persistent drought and famine in Kenya for God to remember mercy and send the rains.
6. We continue to pray for DR Congo facing violent conflict.