

Dear Brethren, I am writing to express my sincere gratitude to you and your respective churches/ministries for standing with us in prayer throughout 2025. The Lord has accomplished so much through your incessant prayers, for which we must surely thank Him. Your prompt and regular feedback have been greatly used by the Lord to encourage Olivia and I to continue labouring here in Kisumu despite our frailty as you may be aware. I have highlighted a couple of areas of thanksgiving for your encouragement.

1] FEEDING THE FLOCK.

In Genesis 1:26, God says, “*Let us make **man in our image**...*” [emphasis added]. At least two truths are emphatic in this divine council; (i) God’s unmistakable plan to create a being who is essentially “human” — consisting of dust from the ground and the breath of life from God (Genesis 2:7-8). Notice how the phrase “the man” is emphasised in these verses by way of repetition. (ii) the man was created in the “image of God”. Again, notice how this is emphasised by repetition in Genesis 1:27. It should be appreciated from the context that being in the “image of God” is a privilege exclusive to man amongst the living creatures. But did Adam and Eve see things this way in Genesis 3? Did they realise how unique they were already, and were at the apex of the very creation? For when the serpent deceives them, “...*and **you will be like God, knowing good and evil**...*” [emphasis added], what more and/or better were they pursuing to the point of being ready and willing to disobey a clear and express command of God? Wasn’t it sufficient (and indeed an incredible privilege) to be created in the image of God? Isn’t this evidently a case of a lack of contentment with WHO they were? Wouldn’t this be the genesis of the insatiable pursuit of wanting to be something more and/or better? Being ‘man’, created in the image of God, isn’t simply enough. We want to be ‘gods’ (if that would be attainable). How does redemption in Christ transform our ‘humanity’, especially as we increasingly become more like Christ? I had the privilege of helping the flock to reflect on the shades of

discontentment in the Fall of Man.



Men's hangout with Elder Ken

Then in November, Elder Ken had a great time with the men, impressing upon them the practical implications of the biblical teaching on contentment. Our members are participatory, for which we thank God, and one would invariably expect unending practical and self-examination questions.

2] EQUIPPING MEN.

The Lord continues to use Kisumu Reformed School of Theology (KReST) to prepare men of diverse backgrounds for gospel ministry. Pastors Naphtally and Sam continue to sacrificially lead the work as the Principal and Dean/Registrar respectively. They cover several kilometres to Kisumu every time we have block classes. The students greatly appreciate their labours and one-on-one ministerial mentorship. It is always a great privilege for me to teach at the college as part of the resident faculty.

In November, David Galletta and I had the opportunity to teach Hermeneutics and Historical Theology respectively. The classes are interactive, with the students raising very practical questions. I spent my last lectures discussing the relevance of studying church history and the practical implications of these lessons on Christianity in Africa. Inevitably, much time had to be allocated to the evolution of the Pentecostal and Charismatic Movement in America over the centuries and its influence on the Church in Africa.



KReST Students - November Classes


Concerning handing down the Christian Faith, Paul says, *“and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses **entrust to faithful men**, who will be able to teach others also.”* [emphasis added] (1 Timothy 2:2). If we read Paul correctly, it is not the mandate of a theological institution to instil faithfulness in men but to equip those who already exhibit faithfulness. If we were to take this verse seriously, then I would contend that the greatest task of any seminary or theological college is to identify men who have a reputation of faithfulness in their local churches. I must quickly add that faithfulness, being a character, is the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22). In other words, Paul is instructing Timothy to entrust the Christian Tradition to those who demonstrate the evidence of genuine salvation. They are loyal in every respect and to the Lord Jesus Christ and His truth. Faithfulness is a reputation of being trustworthy. And when one talks of reputation, he is already factoring in time as a necessary function.

- Please pray that the Lord would send us faithful men.
- Plead with Him also for much fruit from these labours.
- Pray also for Pastors Sam and Naphtally as they prepare for the February 2026 block classes.

In Christ,

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