



LEADERSHIP TRAINING REPORT

University of Makeni,

21 March, 2014

The University of Makeni is located in Makeni, the Capital City of the Northern Province of Sierra Leone, West Africa. Established initially in September 2005 as The Fatima Institute, the college was granted university status in August 2009, and assumed the name University of Makeni, or UNIMAK. Now with more than one thousand two hundred students, the College seeks to promote the religious, political, social and economic development of the people of Africa, by providing a public forum which allows the Church to spread its Christian convictions about man, woman, family, work, economy, society, politics, international life and the environment. It is a place of listening, respect and tolerance. The university is a member of the Association of African Universities (AAU).

Leaders of Godly Character Sierra Leone, in its continuing efforts to enhance the quality of leadership in Sierra Leone by training the youth of Sierra Leone on the principles of good leadership, organized a leadership seminar for students of the University of Makeni (UNIMAK) on the 21st March, 2014. Due to budgetary constraints, seminar participation was restricted to 200 students and 10 lecturers. The main presenters were Mr. George Bindi and Mr. Abu Conteh, Director of Youth for Christ Sierra Leone.

Mr. Augustine Bangura, Dean of Students (UNIMAK), welcomed and introduced the team. He encouraged the participants to listen carefully and fully participate because he believes that the subject to be discussed is an important and life-transforming one. He expressed hope that by the end of the seminar their actions, thoughts and decisions would have been positively influenced.

Mr. George Bindi facilitated the first half of the seminar; during this period participants were led into a discussion about the concept of whether good leaders were born or made, and they came to the conclusion that they are made even though they might have innate leadership qualities. They were also made to understand that each of them is a leader and that the first person they lead is themselves, therefore whatever becomes of them in the future is as a result of decisions they made in the past, and that the choice of being a good or bad leaders is in their hands. He talked about the paradox of Sierra Leone being blessed with a wealth of natural

resources, and yet being one of the poorest nations in the world; all this he attributed to the lack of good leadership on display at all levels of the Sierra Leonean society.



Mr. Augustine Bangura, dean of students opens the seminar



Mr. George Bindi facilitates the seminar

This was followed by a comprehensive discussion of the four minimum requirements of good leadership: **Integrity, Vision, Courage** and **Passion** by both Mr. Abu Conteh and Mr. George Bindi. A comprehensive discussion on the subjects, benefits and consequences of positively or negatively practicing each of the four minimum requirements was done and participants were given the opportunity to participate in practical leadership exercises with the help of leadership scenarios that were constructed to illustrate the benefits and the costs of demonstrating each of the minimum leadership characteristics. This exercise generated a great deal of interest from participants as most of them were able to identify with the scenarios.



Mr. Abu Conteh facilitates the seminar



The seminar featured interactive participation from students

At the close of the seminar, Mr. Bindi led the students and lecturers in taking a personal pledge of love and loyalty to Sierra Leone. They pledged to put the interests of their nation first above their own personal interests. It is our fervent prayer that this pledge will manifest itself into the creation of true servant leaders in Sierra Leone.

Some feedback from the seminar:

1. **Mr. Alimu B Toronka.(2nd year Public health);** “This stuff is really life transforming, it has made me see the true picture of my life. I have never seen how vital I was in carving out my own destiny.”
2. **Aiah Komba.(Final year Sociology)** “This seminar is the best I have ever attended in many years. It’s so down to earth, easy to understand yet very penetrating and transforming. Can I please have the opportunity to have you guys do it for the young people in Kono who are always used by the politicians to cause havoc”

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Thank you for your support. Remember - everything rises and falls on leadership.

Thank you and God bless you,
Modupe Taylor-Pearce Jr.
President, LGCI

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