



# FOCUS BRIEFS

FEBRUARY 2020

## HOPE AMIDST DOOM

The world has been taken by surprise with the fast and furious COVID-19. Many families have been affected across the world. Life is not as usual and fear has gripped humanity. FOCUS Kenya as movement expresses a deep concern and sympathy to all people affected. We condole with those that have lost their loved ones.

Our hope is in Christ. Yea, though we walk through the valley of the shadow of death, we shall fear no evil; For the Lord is with us; His rod and His staff, they comfort us. We therefore call upon our students and Associates to be in the fore front in offering hope to those despairing.



During this season, we are using digital platforms for ministry. You could download the FOCUS Kenya app on google playstore or click on the link below and join a network of intercessor, join an online Bibles Study, A systematic Bible reading plan among other resource available.

[https://bit.ly/FOCUSKenya\\_App](https://bit.ly/FOCUSKenya_App)

# SHAPED BY THE SCRIPTURES



Ezra 2019 was the 18th Scripture engagement and Discipleship conference since inception and the 2nd since it became a tri-annual conference. Kabarak University provided the serene environment for the 2226 delegates to engage scripture during the four day conference in December 2019.

The theme of EZRA 2019 “Shaped by the Scriptures” was derived from a conviction that the Scriptures are the authoritative Word of God, which should not only determine our theology, but also shape our practice of life and response to the realities of our times.

For the first time in EZRA, we held a Creative Night session a platform that offered the young delegates an opportunity to contribute to the conference theme shaped by the Scriptures through their God-given talents in form of spoken word, poems, skits and dances.

## MY FAMILY; SHAPED BY SCRIPTURE

By Edna Samba,

Maseno University B.A Psychology.

I learnt about Ezra when our CU hosted the Regional EZRA conference then. The experience created a thirst for the subsequent national conferences, Ezra 2016 was indeed a great experience.

Last year, I thought of treating my family to a day out during the festive season, and for me there was no a better way than spending time with them in Ezra 2019. The Lord surely provided, I registered my parents and sister. The serenity of Kabarak University provided a cool environment to relax, learn and have time as a family. Indeed, we crossed into 2020 as a family Shaped by Scriptures!

The Exposition of 2nd Peter was beyond my expectation. I realized that no one is safe from heresies and false doctrine. We can all fall prey. The panel on Success God's way helped me appreciate that I am original and the need to trust God to define my work as my Creator. It also made me appreciate that success is from God. The seminar on Parenting God's Way helped me know that parenting is a spiritual duty and that parents are stewards.

As a result of EZRA 2019, I committed to Studying the Word of God consistently. I hope to read through the Bible in 2020. I committed to be keen when listening to any sermon and always confirm with the Word of God so that I do not fall prey to heresies.



*Renox with his Friends in EZRA 2019*

## I WILL BE CAREFUL WITH SCRIPTURES

By Ebinino Roniex JKUAT CU.

I first heard of EZRA in 2017 when I was in my second year through a friend who had attended commission 2017. I wasn't sure of going to the Ezra conference until November (2019) when I managed to pay the registration fee and the conviction to attend grew more.

With the support from my mom and home church treasurer, I managed to raise the conference fees. On to the conference, I largely expected my scripture reading, interpretation and practice to be challenged as it the theme verse Ezra 7:10 puts it. Besides, I was also hoping to meet fellow believers and get to listen to their stories of their journey in faith. During Ezra 2019, it hit me hard that heresy is real and that I can be a victim without knowledge because even a preacher could be misled. With this knowledge, I saw the need to be more aware of the word myself.

As the conference drew to an end, I had the conviction to be more careful with the way the pulpit is used, deeply root myself in the knowledge of the word and continually embrace accountability.



*North Rift Delegates Debriefing in EZRA 19*



*EZRA 19 Delegates from Kisii University*



*During a Seminar on the Bible and Creative Arts*



*Panel Discussion on the Theology of Success*



*A Delegate testifying in a Bible Exposition session*



*An Exhibition booth during the Conference*



*Creative Arts performance on the life of Peter*



*Delegates enjoying the EZRA 19 Theme Song*



*A Worship Session during the Conference*



*Delegates enjoying huge discounts on Books*

## THE TRANSFORMING GOSPEL ON CAMPUS AND BEYOND



*National Evangelism and Missions Summit (NEMS) Delegates at JKUAT*

138 missions and evangelism leaders from 89 Christian Unions filled the lecture theatre in JKUAT main campus on the evening of Friday, 31st January 2020. The big question explored throughout that weekend was on how to take the “The Transforming gospel on campus and beyond” as captured in the theme of the Summit inspired by Isa. 49:6b that “I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.”

Speaker after another and in the small group discussions the delegates left for their institutions on Sunday 2nd February 2020 convinced that the Campus is the primary mission ground for the CU after which they take the gospel to other areas beyond the college and and the university.

The commitment was to see faithful, creative and passionate witnesses who will proclaim and demonstrate the gospel in such a way that there will be holistic transformation with an emphasis on Relational evangelism to Muslims; The gospel in advocacy and social justice; Digital Evangelism; Mission to the campus community; Discipleship in missions.

Pray that God will raise among the students passionate and faithful missionaries among the students in colleges and universities. Pray for the success of the already planned mission activities by different Christian Unions.

## STUDENTS; AGENTS OF THE GOSPEL TRANSFORMATION



Attended by 162 missionaries, The CU Annual Mission that was planned in partnership with the University of Nairobi Medical School and Moi University College of Health Sciences Christian Unions held on 23rd November- 1st December saw 377 people give their lives to Christ.



Kabete National Polytechnic Christian Union donate a water tank to a community in Vihiga, Kakamega County in CU Annual Mission that had 71 CU students and alumni , 3 members of faculty and STEM Staff among the participants. The mission that took place 7th- 14th Dec 2019 in three villages saw at least 400 people giving their lives to Christ.



Constitutional Review Committee members of Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology Christian Union launching th “light of nations ministry” The ministry will focus on reaching out to people of others faiths in the university.

## LEADING BY EXAMPLE



*Delegates in Western Region Leadership Summit*

The leader's greatest influence lies in the example they lay for others. In an era where leaders have been known to 'preach water and drink wine'. The leader's greatest hinderance is not without, it is within, if a leader would master his body and appetites then leading others wouldn't be huge a task as it were. Leaders are meant to lay a pattern of faithfulness, integrity and commitment for others to see and peradventure, follow.

As 200 leaders from the CUs in the western Region met in Kisumu Polytecnic, the subject on role modeling in leadership guided by the book of Titus was the Mantra of the Western Regional Leadership Summit.

The three days Summit held on 28th February to 1st March 2020 Challenged the students to develop an intimate relationship with God as they lead diligently setting a good example. As always when students from different CUs meet together, there was the cross-pollination of ideas on the best ways of leading the CUs. Pray that God will raise able and transformational leaders among these!



The National Students Executive Committee (NASEC) 2020-21 at FOCUS Centre Kasarani on 15th March 2020. Pray for the leaders that the Lord will use them as they lead the students at a national level especially now when the country is facing a number of challenges among them COVID-19.

## MAY THY BE LEADERS OF CHARACTER AND INFLUENCE

The Christian Union is a rich ground for leadership development. Training is one of the ways through which leaders are made. Pray for all new leaders who have assumed different roles in the CUs.



UON Main Campus Christian Union  
Leaders Training at FOCUS Center  
Kasarani in Feb 2020



Kenyatta University Main Campus  
Christian New Leaders Training at  
FOCUS Center Kasarani in January 2020



CU Leaders of UON Parklands and Lower  
Kabete Campuses during Training at  
FOCUS Center Kasarani in Feb 2020



Masinde Muliro University CU during a retreat  
on 22nd Feb 2020 at Serve International  
Ministries grounds in Kakamega.



North Rift Regional Students Executive  
Committee in Moi College of Health  
Sciences in February 2020



During Central Rift Leadership Summit  
held in Laikipia University in February  
2020



## MILESTONES IN HATUA

Hatua is an initiative to develop students training centres. Started in 2018, the envisioned student centre in Kasarani, Nairobi once completed is expected to facilitate training of at least 10,000 students annually and catalyze the shaping of character of over 500,000 students in the institutions of higher learning.

Upon receiving all the necessary approvals, the actual construction started in February 2020. The total cost of the project phased in three, including purchasing of land for the regions out of Nairobi is Ksh. 300 M and is expected to be completed in the next three years. So far Ksh. 42 has been raised in cash and pledges. For more details visit: [focuskenya.org/hatua/](http://focuskenya.org/hatua/)

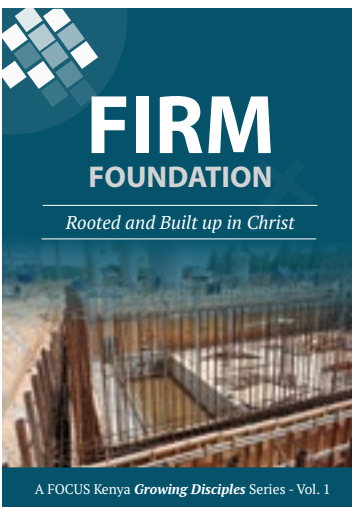


Aerial view of the envisioned students Training centre for Nairobi.



Ongoing excavation and reclamation in readiness to lay the foundation

You can be part of this great initiative by supporting via: [SupportHatua](#) or through Mpesa Paybill No. 412 412 A/C Name: Hatua2020



### NEW FOCUS PUBLICATION

The Growing Disciples series by FOCUS Kenya is an important step in providing a systematic and well-sequenced discipleship curriculum for individual and small group discipleship. The first volume, Firm Foundation, is to help believers “become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ” (Eph. 4:13).

It has 8 lessons: *Understanding Salvation, Knowing God, Growing in the Word, Growing in Prayer, Growing in Fellowship, Growing in Witnessing, The Holy Spirit, and Living in Victory.*

The book is available in our bookstalls at Ksh. 150

# FOCUS ASSOCIATES



67 FOCUS Central Rift Region Associates in a prayer Breakfast meeting held at Nuru Palace Hotel on 22nd Feb, 2020.



FOCUS Associates from Mombasa Associates branch assembled at Technical University of Mombasa for a students ministry capacity building on 7th March 2020

To Join FOCUS ASsociates Visit: <https://www.focuskenya.org/associate-membership/>

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