

The Ekklesian

9th Edition

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE MAVUNO MARKETPLACE MOVEMENT

RESILIENT FAITH FOR JUSTICE IN KENYA & AFRICA

By Apostle Angie Murenga



Our theme this year for the greater Mavuno Movement is “Unshakeable Faith” taken and anchored on 1 Corinthians 15:58 which states “Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, **stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully** to the work of the Lord, because **you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.**”

I love it lets go deeper and break down this practically.

Stand firm – Gods word says that when you have done all to stand then stand. This suggests intentionally addressing a situation in faith the best way you know how.

Through prayer, reading and finding Gods word to attach to situations facing you. Whatever situation you are facing at any time in your life has an answer from Gods word. Type into search engines scripture for and state your issue a whole list will appear. Read them and then decree them out loud. Have you prayed and fasted with another. God’s word says one person praying and fasting can put to flight a thousand enemies and two the number increases to ten thousand.

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Throughout history, it has been **the inaction** of those who could have acted, **the indifference** of those who should have known better, **the silence** of the **voice of justice** when it mattered most, that has made it possible for evil to triumph

Apostle Angie Murenga

Have you stood with someone else and agreed on issues of injustice or any other that is threatening your faith in God? Resist the enemy and he will flee by taking your position in prayer, the word, fasting and your confession of faith in God to handle and address your situation. He has been doing it for thousands of years it needs you to ask and take up a position with your heart, mind and body. Stand up and Stand firm by faith.

Let nothing move you. Choose to be immovable. Stand on God's word and His heart for you. He has His eyes and His hand on you. Look to God He is your help. Fix your eyes on Him and Him alone.



Don't allow anything or anyone to take you out of your position in God, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. In this world and in the area of justice. You have a right as much as the next person to be here and present living life, executing purpose, positioned in the marketplace and your family. Let nothing move you. Our national anthem says, 'Justice be our shield and defender.' Justice is a defense that you need to pick up the same way you would a shield. It's a protective piece of equipment. Are you armoured? Have you picked up your shield? Are you aware as a Christian you are in a war? Are you being just every day with the people and the world around you? Are you in a position where your asking for bribes, engaged in greed and corrupt practices that are costing the nation and continent development? Are you looking the other way where there is injustice? Stand up for justice and refuse to be moved.

Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord. I love the emphasis on always give yourself fully to all that you do and to the cause of justice. In every situation that you will face this year and season purpose and be motivated to give your all. No mediocrity and or half measures.

Be all and fully into all that God has ordained for you. You may have to say no to somethings, but the result of your focus will be greater. Ask yourself am I all in and am I giving it my all. In the marketplace, in family, marriage, community and the nation give your all. Give yourself fully to the work that you do and ensure that there is justice and good governance for all. Let all you do be a service to God. Let Him see it and reward it. Bring Gods divine correction and justice to all that you engage in. Its expected. Let everything you do be done with excellence, accuracy, precision and divine order. This can be your prayer as well as I give myself fully to Gods work expressed uniquely through my work, relationships, passions and life.

Know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

What a statement. What a truth and your reality as Gods child. Know without a doubt that all you do for justice and for God has a reward. The knowledge that you have and apply works for you. What do you know?

That God is a rewarder of people. Wait for His reward. It shows up generationally and in all aspects that make up man spirit, soul, body, relationships, finances, career, leadership and geography.

I love this quote by Haile Selassie on justice.

“Throughout history, it has been **the inaction** of those who could have acted, **the indifference** of those who should have known better, **the silence** of the **voice of justice** when it mattered most, that has made it possible for evil to triumph”.

As we start a new year and season let us act where there is injustice. Let us not be indifferent or silent when we see injustice in our families, marketplaces, cities, nations and areas of influence. Justice has a voice and it’s our voices that are required to speak up and address injustice of any kind.

Let us purpose in our hearts and lives that injustice will not triumph in our spaces we shall stand up, stand firm, not be moved and engage fully with the wisdom of God as those positioned to do so in Kenya & in Africa.

God’s word says in Isaiah 61 verse nine “For I, the Lord, love justice; I hate robbery and wrongdoing. In my faithfulness I will reward my people and make an everlasting covenant with them.

I have been hearing in my spirit power through with resilient faith. Faith that refuses to back down and keeps bouncing back. Aligning with unshakeable faith to receive Gods faithfulness, reward and an everlasting covenant lasting for generations. I have a very vivid and active imagination and I could see and feel Gods power helping us power through injustice and obstacles placed before us by Faith. I love that the faith required is mustard seed faith. The power and authority have been given to us to advance and establish Gods righteousness, love, power and justice for ourselves and for others. I pray that this season is marked with all of us taking a position to stand against every form of injustice with humility, wisdom and with Gods power.

ABOUT

Apostle Angie Murenga.

Apostle Angie Murenga is a visionary leader, provocative thinker, storyteller, and entrepreneur. She is a multi -talented, multifaceted gifted woman who wears many hats.

She is the Chief Executive Officer of Kingdom Business Solutions (KBS), a globally ICF Certified Executive Leadership & Life Coach, an Ordained Minister of the Gospel, an Author, a Mentor, an Inspirational Speaker, and a mother. She recently started the Mavuno Marketplace Movement in Karen at the KCB Leadership Centre.

Apostle Angie’s greatest gift is drawing potential out of people and helping them connect the dots of their life’s experiences spirit, soul, body, social, financial, and in governance of self and others. She also coaches visions to life for individuals, families, organizations and communities through the Purpose & Leadership Forum, the UNSTUCK Annual Conference & Masterclasses, the Women Rising Forum, Men Impacting Differently, KBS Youth and the Annual Thanksgiving & Reflection retreat held at the end of every year.

She is the author of The Real You and Raw book which are available in stores and on eleven e-book platforms



THE EDITOR'S NOTE

By Jeremiah Kinyanjui

Dear Readers,

In the uncertain landscape of today's challenges, it has become increasingly evident that placing our faith in the shakable is unsustainable. Whether it's the unpredictable rhythms of the economy or the ever-changing tides of leadership, the foundation of our hope cannot rest on uncertain ground.

Against this backdrop, we embark on the **9th Edition of the Ekklesian Newsletter**, delving into the theme of "Resilient Faith: Justice in Africa."

In a world where uncertainty looms large, we are confronted with the stark reality that unshakeable faith is not found in human institutions or fluctuating circumstances but in the One who remains constant amid the chaos—God.

As we navigate the complexities of social transformation, our theme, "Unshakable," resonates profoundly. It is a call to shift our gaze from the temporary to the eternal, recognizing that the answer to unshakeable faith lies not in the ever-changing circumstances of our surroundings but in the unchanging character of our Creator.

Drawing inspiration from 1 Corinthians 15:58, we are reminded to stand firm, not in our own strength, but in the enduring power of our Lord.

It is an invitation to reassess where we place our trust in these challenging times.

Isaiah 54:10

***The hills may be shaken, and the mountains
may be moved, but
God's unfailing love will never be shaken or
removed***

This edition is a journey towards a deeper understanding that true resilience emerges when our faith is anchored in the unshakeable foundation of God.

Through the diverse and insightful contributions within these pages, let us be inspired to cultivate a faith that withstands the storms of life by entrusting ourselves to the One who holds the universe in His hands.

Thank you for joining us on this exploration, as together, we seek unshakeable faith in the midst of a shifting world.

In steadfast hope,

Jeremiah Kinyanjui



RESILIENT FAITH: JUSTICE IN AFRICA

By Dr. Pearl Kupe

What is Justice? Justice is God

As citizens of the Kingdom of God, we can never define justice without including God. One of the names of God is Jehovah El Mishpat. It means “God of Justice”, meaning that God is not only the dispenser of justice, He Himself is justice and therefore we can never define justice outside of God. As the God of justice and Creator of it, He is the One who bears the onus of defining it.

God is Judge

Not only is God a God of Justice, the word of God in Isaiah 33:22 refers to Him as Judge. It says “**22 For the Lord is our Judge, the Lord is our Lawgiver, the Lord is our King; He will save us.**”. A judge’s duty and responsibility is to dispense justice. This scripture essentially

describes God to be Judge(Judiciary) , Lawgiver(Legislature) and King(Executive), making Him the three arms of government. He is the original source of government and governance, of which a part of it has to do with dispensing justice.

Justice of man vs Justice of God

The justice of God does not resemble the justice of man. The justice of man is premised on principles of equality and non discrimination, whereas the justice of God is rooted primarily in righteousness as evidenced in Psalms 97:2 which reads as follows: 97:2 **Clouds and thick darkness surround him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.**

Justice and righteousness are twins in God’s eyes. They go hand in hand and are inseparable. There is no justice without righteousness and there is no righteousness without justice. Every law, therefore, must be rooted and embedded in righteousness for it to align with God’s definition of justice.

Justice & Legislation

One cannot dispense justice without interpreting and applying legislation.

The Church as the Ekklesia is a legislative body. In Matthew 16:18- Yeshua says to Peter **“And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.** The word that was used for church in this portion of scripture was Ekklesia, a greek word taken from Ek kaleo,. “Ek Kaleo” refers to a group of people who have been separated and called out. The ekklesia is a “gathering of citizens in a council that attend to and resolve social and political matters. They are to function as God’s National Assembly on earth. When Yeshua, therefore, says that the gates of hell will not prevail against His Church, He is saying that He will build His separated and consecrated National Assembly that has been called out to resolve social and political matters, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against such.

The Ekklessia, therefore, have a legislative mandate. It is a legislative mandate that requires them to know how to legislate and what laws to pass and implement. One of the questions that God asked Job in Job 38:33, was whether he knew the ordinances or laws of heaven. We cannot legislate on earth, if we don’t not know the laws of heaven. Our responsibility as a national and civil assembly of God is to command the mornings as stated in Job 38:12 and to disciple the nations as stated in Matthew 28:19-20. **[19] Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, [20] teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age**

Gates of justice

What are GATES?

Gates are of strategic importance. They are ports of access, of entry and exit, They determine what goes out and what comes in. A gate is a point of entry and a point of exit. They determine what is permitted and what is disallowed .

God blessed Abraham in Genesis 22:17 with multiplication and increase but also blessed Him with an ability to possess the gates of his enemies. He told him that **17 blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies.** Those blessings will not manifest when the enemies are possessing the gates. Whoever possesses the gates has the power to legislate, govern and control the economy and all related sectors of society. They will rule, reign and govern territories and environments.

Gates are places of authority. Whoever sits on and possesses the gates is actually controlling the activities that take place within that environment

In the olden days, discipline and justice were always dispensed at the gates of a city-**Amos 5:15 says Hate evil, love good; Establish justice in the gate. It may be that the Lord God of hosts Will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.**



The great importance of justice is once again gleaned from Isaiah 28:6 which states that **“He will be a spirit of justice to Him who sits in judgement and strength to those who turn the back the battle at the gate.** The ability to turn back battles at the gate is closely connected to the matter of justice.

How can the Body of Yeshua help facilitate the dispensation of Justice in the nations?

- 1)** By refusing to be involved in corrupt practises. Laws and legislation must be passed to stand as deterrents against such practises. Institutions must be established with staff that are specially trained in investigating and handling matters of corruption.
- 2)** By taking a stand for Righteousness and getting involved in the making of legislation. Opportunities are always presented to the public to make comment on draft bills. The Church must educate and mobilise its members to do so.
- 3)** By engaging in the open processes of selecting judicial officers to make sure that they represent and stand for righteousness.
- 4)** Matthew 25:35-45 Justice means taking care of the vulnerable and the disadvantaged and being a voice for the vulnerable. In God’s eyes, justice is never complete when the less fortunate are suffering.

Africa & justice

The prophetic word over Africa has been consistent over the years. It has stated that Africa has and will be a carrier and courier of the coming revival and that revival would be felt from the southern tip of Africa in the Cape to the northern tip of Africa in Cairo and touch nations around the world.

The prophetic also states that Africa will no longer be known as a “begging bowl, but as a breadbasket to the world”. Africa will not only be a breadbasket in terms of agricultural produce, but also as a breadbasket in terms of the gospel and biblical standards of righteousness.

There has been an alarming global trend over the past two decades, where we have seen the rapid advancement of immorality. Laws around the world are being amended to legalise immorality and criminalise morality. Law & morality are interlinked and are both systems which determine & drive the behaviours of a nation or community. Some nations use morality as a yardstick to direct and influence their laws. Most nations in Africa, however have stood firm for righteousness and have refused to legalise immorality. They have instead, taken a stance for the protection of family values against a lot of pressure from the West.

For a long period Africa has aligned herself with righteousness and righteous laws. Should she begin to subscribe to immoral and sinful laws, the grace of God over the nations will begin to decline and she will move farther and farther away from her redemptive purpose in God.

66

When Yeshua, therefore, says that the gates of hell will not prevail against His Church, He is saying that He will build His separated and consecrated National Assembly that has been called out to resolve social and political matters, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against such.

Proverbs 14:34-says **Righteousness exalts a nation and sin is a reproach**. The role that Africa has played over the years in taking a stance for family values must be emphasised in this season. Western nations have been relentlessly offering African nations carrot sticks of money to let go of righteousness and adopt unrighteous laws. They are claiming that the amendments of such laws are to ensure alignment and enforcement of justice and human rights. In truth and in reality, the advancement of their proposed laws are to further advance **Human Wrongs** and not **Human Rights!** Murdering and taking the lives of innocent babies can never be defined as justice in God's kingdom.

Africa & Ubuntu Justice: Setting the standard

The biblical mandate given to all in serving kingdom is to take care of the innocent, the vulnerable and the disadvantaged. The Bible tells us to take care of the widows, the orphans and strangers. This is a fundamental principle of justice as defined by God, that cannot be ignored. This principle is further enunciated in Matthew 25:35-40 which states the following **35 For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, 36 I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'**37 **"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink?"**

Dr. Pearl Kupe

38 When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? 39 When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'40 "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

Africa must further role model the justice of heaven through expression African Ubuntu principles of caring for the weak

The opportunity for Africa to role model the justice of heaven has never been greater.

#KeNako, It's time and it's doable. Let the Church arise to it's ecclesiastical and legislative mandate to function as Jehovah El Mishpat National Assembly and dispense justice at the gates along with righteousness!



Dr Pearl Kupe is a lawyer, author, TV & radio host. She is also a magazine and newspaper columnist. She is the International President of Global Forum of Women Entrepreneurs (GFWE) which is a network that has a presence in more than eight nations.

The network raises up women entrepreneurs using kingdom principles. She is an advocate of social justice, transformational leadership, good governance, community development, and nation building using biblical blueprints.

Pearl sits on a number of international, continental and regional Boards and is privileged to be an advisor to a number of world leaders, national governments, and international organizations. Pearl carries an apostolic and prophetic grace which she uses along with her legal and marketplace experience and knowledge of Kingdom patterns to help facilitate kingdom reformation.



BEYOND BARS; MENTAL WELLNESS

By Teresa Njoroge

Globally, 12.1 million people are incarcerated, living within 19,000 often overcrowded prison facilities. There are 18.9 million children of those prisoners, who face dangerous risks such as human trafficking, labor exploitation, abuse, neglect, and dropping out of school.

Sub-Saharan Africa accounts for 668,000 of these incarcerated individuals, with Kenyan prisons holding a significant number of unconvicted persons. As of 2023, there were 26,358 such prisoners, of which 24,885 were men and 1,473 were women. The total number of prisoners in Kenya is 61,915, the highest reported in the last five years. Young people aged between 18 and 20 years have the highest population in prisons, followed by individuals aged between 21 and 25 years. At Clean Start Africa, we are called to serve this community.

"Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them. Remember those who are suffering, as though you were suffering as they are"

Hebrews 13:13

BEYOND BARS MENTAL WELLNESS

Many of the petty offenses that lead most people behind bars were enforced by colonial powers to control African populations and protect their economic interests in African colonies. These laws have remained in place in many post-colonial African jurisdictions, despite former colonial powers having abolished or made them non-arrestable offenses in their own jurisdictions such as the United Kingdom and France. These laws and the threat of their enforcement have become a source of income for officials in many areas through extortion.

At Clean Start, we are a beacon of hope, rooted in the values of integrity, compassion and economic empowerment. We campaign for the removal and deletion of the penal. The Penal Code and the Criminal Procedure Codes are as old as 70 years, and its encouraging to see them in the process of being overhauled to align with other statutes like the progressive 2010 Kenya Constitution.

The Penal Code, for example, colonial as it is, still uses very derogatory words, particularly for those who are sick with psycho-social, intellectual, and mental disorders, it uses words such as imbecile, idiots, insane person! These people with mental illness, psycho-social disorders, need treatment, not a prison sentence.

People who are arrested in the act of committing suicide similarly should not be sentenced as per the Penal code current laws. They need treatment, counseling and attention to the matters driving them to those acts.

Other reforms that need to be made are on the decriminalization and reclassification of petty offenses, which is the current driver of 70% of the prison population being the poor congesting the prisons as opposed to using alternative resolutions.

As Micah 6:8 says, "**He has shown you what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.**"

All around the world, outdated laws, as well as some newer laws, are continually used to unfairly target poor and marginalized people because of who they are, rather than what they have done. This often has a devastating impact on those who are already vulnerable. There is a clear and urgent need to decriminalize laws that treat poverty, status, or activism as a crime.

In our efforts to create justice, we must also prioritize mental health. Formerly incarcerated women often struggle with the invisible burdens of trauma, stigmatization, and the psychological toll of incarceration. Addressing mental health is not only crucial for their well-being but also pivotal in reducing relapse rates.

Our mandate is to journey with the imprisoned women from prison, offering psycho-social and trauma healing. We meet the individual at the gate upon their release and continue to journey with them outside prison, offering them the tools to reintegrate into society successfully. It is important to note that the journey of formerly incarcerated women doesn't conclude upon release; rather, it marks the beginning of a

challenging process of reintegration into society.

Matthew 25:36 "**I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.**"

BUILDING BRIDGES OF UNITY & JUSTICE

During our recent Beyond The Bars Africa Conference we officially launched our movement called Sisters On The Outside which was commissioned by Apostle Angie Murenga, C.E.O & Founder Kingdom Business Solutions, who also serves as the Clean Start Africa Spiritual Authority and Cover.



Economic Justice and Rights

Our economic empowerment initiative supports the women restarting their lives, which can be particularly hard for the formerly imprisoned women who face discrimination as a result of their incarceration. These opportunities help them overcome depression and stand on their own two feet again, given that the prison experience deteriorates their mental health.

Currently, we are working on six tracks of income generating opportunities for the women, A Design Lab in fashion and textile, a beauty center for those who love the art of makeup and hairdressing, Culinary cuisines option for those who love to cook, Interior design, Green energy where they make charcoal Briquettes and clean energy cooking stoves and Blue Economy in the Western region of Kenya for those who'd love to rear and sell fish.

Isaiah 61:1

The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is upon me, for the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor.

Resilient faith goes beyond individual success—it fosters a sense of unity and collaboration. Our initiatives have played a pivotal role in creating networks that transcend borders and cultural differences. Many formerly incarcerated women become advocates for criminal justice reform and social change.

Drawing from their personal experiences, they raise awareness about the challenges faced by incarcerated individuals, contribute to policy discussions, and work towards creating a more equitable and compassionate criminal justice system.

As we strive for a more compassionate and just world, prioritizing mental health is not just a choice; it's an imperative step toward breaking the cycle of incarceration and nurturing the human spirit beyond the bars.

In the words of our founder and CEO of Clean Start, Teresa Njoroge, "Those who are closest to the problem are those who are closest to the solution - even though most times furthest from the solutions."

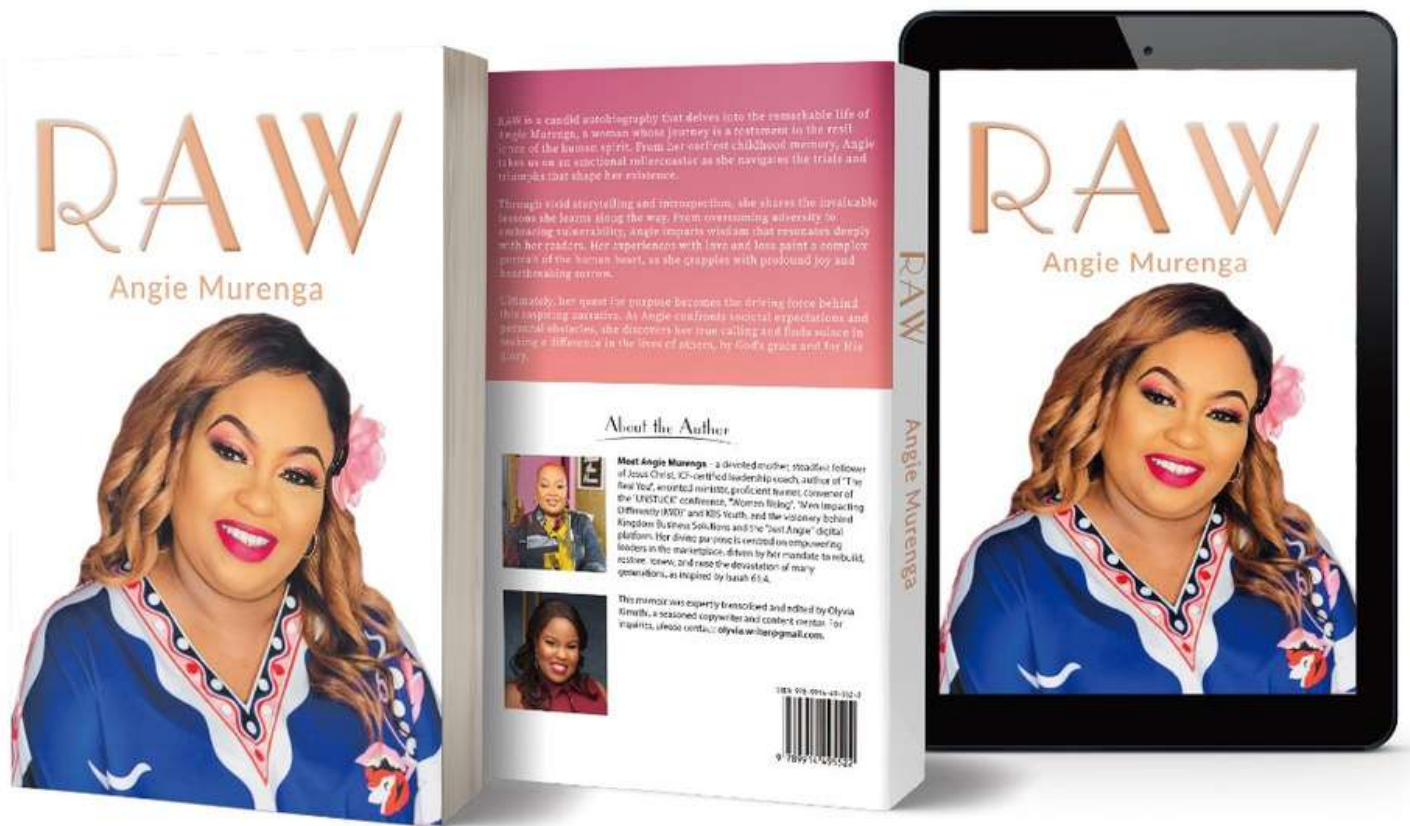
ABOUT

Teresa Njoroge

Teresa founded Clean Start after being wrongly imprisoned with her then 3 months old daughter. Her firsthand experience and the plight of women in prison together with their children inspired her to commit her life purpose to supporting hundreds of women leaving prison to successfully reintegrate back to society.

Since 2015 when she registered Clean Start as a social enterprise, she has been steering social-economic transformation and social justice reforms in Kenya and across the African continent through strategic leadership .

Teresa is a devoted people leader and a community-centric social entrepreneur, Teresa has passionately been advocating for the rights of children of imprisoned parents, youth and women impacted by the Criminal Justice system mostly due to the criminalization of poverty.



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INTERVIEW WITH SYLVIA YIANTET

By Aisha Wanjiku

- Ekklesian Newsletter Team -

Ms. Sylvia Yiantet is an Advocate of the High Court of Kenya of over 12 years standing. Sylvia currently serves her Country as the Manager in charge of Court Users' Committees at the National Council on the Administration of Justice (NCAJ).

She is a member of the Law Society of Kenya, The East Africa Law Society and the Federation of Women Lawyers Kenya. She is a certified mediator with the Mediation Training Institute (MTI- USA). She is passionate about all matters access to justice and one of her favorite guides are the words of the National Anthem 'Justice be our Shield and Defender'.

AW: Can you share with us how your journey in the legal marketplace began and what inspired you to become an advocate of the High Court of Kenya?

SY: I always wanted to work with people and in the social space. I was very keen on fighting injustice because of the injustices I saw growing up in my community, for example inequality, or seeing how women were treated. I wanted to fight injustice, not injustice in the way I know it now, but injustice in the sense of things simply being unfair. I got a chance to do my undergraduate degree in Law immediately after I finished my KCSE, then I went to Law School.

Another thing that ignited a passion for me to fight for women, women's agenda and injustices like Sexual Gender Based Violence is that violence against women was very rampant at the time I went to law school. It was actually the time we had the debate around the Sexual Offences Act, which was enforced in 2006. There was a lot of advocacy around combating sexual violence and legislation around that area.

Currently, I work in the Government. I am an employee of the Judiciary, seconded to an institution known as the National Council on the Administration of Justice. The Institution's mandate is to ensure that Kenyans can access justice in a more efficient and effective manner. We coordinate policy development, documentation and reform agenda in the administration of justice.

AW: How does your faith intersect with your career as a legal advocate? Kindly reflect on a moment in your career where you felt the presence of God guiding you through a difficult situation or decision?

SY: In terms of faith, there's this verse that I love, "Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne" (Psalm 89:14a). Righteousness and justice go hand in hand and it's very interesting to note that justice is at the heart of God, that God is passionate about justice.



The Bible through and through tells us that God hates injustice. It becomes very real, especially since I work in an arm of government that is responsible for matters of justice. For me acknowledging the fact that my faith is not separate from what I do, that really grounds me. To also know that this is a calling, it's a privilege to be in the space that I'm in. Justice is at the core of God's agenda for his people, and it's at the core of what I do. The principles that guide my work around integrity, honesty, excellence, are also guided by the fact that as a Christian, God calls us to a higher standard.

There are many times when I have felt God's guidance, God's leading, God's presence. For example, when I was younger, there was a situation at my former workplace. It was almost like spiritual warfare, I felt a presence that was not Godly. I remember one day, whispering under my breath, "God, please fight my battles." I've never forgotten that moment because there was instant peace. I could tell that the atmosphere shifted. The presence of God was so real. What I learned in that experience and carry with me to date, is that it's always important to invite God in whatever you do.

AW: Considering the theme of "Resilient faith: Justice in Africa," can you share about an intervention/case you've worked on or how your work contributes/aligns with the theme?

SY: Basically, when you think about justice, justice is a chain, especially in criminal justice. In Kenya, the chain starts with the police station, then prosecution, then you go to the courts, and finally to the prisons when declared guilty. My current work assignment entails coordinating the justice sector actors. We have been privileged enough to have a model that works well for Kenya and others have come to benchmark, countries like South Sudan, Mozambique, Zambia, and others, referencing what we do. Enhanced efficiency in the administration of the justice chain is a platform that we are happy as Kenyans to be able to be leading from the front, I think even sometimes at a global space.

AW: How do you envision the role of Faith-Based Organizations and communities in addressing social injustice issues in Africa?

SY: Faith-Based Organizations (FBOs) play a pivotal role especially in ensuring that we fight injustice as a society. It's critical to note that there is a lot of collaboration between Faith-Based Organizations, the Justice Sector, and people who undertake advocacy around human rights. The FBOs help empower communities to know their rights and to know where they can seek redress in instances where they have been deprived of their rights or they feel that they've been oppressed. In addition, they are very critical to how the society works, they have a lot of influence.

Faith-based leaders should be knowledgeable in matters of justice and law, so that they can be able to give sound advice when people come to them with social issues that might have a legal inclination. They should also leverage on the collaborations they have, because at the end of the day when people have social issues especially in the family setting, they usually seek support, advice, and dispute resolution from Faith-Based Organizations.

AW: What are some practical steps or initiatives that you believe can help promote a more just and compassionate Africa, where God's love prevails over inequality?

SY: One of the interventions would be to bridge the gap between the haves and the have nots-higher and lower income communities, that would really work towards us moving forward as a continent. Since charity begins at home, it's important that we are our brothers' keepers, even as families. There's a concept that is famously known as Ubuntu. It's an African word meaning 'humanity to others'. It reminds us that 'I am what I am because of who we all are.' I think that the African spirit needs to be reignited.

We also need to take care of the youth. We should engage the youth more in activities that the older generation are doing, which will go a long way towards connecting us as Africans, families, and communities. Just be responsible for others when you have something to give that benefits society.

This way we can ensure we are being compassionate and just, and that's God's love.

AW: Looking to the future, what are your hopes and aspirations for the legal landscape in Africa, particularly in terms of fostering justice and equality for all?

SY: We have Agenda 2063 which has the aspirations of Africa and where Africa sees herself by the year 2063. To me, if Agenda 2063 would be achieved, even if it is 80% achievement by 2063, I think Africa would be at a better place.

In terms of the legal landscape in Africa, I'm hoping that we will have improved access to justice especially for people who often cannot afford it, who often feel like justice is far removed from them. If we could bridge the gap between the ordinary mwananchi (citizen) whether Kenyan or African at the lowest point and the justice system, that will be great. In addition, being able to take care of the most marginalized, most vulnerable communities, giving them a good footing even as they seek justice will be good. I would also love to see the legal space use modern technology 'become tech savvy,' reach more people and put in place structures that can help Kenyans and Africans at large access justice in a cheaper and more accessible way.

Sylvia Yiantet

 Sylvia Yiantet

 Sylvia Yiantet

AW: Is there anything else you would like to share with our readers?

SY: Faith is critical. I believe a lot of the opportunities we get in the marketplace, the decisions that we make, must be faith based and based on the will of God. It's always important that we go back to God and ask, "Father, what is your will in this situation?" We need to be careful to hear God and His heart for the agenda, for justice and for what He wants, as opposed to just being swayed by things. Sometimes I get derailed, then I come back. It's always important to go back to your God given assignment, and not get swayed by the perks it comes with. Remember the why. Why you are there is critical because that always keeps you centered. Even if you veer off, you remember there's a why, you know you are here on assignment. It's not just a thing you're doing, it's bigger than the job. It's an assignment that God has for you that's critical. I pray we always remember this.



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WE MUST BE MARRIED BILLBOARDS FOR JESUS

By Sylvia Mundia



Cayte & Pretorius

Serendipity's Call:

A Journey of Love and Faith

In the heart of bustling Nairobi, where the sun cast its golden glow upon the streets, God orchestrated a meeting that would weave together a tale of love, grace, and faith.

Our journey started amidst the tapestry of friendships woven through time and shared experiences. Paula, a cherished friend of over seven years, linked our paths, her connection with Pretorius stemming from their university days, while my bond with her flourished through the ALX programme in 2019. Little did we foresee the hand of destiny guiding us towards a fateful encounter on a sunny Sunday in February 2022.

Paula, visiting Pretorius at his new place in Westie, saw something I posted on WhatsApp. She couldn't help but show Pretorius, sparking a chain of events that would bring us together. In a stroke of luck, we ended up on a video call, breaking down the distance between us with just a screen.

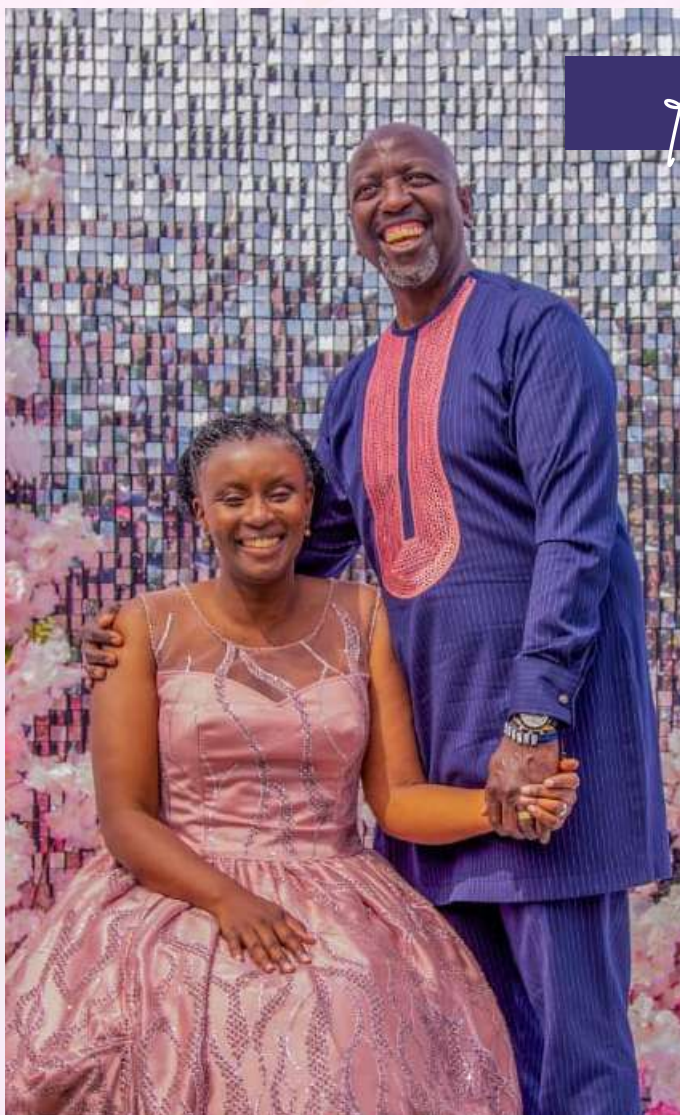
After church, I took a chance and went to meet them. Sitting at Pretorius's kitchen counter, chatting away, time seemed to slow down. It felt like Nairobi itself was conspiring to bring us closer, weaving our stories together in a beautiful tapestry of fate.



As days passed, our connection grew stronger, moving from Instagram DMs to real conversations. Just two days later, I gave Pretorious my number, and from that moment on, our story became one of laughter, understanding, and endless support.

From that pivotal moment, our story blossomed with the graceful interplay of happenstance, each unfolding episode enriched with love, grace, and unwavering faith. As our journey continues, it stands as a testament to the profound impact of connection, the delicate weave of divine guidance, and the heartfelt commitment to following God's plan.





Kinya & Martin

M : We met at work. Kinya was setting up for an event on a Friday for the following day and I was managing the venue we were hosting the event.

We did not actually speak much because we were both busy on the day. In total we spent maybe 30 minutes together. I had two events I was hosting that weekend.

The circumstances around the by the 4th planning of the event Kinya was setting up for were not easy for me. The organisers had been difficult to work with to be very honest and the tension was palpable. Later in the evening, Kinya called me to apologise on behalf of the organisers. We spoke for all of 3 minutes and that was it. The following day after the event, Kinya called me just to find out how things went on during the event as she had not attended it.

On Sunday afternoon on the way back to Nanyuki, she texted me to say that she was on her way back to Nanyuki. I had asked her the previous day, to let me know when she was leaving town. That text ended up being a 3 hour WhatsApp conversation, the entire ride from Nairobi to Nanyuki. Many conversations continued thereafter.

By the 4th day of our meeting, I was convinced Kinya was the one for me. A few days after her birthday, it dawned on her (like really?...it took delivery of flowers on her birthday for the penny to drop for her!!) that I was the man she had always prayed for! And the rest like they say is history and here we are! Husband and Wife!!

What's your favorite thing about marriage so far?

K : It's not just one. I always have my best friend with me. We can talk about anything. I am spoiled everyday. Am Loved always it's the best feeling ever

How did you meet?

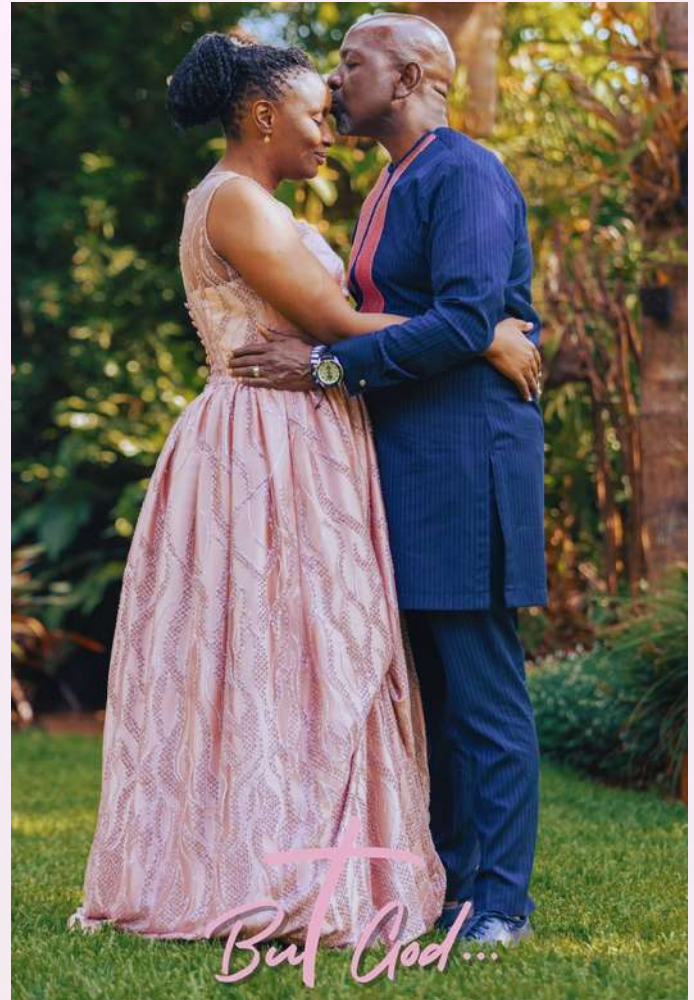
K : God loves drama 🌀...so am helping out with an event set up. I'd already had rumors about some tough guy who's managing the event space. So usually I prefer "preparing the way first" before meeting people (I call and create a relationship), but with him I'd not been given his number till the D-Day when I arrived at the parking. When I called him and introduced myself I knew I was in for a long day (sasa nini hi..dude am an innocent party to this) jamaa was cold... But Mimi nani , you will have to be my friend... the day was crazy people not seeing eye to eye. I felt sad because we were planning a Christian event and that's not how we represent God or the ministry. I felt led to call and apologize on behalf of everyone. At this point I didn't care who was right or wrong. One he was a child of God , he was a man (show some respect), as a ministry we should show the fruits of the spirit. Let's just say that phone call led to more phone calls and a wedding

M : I married my friend! Coming home to the woman who genuinely and deeply loves me is something I prayed for, for a long time. God hears every prayer we make! I married my friend who loves the food I make for her every day. I enjoy cooking for my wife at every available opportunity. She loves my cooking!

How has your partner made your life better?

K : I love knowing I have someone who's really got my back. When God said husband love your wife.. I thought I understood it but now experiencing it is so beautiful and mind blowing. I now see why God calls us his brides, that kind of love is unexplainable, it's sacrificial, it's about putting others first.

M : There is no better feeling than going home to be received with open arms and a kiss regardless of the day we both have had. She makes me a better man because she speaks truthfully to me about everything and anything. Kinya renewed my hope in marriage, because deep down, I always knew marriage works if we both make it work.





Gloria & Victor

As you open up to someone, the fear of being left naked is an insidious creeper.

Past hurts become a voice that justifies your need to put on certain cloaks and before you know it, you develop a habitual retreat to the shrine of your self-preservation. Herein lays one of the biggest hurdles we have had to overcome; to trust that my partner is for me and not against me. See, we both had past failed relationships with both of us being culpable in one way or the other so we could not hide behind perfection. We had to trust God that He was doing something in our lives beyond what we were witnessing physically.

One thing was clear from the onset of building our friendship, if we were going to date, marriage was the goal. That meant no tapping out. Well, the day we started courting was actually a day that was meant to end the friendship, until God ministered in the midst of an argument that it was time to move the relationship to the next level. Indeed He has a sense of humor. Here we were, two humans desiring to make it work God's way despite our imperfections. So we made a prayer and began our journey towards milele.

OUR JOURNEY TOWARDS MILELE

"The more you hold on to your right to be offended, the more you become susceptible to believing lies about the other party." This quote perfectly summarizes how our journey has been from courtship to marriage.

Our journey began in 2021 when we met and a friendship of chance began. What was a matatu ride to Nairobi became a moment of vulnerable conversations between two people who didn't know each other. We shared about our pasts and where we were at that moment. There's joy in finding someone who is willing to listen to you and challenge you to be better beyond your past without judging you. The genuineness of our interactions meant it was easy to want to continue chatting more and more





The journey to becoming one was one where we saw God move, but truth be told, it was one where we had many rights to be offended. We started cultivating our love on the bedrock of “I am sorry and I forgive you”. Forgiving for us means you cannot hold what you have forgiven against them. This way, God became who leaned on rather than burdening each other with what only He could do within us.

One of the most beautiful cushions God gave us in this journey was the support of family and friends together with Godly communities. It felt like their hearts were prepared for this very moment. It was easy to rely on them without feeling like a burden and for that we give God all the Glory.

We look at the tears, the sleepless nights, the 3 am prayers 3 times a week, the daily video calls (even when we were mad at each other) and we can say indeed it was worth it walking down this journey. Ours has not been a journey of perfect people getting married but rather two people from worlds apart who chose to believe that God is able. We now look back two months in with joy at the beauty of the day that God gave us and the miraculous provision on our wedding day. We experienced healing, joy lined with God’s Victory and Glory. Now in this journey we will forever continue to dance together to His rhythm for us; that of love.

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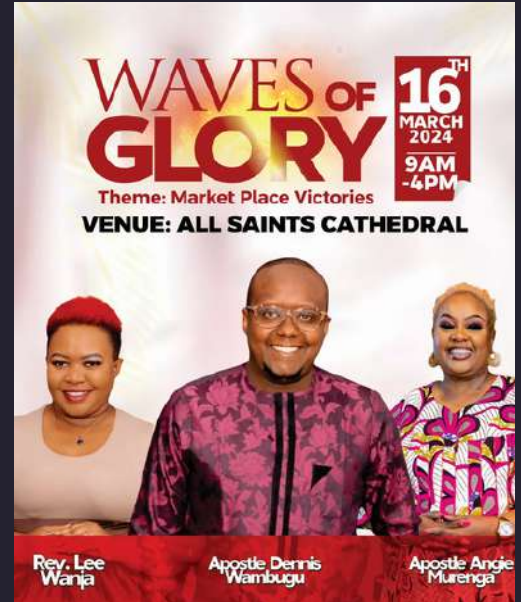
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MAR



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WAVES OF GLORY

EVERY THURSDAY



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