

ROOTED IN JESUS DIOCESE OF NAMIBIA

VENERABLE AMENENGE ALLETA SHIKWAMBI-DIOCESE OF NAMIBIA

On behalf of the clergy of the Walvis Bay Archdeaconry, I would like to express our sincere gratitude to our Bishop for granting us, the Namibian clergy, the opportunity to participate in the recent clergy training workshop led by Reverend Bruce Woolley and Mr. Dube, under the theme "Rooted in Jesus." The workshop, held at Hodgos, Okahandja, was an invaluable time of spiritual renewal and practical training, and we are deeply thankful for the Bishop's vision and support in equipping us for greater ministry.

The workshop focused on deepening our understanding of how we, as leaders in the Church, can remain rooted in Jesus Christ, the true source of life, strength, and guidance. This theme was a timely reminder for us all that our work in ministry must flow from a deep, personal relationship with Christ, and that He is the foundation upon which all effective ministry is built.

We were especially impacted by the memory verses shared during the workshop:

- John 10:9 – "I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out and find pasture."
- Romans 6:23 – "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

These verses have had a profound impact on our hearts and minds. John 10:9 reminds us that Jesus is the way to salvation and the source of abundant life. He is the gate through which all must enter to experience true freedom, peace, and eternal life. As clergy, we are reminded of the need to continually point our congregations to Christ as the only true way to salvation.

Romans 6:23, on the other hand, reinforces the gift of eternal life we have in Jesus. The reality of sin and its consequences is clear, but we are also reminded of God's grace and the gift of life through Christ. This truth is not only foundational to our personal faith but also central to our message as we preach the Gospel and lead others to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. As we meditate on these verses, we are encouraged to stay deeply rooted in Christ, to continually receive from Him the life and strength we need for ministry, and to share the life-giving message of salvation with all whom we encounter. These scriptures have reminded us of the urgency of our calling and the incredible gift of eternal life we have in Jesus.

We are deeply grateful to Reverend Bruce, Mr. Dube, and our coordinator, Reverend Vistorina Ndamanepe, for facilitating this workshop and for providing us with the tools, insights, and spiritual nourishment to continue growing in our faith and leadership. We also want to thank the Growing the Church team for their ongoing support and commitment to equipping the Namibian clergy for effective ministry.

We are excited to carry the lessons from this workshop back to our congregations and communities, confident that the Word of God, rooted in Christ, will continue to bear much fruit in our lives and in the Church.

