

ACRP Online Conference
Save this date!
Friday 4 March 2022

Assessment Quality
Partner (AQP)

In 2017 the Quality Council for Trades and Occupations (QCTO) appointed ACRP as the Assessment Quality Partner (AQP) for the 2 occupational qualifications that were developed in conjunction with QCTO through ACRP facilitation: **Christian Religious Practitioner** (SAQA ID: 101997) **Christian Religious Professional** (SAQA ID 101571).

The main function of the AQP is setting standards and administering the External Integrated Summative Assessment (EISA) for these qualifications on behalf of QCTO.

Another core function is to provide a mechanism for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) – that is RPL for *access* and RPL for *credits* related to the abovementioned qualifications.

ACRP has appointed Dr Errrich Basson as Manager of the AQP function. We are grateful for his expertise and willingness to take on this responsibility.

Since his appointment, Dr Basson has started to re-evaluate and reassess the designs of some of the main AQP functions which include the standard and structure of the EISA and RPL processes. This is done in conjunction with ACRP's Council for Ministry Training Practitioners (CMTP)

ACRP
Association of Christian
Religious Practitioners

ACRP is a professional body recognised in South Africa by SAQA in terms of the section 13 (1)(i)(ii) of the National Qualifications Framework Act 67 of 2008 - SAQA Reg No.: PB 0000110

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The guiding light Newsletter



Issue 12 - November 2021



This is a daily devotion excerpt from the African Women Devotional Bible

Waiting on God

It is said that Anna did not depart from the temple, worshipping there with fasting and prayer, night and day for a long time. She prophesied about the coming of the Christ. God had told Anna about the coming of Christ, but how long did it take for that word to be fulfilled?

This scenario reminds me of a ship at sea. When God gives us a word for our lives, we often expect it to be fulfilled the next day. But in some cases, we may wait a day, weeks, months, or even years before that word is fulfilled. This may create anxiety, and even anger, or resentment and doubt about the fulfillment of that word. When a ship is at sea and we see it from a far distance we might think that it has actually stalled, because there seems to be no movement. But in fact, the ship is moving, and we will see it coming to shore after a while. In the same way, when God's word isn't fulfilled immediately, we imagine that, like the ship, nothing is happening. What we fail to see is God at work, possibly moulding our character, fostering relationships, healing our hearts, strengthening our faith, preparing individuals, situations, and all that needs to be in place for the word to be fulfilled.

In the same way that in a ship, the pilot knows that the ship is moving, and steers it accordingly, God, our pilot, is steering our lives, and in His time, He will fulfill his word concerning us.

Dear God, help me to acknowledge that You are at work even when I can't feel or see You working in and around me. Amen

The African Women Devotional Bible - Available from the Bible Society
(website: <https://www.biblesociety.co.za>).
Email: sales@biblesociety.co.za



OASIS

INTERNATIONAL

Oasis Int. has been intensely involved with the development and distribution of books by authors speaking to the African contexts. The Africa Study Bible is one of these.

Please read part 8C of their sponsored article on the next page.

*Article sponsored by OASIS International –
Publishers of the Africa Study Bible*

THE BIBLE — WRITING, HISTORY, RELIABILITY – PART 8C

As we continue to learn about the reliability of the Bible, let's consider some claims it makes about itself.

The Bible Says It Is God's Word

More than 3,800 times the Old Testament writers say they are transmitting the words of God: "Then the LORD reached out and touched my mouth and said, 'Look, I have put my words in your mouth!'" (Jeremiah 1:9).

It was written by eyewitnesses. "We were not making up clever stories when we told you about the powerful coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. We saw his majestic splendour with our own eyes" (2 Peter 1:16).

It helps readers live godly lives. "All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realise what is wrong in our lives" (2 Timothy 3:16).

It will never disappear. "Heaven and earth will disappear, but my words will never disappear" (Matthew 24:35).

It is powerful. "For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword . . . It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires" (Hebrews 4:12).

The best evidence of the Bible's power is the millions of lives changed throughout history by reading it.

Translating the Bible

The great majority of the Bible was written in either Hebrew or Greek (a few Old Testament portions were written in Aramaic). One of the Scripture translations most commonly used by the New Testament authors, especially Paul, was a Greek translation of the Old Testament – the Septuagint. It was likely begun by the king of Egypt in the third century BC. Greek became the trade language of the first century world, similar to the way English and French are now used in Africa. Translators have been inspired to make Scripture available in people's mother tongues throughout the world, making the Bible the world's most translated book.

Because every translation into a new language has limitations, many scholars and pastors learn both Greek and Hebrew to help them understand the Bible better. This explains why Protestants say that the Bible is "authoritative in the original manuscripts", meaning that God gave his Word perfectly to the original authors.

Translations of the Bible into our modern languages are undertaken with great care and precision. Having the Scripture in their own language, helps church growth flourish in a newly reached ethnic group. Since language changes and grows, Bible translations are continually updated and revised to speak with the language people use every day and understand.

You will find two helpful articles in the *Africa Study Bible* about how the Word of God is faithfully transmitted in it. Read "A Note to Readers of the Africa Study Bible" and "Introduction to the New Living Translation." You may also find the section "Textual Differences between the NLT and the King James Version" to be very helpful.

To learn more about the Bible's reliability read the full article, "The Bible – Writing, History, and Reliability" in the *Africa Study Bible*.

65 years after the women's march of 1956 – what has changed?

An article written by Reverend Mark Schooney, ACRP Affiliate

Every year, in August, the South African nation marks Women's Month, where we commemorate the more than 20 000 women who marched to the Union Buildings in Pretoria on 9th August 1956 in protest against the extension of Pass Laws to women that the apartheid government planned. In November through December there are 16 days of activism observed against women and child abuse. What stands out about this year is that 2021 marks 65 years since that watershed moment in 1956 when these brave women marched to the Union Buildings. The question we must honour is how far have we come as a nation and how successful have our attempts been at honouring our brave women?

Instead of celebrating 65 years of victory however, we are grappling with the trauma of violations men are perpetrating against women. A new monster known as GBV has necessitated a new struggle. But wait, the struggle against GBV bears striking similarities to the struggle against apartheid. The crux of the matter during apartheid was the need to transform the landscape of society into one that is more inclusive and representative of South African demographics. Furthermore it was a social movement focussed on eradicating the tendency of violence and discrimination based on ethnicity. The new struggle against the new apartheid that discriminates along gender lines is as much an affront to our society as apartheid once was. Once again the soul of a nation and the very sanctity of life and future generations are at stake. We are at a watershed moment once again.

Women's Month allows us to gauge how far we have come in transforming society, particularly the transformation of unequal power dynamics that fuel the scourge of Gender Based Violence perpetrated against women by men. The 65th year after the march provides us with the opportunity to focus on and address issues relating to gender oppression, patriarchy, sexism, racism, ageism and oppression. In taking stock of the progress made we can also make greater strides in creating a conducive environment which enables women to not only survive but to thrive in their roles as nurturers. Not only this but as our women rise up in communities and excel in business and all spheres of influence, we will experience a greater dimension of prosperity in all spheres of society.

65 years ago these women understood the impact that these laws would have leaving their families torn apart, because it would effectively determine where people of colour would be allowed to work and live and with whom. As far back as the early 1900s, these women successfully opposed proposed legislation that would require them to carry passbooks that would severely limit their movement. In 1953, however, their fear was nearly realised, as the government announced that it would soon impose pass laws restricting the movement of non-European women. Then in 1956 the march happened and I believe as they marched a nation was mobilized to do introspection and reform itself from a cannibalistic society who killed their own into a more humane image that accepts, protects and nurtures their own.

What we are facing 65 years after this historic march is a crisis and this is not necessarily a negative thing because a crisis can represent the greatest moment of growth and excellence. In the Mandarin language the word crisis is composed of two words, meaning "big trouble" and "big opportunity" respectively. Thus a crisis is simply a big opportunity that appears to be problematic at first glance. The big problem is that many mothers, wives, girlfriends, grannies and daughters have been abused to the point of being maimed and killed by their romantic partners. The big opportunity that mitigates the big problem is that we have the time and the platform to engage men and to educate our boys and girls never to become a perpetrator or a victim of abuse. A big problem that presents a big opportunity, 65 years after our women marched to transform a big problem into a big opportunity for change. Psalms 65 in the Psalms of David speaks of God's awesome power and His willingness to hear our prayers and forgive our sins offering us eternal salvation. Isaiah 65:25b says "They will not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain" What a fitting tribute to the 65th anniversary of the march that got us here and secured so many of our freedom. Let us leave no woman behind in our struggle for freedom from this monstrosity called Gender Based Violence. 65 years ago these brave women marched for the freedom of the entire county. I believe now the time has come for us to march for their sanity, safety and their survival.

Books that give children “permission to really feel”

The circumstances in which we live since Covid-19 made its appearance are emotionally challenging for children – to say the least.

Add to that more “normal” challenges like bullying and you have a pressure pot of emotions that needs to be managed.

That is why it is so important for children to have the ability to understand, own, regulate and process their emotions, said dr Beatrix J van Rensburg, a clinical social worker in private practice.

Van Rensburg said, “These skills must be in every child’s emotional tool basket. Especially in times like these. These skills form the core of every child’s emotional development, and that is why it is so important to empower children with the skills concerning their emotions, but also the emotions of others.”

According to Van Rensburg the Lightville series, a series of four books that minister and play-therapist Siegfried Louw recently wrote, will help parents, teachers and therapists talk to children about their emotions.

As play-therapist, author Louw helps children and adults to acknowledge and manage their emotions. “The joy of my work is that I can help others through therapy to be freed from their painful baggage that they are carrying around with them. God gives me the privilege to see how people get back the twinkle in their eye.”

When you ask Louw about the simple language he uses in the Lightville series to address very difficult subjects like death he says, “Children have taught me how to say a lot with only few words.”

Louw says that with these books he wants to give children (and adults) permission to feel what they are feeling. “Yes, we have unwelcome emotions, but to suppress them causes more pain.”

The goal of these books is, for example, to rethink the pain that is caused by losing a loved one. “I want children to understand that their pain means they loved the person that is no longer with them. The missing of the loved one hurts, but it actually tells you something about your love for that person.”

How can the Lightville books help?

- It gives us new ways to think about the experiences in our lives.
- It makes conversations possible between people of different ages who might not know how to talk to one another about some things that happened.
- It encourages emotional integration.
- It empowers parents to talk to their children about the difficult experiences in life *and* about the exciting possibilities it creates.
- It gives children the chance to explore their own experiences.
- It confirms to children that their experiences are valid.

The Lightville series

The Lightville series consists of four books that each has a colourful character that children can identify with.

Lisa is the main character in *The stone in Lisa’s chest*. Lisa has to deal with the difficulty of losing her Uncle Hun. The most important message Lisa sends to other children is that love will always be stronger than death.

In *Ben and the dragon* Ben is trying to tame his dragon – anxiety. When Dragon visits Ben, he struggles to breathe and starts sweating. The aim of Ben’s story is to equip someone to talk to a child about anxiety, that will help normalise the topic for them.

In *Spot and the poison* Spot will help children to recognise bullying behaviour and teach them what they can do about it. Spot’s message is that love will always be stronger than our fear for a bully.

In *Sophia and the cave* Josh is dealing with loneliness. This book was written to help children remember that we were not made to live alone in our “caves” and that we can ask people to help us deal with difficult situations in our lives.

Visit www.lightville.co.za for more information and to order the books.

Help children, young and old, with the difficult situations of life

The stone in Lisa's chest

Help young children think about loss, to talk about it and eventually process it.

Ben and the dragon

Ben and the dragon is specially written to help children discover more about anxiety and how it works, and what they can do to deal with and tame their dragons.

Spot and the poison

Spot and the poison help children to recognize bullying behaviour and teach them what to do with a bully's poison.

Sophia and the cave

Sophia and the cave is specially written to remind children, young and old, to look into the eyes of the people they love. They will help you escape from the loneliness of your hiding place.

25% DISCOUNT

Normal price per book: R100

You pay: R75

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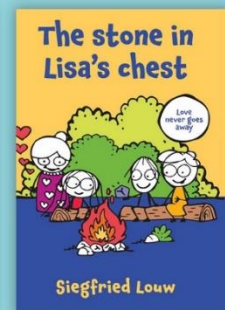
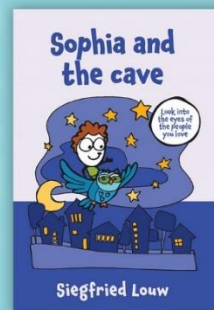
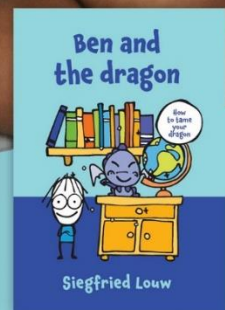
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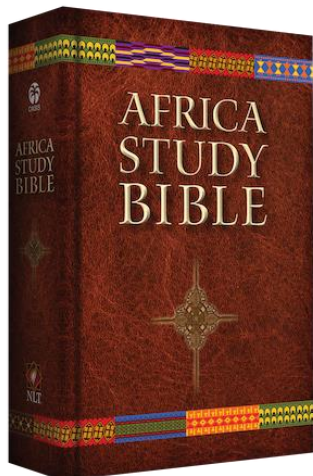
BM
Bible Media

The two **Must Have Resources** for the private library of pastors of the African continent. Together they form a complete library!

Both available from ACRP office
(place orders by sending an e-mail to cgmp@acrpafrica.co.za)

1. Africa Study Bible (ASB) Hardcover

General Editor: Dr John Jusu



Key features:

The Africa Study Bible (ASB) was written by 338 contributors from 48 African countries, making it the most ethnically diverse, single-volume, biblical resource to date.

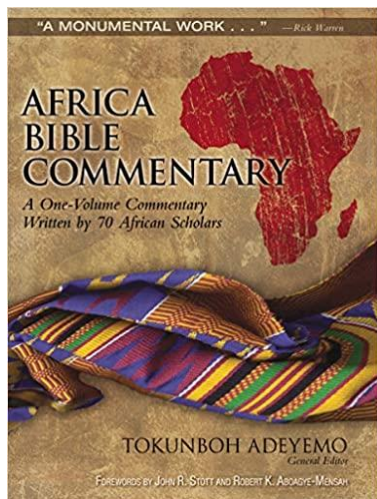
- It was built from the ground up by scholars and pastors in Africa who see the critical need to make Scripture relevant to our everyday lives.
- It contains more than 2,600 features that illuminate the truth of Scripture with a unique, African perspective.
- It is an all-in-one course in biblical content, theology, history, and culture.
- "Touchpoints", "Proverbs" and "Stories" gives an African perspective on the Bible and also show parallels with African wisdom.
- An absolute treasure of 2100 pages

Price: R450.00 (excluding delivery costs). A discount for orders of 10 or more can be arranged.

"The Africa Study Bible is a pacesetter in using the African experience for understanding the Bible. I recommend it highly to those who have sought to understand life and the world from an African perspective". **Dr Mvume Dandala**, former presiding bishop of the Methodist Church of Southern Africa and former head of the All Africa Conference of Churches.

2. Africa Bible Commentary (ABC) (Hardcover)

General Editor: Dr Tokunboh Adeyemo



Key features:

- One-volume Bible commentary produced by African theologians, in Africa, for the needs of African pastors, students and lay leaders—and for the world.
- Section-by-section interpretive commentary, providing a useful guide to the entire Bible.
- More than 70 special articles dealing with topics of key importance in ministry in Africa today, but that have global implications.
- 70 African contributors from both English- and French-speaking countries in Africa
- Transcends the African context with insights into the biblical text and the Christian faith for readers worldwide.
- An absolute treasure of 1585 pages.

Price: R450.00 (excluding delivery costs). A discount for orders of 10 or more can be arranged.

"A rich and valuable contribution to biblical knowledge and understanding. I commend it to Christian leaders. not only in Africa but the world over". **Dr Justice James Ogenyi Ogebe**, High Court Nigeria

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