

ACRP appointed service providers

ACRP has appointed 2 service providers who will be able to provide assistance to churches, denominations, training institutions etc:

ETEX HUB (Pty) Ltd

Provider of support regarding any training related matters, including:

- New registrations of Skills Development Providers (SDPs)
- Services to already registered training institutions.
- Curriculum related support.
- Midterm evaluation related assistance.
- Facilitators, assessors & moderators training.

Engrafi (Pty) Ltd

Provider of support regarding any marketing, record keeping and administration processes, including:

- Registration, legally defined professional recognition and RPL services.
 - Continued Professional Development (CPD) services.
- Administrative and Network Management services.
- Umbrella and Peer group Development services.
- Promotion of the Luminar Standards of Good Governance and Ministry Rating System.
- Code of Ethics related services.
 - Disciplinary Code related services.

For more information or to enquire about their services, please contact ACRP head office at:

acrp@acrpafrica.co.za

Please take note that you are welcome to use any suitable service provider and should not feel limited to a service provider introduced by ACRP.

ACRP

Association of Christian Religious Practitioners

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



PO Box 12424
Queenswood
0121

E-mail: acrp@acrpafrica.co.za
Website: www.acrpafrica.co.za
Cell: 073 557 4716 / 082 443 2830 (am)
082 600 6578 (am)

Reg No: NPC 2015 / 319357 / 08

The guiding light Newsletter



Issue 8 - July 2021



This is a daily devotion excerpt from the African Women Devotional Bible (from the book of 2 Samuel):

TEAM WORK

David insisted on sharing the spoils of war equally with those who went out to the front lines as well as those who stayed back at the camp. The greed of some of his people had the potential to damage unity. Those who went out to battle were willing for the spouses and children of those who remained in the camp to be returned but not the wealth they acquired from capturing the enemies.

David recognised that the success of their campaign and deliverance came from God. So, David established a new rule in the army of Israel, everyone would have an equal share. This has several applications to daily life and attitudes.

In family, one spouse may be working outside the home while the other takes care of the house and children, or one makes more money than the other, or one has more social and volunteer activities. Each of their contributions is equally valuable before God.

In a church, some might seem to have more significant ministries and the prayers of a sick elderly person are underrated. God knows we live as a body, serve together, and will reward each of us for what He has called us to.

Have you ever felt overburdened and even complained of the responsibilities you carry in the family or church, while others seem to have it easy? Let the attitude of teamwork reign in families, in churches and in the community.

Dear God, help me to have the right attitude in carrying out my role in the family and church and recognise that we are each royal team members. 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 the these. Please read part 7B of their sponsored article on the next page.

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

**SIMILARITIES BETWEEN THE CULTURES OF THE BIBLE AND AFRICA
(PART 7B)**

As we continue to compare the cultures of the Bible and the cultures of Africa, let us consider community life.

Rural Life

In both the cultures of the Bible and in most of Africa, people live in or are familiar with rural communities, which impacts their way of thinking. In rural communities, farming is the main way of life, and everything revolves around planting and harvesting. The Old Testament contained many laws about farming, land, and livestock. God is presented as a good shepherd in Old Testament passages such as Psalm 23. In the New Testament, Jesus's teachings are filled with illustrations from rural life. Africans living in rural communities may have great insight when reading these illustrations.

Emphasis on Community

“How wonderful and pleasant it is when brothers live together in harmony” (Psalm 133:1). The Old Testament emphasizes the importance of community. In the New Testament, members of the early church sold their possessions and lived as a community in which they took care of one another.

The Bible calls God's people to live in community, placing a high value on it. Caring for others and living well within a community is also important in African culture. A person cannot be complete without other people.

Closely related to the sense of community is that of tribal identity. Although the people of Israel were a united community of God's people, they also belonged to tribes (Numbers 26). The tribe also plays a significant role in many African cultures. One's tribal identity often determines how a person marries or how one conducts his business affairs.

Family

The Old Testament family structure is similar to the family structures in most African contexts. In biblical Israel, it was common to see multiple generations of a family living and farming together. Abraham lived with his nephew, Lot. Jacob's twelve sons were with him, and together they moved to Egypt. Relatives living together is very common in both Africa and the cultures of the Bible. And in both contexts, when family members die, they may want to be buried in their ancestral home, like Joseph insisting on being buried in the Promised Land.

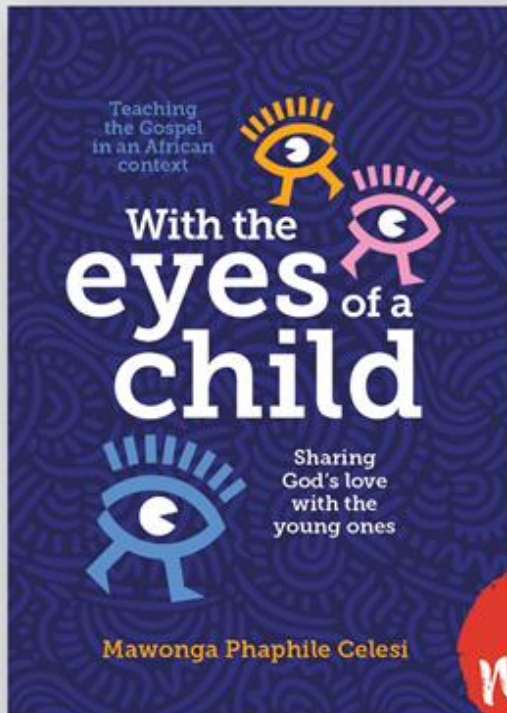
Marriage is another practice with many similarities in biblical and African cultures. Traditionally, there were few if any intertribal marriages, and even today some parents insist that their children should marry a person from their own ethnic group. This was common practice in the Bible. Similarly, widow inheritance as a way to provide for family and children is practised by some tribes like Luos of Kenya and the Mendes of Sierra Leone.

Polygamy

Polygamy is an Old Testament cultural practice that also exists in African cultures. But Sarah's jealousy of Hagar, who was her slave, shows how polygamy can destroy families (Genesis 21:9-10). The New Testament more fully describes marriage as a kind of love that cannot be shared but requires devotion and selfless service that can only be fully realised between one man and one woman.

In our next newsletter we will look at wisdom, blessing, and cursing.

EQUIP YOURSELF TO RAISE A CHRIST-LIKE GENERATION



Children have always been at the centre of Jesus' ministry, and this book is a must-read for everyone who has the responsibility to raise a Christ-like generation in these challenging times.

The main purpose of this book is to help everyone involved in children's ministry to make Jesus known to children, to make Jesus shine as a hero and role model to children.

To achieve this goal, we need to learn from Jesus how to do ministry. And this book is an excellent resource fulfilling this need.

Pastor Mawonga Phaphile Celesi challenges us to go back to the basics of the Gospel, back to the Bible, and back to God.



This book is a simple manual to equip you for this noble task. This book marks a very significant contribution to the fulfilment of the Great Commission in three respects:

- teaching the Gospel in the African context,
- preaching the Gospel with the eyes of a child, and
- sharing God's love with the young ones in our society.

All people involved in children's ministry can use this book:

- Ministers, pastors, faith leaders and community leaders
- Sunday School teachers
- Parents
- Students in theology focusing on children's ministry



ONLY R150⁰⁰



Direct orders: bestel@bmedia.co.za
 Share call: 0860 26 33 42 or 021 864 8211
 E-shop: www.biblemedia.org.za

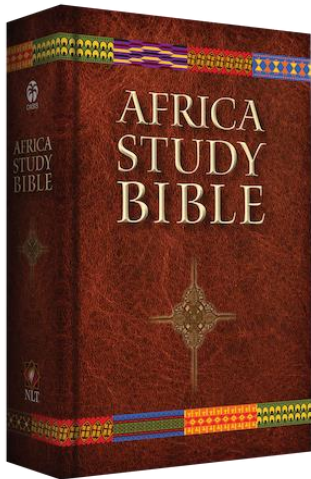


*The two **Must Have Resources** for the private library of pastors of the African continent. Together they form a complete library!*

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.

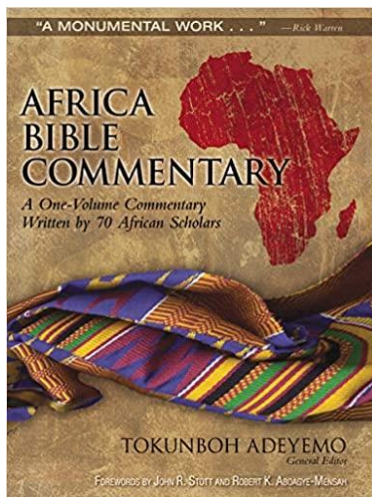
- It was built from the ground up by scholars and pastors in Africa who see the critical need to make Scripture relevant to our everyday lives.
- It contains more than 2,600 features that illuminate the truth of Scripture with a unique, African perspective.
- It is an all-in-one course in biblical content, 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

For information on how to place an advertisement in our newsletter, prices involved and type of advertisements, please contact ACRP head office at acrp@acrpafrica.co.za