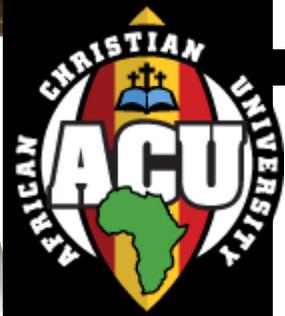




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WE ARE DREAMING DREAMS

I have said it a number of times that if I knew in 2008 when we conceptualised and agreed to start ACU what I now know 11 years later, I would probably still be saying, “Let us pray about it.” The Lord has a way of shutting our eyes to the full price to be paid for what we seek to undertake for him until we are out of the boat and walking on water. Then we say to ourselves, “What on earth have we done!”

That is how I feel as we cruise towards the end of 2019. This is especially so this year as I have been asked to serve as ACU Director of Advancement. One of the biggest responsibilities of this portfolio is that of raising funds for the university to meet its current budget and also to prepare it for what lies ahead. I am most at home between Genesis and Revelation. The moment you put me in the area of fundraising I feel like a fish out of water.

Thankfully, I inherited the office from Dr Voddie Baucham and found Kunda Kalifungwa still working there. So I did not need to start from scratch. Some things were already happening. Proprietor churches were giving monthly

contributions. There was an ACU 450 Campaign aiming to raise K20,000 each month. The elders of the Lusaka RB churches were also making monthly donations. And there was an annual Chancellor's dinner held every December. There were also ACU international fundraising boards in the USA and RSA.

What have we added to these efforts thus far this year? We have increased our social media presence by deliberately ensuring uploads almost every day on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. We have increased our publicity in Lusaka through putting ACU logos on many more cars, and by producing more ACU golf shirts and t-shirts. Another initiative has been that of enlisting the help of our Scholars Programme alumni in our publicity especially through social media. These are our young ambassadors!

On the fundraising front, we have begun in earnest for the purchase of land in the east of Lusaka (total needed is \$250,000). We have received some gracious pledges which, if honoured, should cover all but \$42,000. We are deeply grateful to God for this and continue to look to him for the balance.

We are dreaming dreams. Once we have paid for the land, we will need to raise approximately \$5.56 million for the building of the new campus. We also need to increase our income in order to employ more faculty. Whereas some of the funds will come from tuition, we will need to raise the balance through fundraising.

Pray with us. We are about to start a new initiative in Zambia called "Friends of ACU", which we hope will help us raise funds towards specific projects. We also look forward to building relationships with Baptist universities around the world to see how we can leverage their experience to help us build a world-class university here in Zambia.

Interview with Chipu Makupe



1) How did you come to saving faith in Christ?

I grew up in a Christian home, both parents being Christians. I have been going to church since I was born, attended Sunday school where we were always taught the message of the gospel and even stood in front of the church to sing about God's grace and salvation. I remember singing "He that believeth on the Father and the

Son hath everlasting life" but never really applying it to myself. At home we had family devotions and I remember going through some parts of the book of Romans. A time came when two of my sisters gave their lives to the Lord during a Lusaka Baptist Evangelistic youth camp they attended. They came home and shared with my parents who were so overjoyed at what had happened. I was observing that, and it got me thinking about how great that kind of joy was and how I could attain it. I knew I was a sinner and in order to be a Christian I needed to confess my sins to the Lord and turn away from sin. I prayed and also asked God to forgive me of my sins. I then informed my parents and they talked me through to make sure I understood what was going on. They later had me join the baptismal class at Mt. Makulu and I was baptized two years later.

2) Tell us about your educational, work and ministry experience

I have an Associate's Degree in Science from Parkland College, a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology and a Master's Degree in Public Health from The University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign, Illinois. I did a few jobs while in school. I worked as Nursing Assistant in a Nursing home while doing my Bachelor's degree. During my Master's programme I worked as a Domestic Violence advocate at a Women's shelter for Domestic Violence.

When I completed my Master's programme a position was open at University Baptist Church in Champaign for a Housing and Missions Coordinator position. I took it up and worked for two years before I returned home to Zambia.

In terms of Ministry, I love serving in every way I can. In High School, I went to a Catholic girl's school and we were allowed to meet in our various church groups. I helped with the leadership of the student church by sharing during Sunday morning services and leading the choir. After high school I taught Sunday school at Mt. Makulu Baptist Church and was involved in the leadership of the youth ministry. I was also involved in the music ministry, which I continued when I moved to the US. After a year of being at University Baptist Church and joining membership, I became the Music Coordinator for the next 10 years. The work involved selecting songs for services each Sunday, recruiting musicians, organising music sheets and practice time, arranging for the team to play at conferences and other events we were invited to. I worked alongside the church deacons in organising missions, fellowship meals, events and outings.

3) How did you learn about ACU?

I was a member of Mt. Makulu Baptist Church and have been connected to other reformed Baptist churches through conferences, camps and concerts. I learned about ACU through church announcements and following information updates on the website and Facebook.

4) What are your responsibilities at ACU?

I am a Part time lecturer in Physical Education and Nutrition. I am also temporarily Office Manager at ACU, volunteering as Housing Coordinator, and when necessary, I am part of the Disciplinary Senate.

5) How do you think ACU will impact the graduate?

I think throughout their student life, the graduate learns valuable lessons about how everything they do in their lives points to Christ, and how they can have a Biblical world view in everything they do. From their interactions with others, to how they do their daily chores and on into their careers, their endeavours are shaped by their view of God. This is what the graduate leaves with apart from the knowledge they acquire in their major. The change that happens is holistic and impacts every aspect of their lives. The

hope is that they graduate as responsible citizens who will go above and beyond in their work places and families, exemplifying Christ, impacting others and bringing the change we want to see in Zambia and the world.

6) Is there anything else you would like to share about ACU?

The emphasis on the Christian worldview in tertiary education is very important and that is what makes ACU unique. Students are not just spoon fed with knowledge but are challenged to have a Biblical world view, have scripture as their authority, encouraged to be reformed in theology. What I have heard mentioned a lot is that all truth is God's truth and I believe this encourages excellent scholarship as one seeks to glorify God in their career, which is also one of the core values of ACU.

ACU is like a family where faculty builds relationships with the students and gets to know them to an extent where they are able to reach out to them even over non-academic issues. It's a great place to be whether one is a student, faculty or staff member.

I love the work environment. It is a place where you are accepted as you are and are encouraged to use your gifts in a way that benefits others. Having a Christ centred atmosphere where you have Chapel, staff prayer meetings, and praying before meetings keeps you in the Word and constantly reminds you to do all to the glory of God, in how you interact with co-workers, faculty, students and in how you teach.

MATTERS FOR PRAYER

- 1) Pray for the raising of funds for the land and construction
- 2) Pray for the students as they enter into the final term of the year
- 3) Pray for the Upcoming audit that the Higher Education Authority will be conducting this month
- 4) Continue to pray for the ongoing accreditation process of our programmes

MATTERS FOR PRAISE

- 1) Thank the Lord for the AGM that had taken place on the 31st of July
- 2) We thank the Lord for the labours of Kavuyi Nsenduluka and Chipo Hazinji who volunteered with us to help our Administration team.
- 3) Thank the Lord for the successful end of the term 2 exams