



UGANDA HEALTHCARE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP (UHCF)
NEWSLETTER (NOV – DEC2016)

TO THE BELOVED SERVANT OF GOD IN THE HEALTHFIELD!

“As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving.” Col 2:6-7.

Grace and peace to you from God Our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ!

In this 1st quarter of the year 2016/2017, we are focusing on “**importance of being rooted in Christ as healthcare workers**” remember this year’s theme is; “**being built**”(Nehemiah 2:17-18).

Introduction:

To Receive Christ means to Believe in Christ as your LORD and Savior; it means to place our childlike trust in Him, trusting Him to give us peace with God and eternal life.

“**...Walk in Him,**” means how we live, how we conduct ourselves, the manner of life we lead others in Christ Jesus.

“**rooted**” **...in Him.**” The roots of a tree are very important. They provide both the foundation and support which the tree needs in order to remain standing. Roots also are the means by which the tree draws up nourishment and water from the soil, so that the tree can keep on living and grow. In fact how deeper and healthy the roots are will determine how much the tree can withstand the challenges of drought.

The “root system” determines the health and fruitfulness of the tree.

In this message, we are discussing the:

- a) Importance of being rooted in Christ; and
- b) Challenges that may hinder our being firmly rooted in Christ.

a) Importance of being rooted in Christ:

Many passages speak to the importance of God’s people building healthy a “root system.” **Let us note them:**

1. **Jeremiah 17:7-8** - " he will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit"
2. **Ezekiel 31:7** - "So it was beautiful in its greatness, in the length of its branches: for its roots extended to many waters." The reason it is such a magnificent tree is because its roots go deep down and reach "many waters." The beauty that is evident above the ground is a result of the unseen roots beneath.
3. **Romans 11:16, 18** - ". . . and if the root be holy, the branches are too . . . Remember that it is not you who supports the root, but the root supports you"
4. **Ephesians 3:17-19** - " . . . so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, *being rooted and established in love*, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge - that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God." It is only as our roots go deeper and deeper into Christ that we are being filled up to all the fullness of God!

If our roots in God are strong and healthy our outward lives will automatically show the life and nature of Christ to those around us, and what a privilege this is to us healthcare workers who are surrounded by patients of different sicknesses who are desperately looking and seeking for life and help. May God help us to develop strong and firm roots in Christ Jesus so as to support and help patients in our healthcare service delivery points.

b) Challenges that may hinder our being firmly rooted in Christ.

Jesus Christ gives challenges faced by seed to take roots and how these challenges can affect the results or the harvest; **Matthew 13:3-8, 18-23; Mark 4:4-8, 14-21; Luke 8:5-8, 11-15.** (The parable of the sower).

Note that the roots develop from the seed which is the word of God. This means that the more we dive into God’s word, the stronger, deeper and firm roots we grow in Christ.

1. Our enemy Satan the devil, who struggles to take out the word or obstruct the word from reaching your life. Many people are blinded of the power that is in God's word hence they find it not necessary to study the word of God. Luke 8:12.
2. Superficial or hypocrisy among Christians, many claim to be Christians but how much they can stand the drought (challenges of life) like. Matth. 13:21.
3. The impurities of our nature; these may be cares of this world, deceitfulness of riches and pleasures of life. All these choke our fruitfulness and spiritual health. Matth. 13:22, Luke. 8:14, Col 3: 5-8. God calls us to put these to death.

In conclusion, taking roots deeper in Christ in order to become effective healthcare workers requires us to deeply study and apply His word, "...put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering, bearing with one another and forgiving one another. Col 3:12-13. In all you do, Paul writes that you should ".....do it as to the Lord and not men..... For you serve the Lord Christ. Col.3:23-24. Walk in wisdom toward those who are out-side ... Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one. Col 4:5-6.

News and prayer requests from UHCF office.

1. A successful national conference was held from 22nd to 25th Aug 2013. Over 51 members attended from over 21 health facility around the country with many of them pledging to go and tell others about HCF and mobilize to revive a fellowship. The hospitals represented were; Kagandohosp, Masindihosp, Mulagohosp, RugalamaHosp, Mbararahosp, SorotiHosp, Tororohosp, Kuluvahosp, Nyapeahosp, The Surgery Kololo, Kawolohosp, People's Clinic Ruaale, Ngora, Rakai, Kawempe H/C, Atuturhosp, Mbalehosp, Sekiwunga H/C, Makerere university medical school, Mulago nursing school, UIAHMS Mulago, Mengohosp, UAHEB, UCI Mulago. What was more interesting was the devotional time in the morning where people cried to God on behalf of HCF, and their places of work and training schools.
2. We had a successful ministry in Kuluva hospital (west Nile region) mission week from **28th Aug to 1st Sept 2013**, where over **74 members** renewed their commitment with God and many of them receiving Jesus Christ as Lord. We later

- had a special talk to student nurses in their school and **84** students and tutors with few of the members of hospital staff attended. Glory be to God!
3. We held a 1st quarter national meeting on 13th Oct 2013 where we had a member from Community Based Aids Project (COBAP) Uganda LTD, whom we are renewing our partnership in reaching the community. This year we want to reach the community with community based programs like maternal child health, cleaning slums as a means of evangelizing to the community.
 4. Pray for Mrs. Anne Avinyia, the principal Tutor of Kuluva school of nursing and Midwifery and the family. She lost her sister-in-law on 8th October who has left a husband, a two and half years old child and a **9 days** old baby. Please they need prayers so that God will use them to take up that responsibility of taking care of these children. Any support given to them is highly appreciated.
 5. We thank God for the central trip we had with topic "**Care of the dying**" by G/S Mukasa Gaurd and Mr. Erasmus Omodofrom 21st to 25th Oct 2013. The hospitals and schools visited were; Mengohosp and health training schools where over **296** staff and students attended, mulagohosp and training schools over **130** ministered to, Butabika psychiatric Nursing school over **98** students and staff. Pray that God will continue ministering to them and helping them to fulfill their commitment of serving God in the health field.
 6. Begin to pray for the HCFI prayer week of January 2014. This time we want to hold prayers from our places of work and the last day 7th January we shall converge in the central for prayers and testimonies. This requests you to prepare early to be part of this team at least one member from every hospital. You will be getting more details when the prayer list from HCFI is sent and we shall include our national and regional prayer requests.
 7. Pray for us we have been called to go and share in a conference of medical workers and church leaders in the diocese of Nebbi from 16th to 17th January 2014. I will be sharing about **Spiritual Care for the Sick** and the major theme is **The Role of Church in Health Service Delivery**. The expected number is 150 health workers and those working in the health field and church leaders. Pray for this that God will be the Lord of every thing that will take place.
 8. We are still gathering prayer requests from different health facility to be included during the prayer week in January. Remember after compiling them we shall send a copy to you as a guide during the Prayer week.
 9. We still have financial challenge to meet these activities; may I request you to send in your support, we pledge to use it faithfully and give a comprehensive report after each activity. Am so thankful to those who pledged to be contributing monthly and if you sent your subscriptions and mobilize members to register, all this would support God's work to move forward.

10. We are planning to produce a UHCF Magazine “The Uganda Heart” this calls for articles and testimonies, and support financially toward publishing. This magazine we pray to be published by January 2014.

Waiting to hear from you.

Yours in Christ’s Vineyard,

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Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the LORD and not for men. It is the LORD CHRIST you are serving. Colossians 3:23-24.

“More People Pass Through The Hospitals of The World Than Through its Churches”