

**IDENTIFYING THE CHALLENGES THAT CHRISTIAN FAMILIES FACE IN  
KIGAAYA PARISH-BUNYORO KITARA DIOCESE**

**MOSES MPEEBWA**

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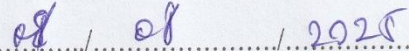
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## DECLARATION

This dissertation is a presentation of my original research work and any assistance I received in its preparation is fully acknowledged and disclosed in the paper. I therefore declare that this dissertation was prepared by me in fulfilment of the first degree of Divinity at Uganda Christian University.

Signed.....

Mpeebwa Moses

Date.....

## APPROVAL

This dissertation of Mpeebwa Moses has been approved for submission by me as his supervisor.

Signed.....

Date. 10<sup>th</sup> August 2025.....

**Rev. Can. Amos Turyahabwe**

Supervisor

## **DEDICATION**

I dedicate this dissertation to my dear mother Miss. Rose Basemera and my dear Aunt Mrs. Hellen Kahwa, my brothers and sister Jovia Ahairwomugisa for the great support both financially, spiritually they rendered to me throughout this course. Thank you so much for laboring to add value on my life, may the Almighty God bless you in all your endeavors.

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

DECLARATION .....	ii
APPROVAL .....	iii
DEDICATION .....	iv
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT .....	v
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS.....	viii
ABSTRACT.....	ix
CHAPTER ONE.....	1
1.0 Introduction.....	1
1.1 The background of the Research.....	1
1.2 Justification of the research. ....	2
1.3 Problem Statement.....	2
1.4 Objectives. ....	2
1.5 Research questions.....	2
CHAPTER TWO .....	3
2.0 Literature Review.....	3
CHAPTER THREE .....	6
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY.....	6
3.0 Introduction.....	6
3.1 Research Design.....	6
3.2 Research tools .....	6
3.3 Data Analysis:.....	7
3.4 Research Limitations: .....	7
CHAPTER FOUR.....	8
4.0 Findings and Conclusions.....	8
4.1 Unfaithfulness .....	8
4.2 Poverty .....	8
4.3 Lack of transparency.....	9
4.4 Lack of enough time given to couples and to the family.....	9
4.6 Lack of responsibility at home.....	10
4.7 Fights by husbands to wives. ....	10
4.8 CONCLUSIONS.....	11

CHAPTER FIVE .....	13
5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS .....	13
5.1 Strengthening pre-marital counseling and follow up.....	13
5.2 Strengthening seminars.....	13
5.3 Preaching the word of God (particularly on family).....	14
BIBIOGRAPHY .....	15
APPENDIX 1 .....	16
THE QUESTIONNARE FOR THE PRIESTS, LAY READERS, MOTHERS UNION/ FATHERS UNION/ WOMEN CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHAIRPERSONS. ....	16
APPENDIX II.....	21
QUESTIONNARE FOR CHRISTIAN MARRIED COUPLES. ....	21
APPENDIX III: INTRODUCTION LETTER.....	24

**LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS.**

Rev.....Reverend

Can..... Canon

USA..... United States of America

Dr..... Doctor

## **ABSTRACT**

This study investigates the challenges faced by Christian families in Kigaaya Parish, Bunyoro Kitara Diocese, Uganda, with the aim of identifying key issues, their causes, and potential solutions through church intervention. The research employs a qualitative approach, utilizing interviews and questionnaires to gather data from married Christian couples, church leaders, and lay readers.

Findings reveal that the primary challenges include unfaithfulness, poverty, lack of transparency, poor communication, domestic violence, and neglect of family responsibilities. Unfaithfulness, particularly among men, leads to family abandonment and financial neglect, while poverty exacerbates conflicts over resource allocation. A lack of open communication and financial transparency further strains marital relationships. Additionally, insufficient time dedicated to family bonding and parenting results in weak spiritual and moral foundations for children. Domestic violence, predominantly against women, further destabilizes families, leading to emotional and psychological distress.

The study concludes that weak pre-marital counselling, poor post marital support, and inadequate biblical teachings on family life contribute to those challenges. Recommendations include strengthening pre and post marital counselling programs, conducting regular family seminars, and integrating targeted sermons and Christian family values. Furthermore, economic empowerment initiatives are suggested to alleviate poverty related conflicts.

By addressing these issues, the church can play a pivotal role in fostering stable, God-centered families, thereby enhancing both individual households and the broader Christian community in Kigaaya Parish.

## CHAPTER ONE.

### **1.0 Introduction.**

This chapter covers the background of the study, justification of the research, problem statement and the research objectives.

### **1.1 The background of the Research.**

Family is an institution that was started by God Himself when He created Eve for Adam having seen him lonely in the Garden of Eden as shown in Genesis 2:21-24. And from that time the family began and God blessed it. This means that the family is God's institution that should be there primarily to worship Him.

However, in Kigaaya Parish-Bunyoro Kitara Diocese, this is not the case given the fact that most of the families are Christian that would have been there to enjoy God's favor and peace. The Christian families in the Archdeaconry live in domestic violence. This was noticed during several seminars for the married where women could complain much about their husbands for their ill treatment.

The number of domestic violence reports also that the Parish Priest receives every week are high. Many of them come insisting separation for some time as they claim that they can no longer stay together. Women ministry in Church across the Archdeaconry is also negatively affected and the major cause is domestic violence in their respective families.

The great number of mothers run away from their husbands to become single mothers with no proper reasons, increase day and night. The number of women in church has also decreased leaving the culture that women are more than men in church to be challenged.

The researcher grew up in two Christian families affected by domestic violence. The wives never lived a peaceful life including us the Children. Unlike in our families where I grew up, children in most families in Kigaaya Parish have run away from their families as the result of domestic violence where girls go for early marriages or for petty jobs and boys drop out from schools. Furthermore, those partners who always come for marital counseling services are also many. Generally, all indicators show that, Christian families have turned to be the places of insecurity instead of reflecting the glory of God as its primary role. It was later noted that almost every family has issues including those of the staunch Christians like the Christian leaders.

There is a great worry that this problem has and is still negatively affecting the church both spiritually, socially and economically. Also, there is no longer nurturing of children in those families as it would have been since there is no longer control over them. A great challenge is sensed in future if this is not solved as soon as possible.

It is for this reason therefore that a researcher has come up to find out what challenges that Christian families face in their families, the causes of those challenges and how the church can come in to reduce such challenges affecting Christian families.

The purpose for this research is therefore to find long lasting solutions to this challenge of domestic violence, find ways on how the church can come in to solve this challenge and how children can be helped so that they are not negatively affected by this domestic violence.

### **1.2 Justification of the research.**

Many Christian families in Kigaaya Parish are living in conflicts in their families. As if that is not enough, domestic violence cases that are reported to either the Archdeacon or the Parish Priest every week are many. Reports that the Priests find in the field while doing their pastoral work are also many. This therefore, forced the researcher to pause questions about the could be possible causes for these challenges. It is for this reason that made the researcher carryout this research so that he finds out the real cause for the problem and solutions for it.

### **1.3 Problem Statement.**

It is unfortunate that Christian families live in challenges most of their times. Some of these challenges are silent and some are violent and cause harm to both partners and their negative effects felt by the children and the entire household. This research seeks to find out such challenges, the causes of these challenges, and how the church can come in and reduce them in Christian families.

When the thorough research is done, some recommendations will be made to find how the church will be protected against the outcome of the violence of these Christian families, ensure the children don't get spoilt by this violence and how partners will be helped to solve their own domestic problems.

### **1.4 Objectives.**

- a. To identify the challenges the Christian families face.
- b. To discover the causes of these challenges.
- c. To identify ways how the church can come in to solve those challenges.

### **1.5 Research questions**

1. What are the challenges that Christian families face in their families?
2. What are the causes of those challenges that Christian families face in their families?
3. How can the church come in to reduce such challenges affecting Christian families?

## CHAPTER TWO

This chapter presents opinions, findings from various scholars, publications, Bible verses and all possible sources as a basis of foundation for this research study. It is based on the research objectives like; to identify the challenges the Christian families face, to discover the causes of these challenges and how the church can come in to reduce challenges affecting Christian families.

### 2.0 Literature Review

To start with the primary source, according to John Piper in his book *preparing for Marriage*, he says that in order to have a peaceful family, there should be some questions that partners should ask themselves and sort those issues before marriage as the way to prepare themselves for a peaceful marriage. Those questions and issues to sort should range on worship, husband and wife, theology, children, lifestyle, entertainment and theology. All these are nowhere in families, a reason for family violence.

John Piper however does not show that challenges differ depending on different setting and time and that there is no fixed challenge to a specific family. He therefore does not alert partners to be prepared for any challenge that comes their way.

According to Tim and Beverly Lahaye in their book *The Act of Marriage*, they say that sex is blessed in marriage but not outside marriage. They quote in Genesis 4:1 where it talks of Adam knowing Eve for both enjoyment and bearing children. They say that sex is good and blessed by the Creator and it needs to be enjoyed. Today partners deny themselves sex hence chaos in their families.

However, these two people do not clearly caution those who deny sex to their lovers yet they are in marriage and the temptations they may bring to their lovers when they deny them sex which later causes unfaithfulness.

Ajith Fernando also, in his book *The Family Life of a Christian Leader*, quotes the bible verses of Psalm 127:3-4 and 2Timothy 1:4 and says that Children are the gifts from God. They need to be taught the word of God and nurtured in the way that glorifies God. Today children are not well brought up which contribute to violence in families.

Fernando does not however emphasize Christian marriage as God commands and also act as an example in following God's commands.

Zac Poomen in his book *Sex, Love and Marriage*, says that young people out of ignorance get married out of excitement and the desire for sex without any clear purpose which lead to breakups in Christian families.

He however does not go ahead to teach the criteria people should follow while looking for future partners and what they should do while in family violence.

Dr. D.K. Olukoya in his book *Your Marriage and Your Ancestry*, strongly emphasizes on the need of prayer in all Christian families as it strengthens the family, shuts the mouth of enemies, brings peace in the families. This is nowhere in families and has caused many Christian families disintegrate slowly to destruction.

He however does not show that the prayer should start as early as possible even before marriage as one commits his or her future family to God but not waiting to have it so you pray.

On the secondary source also, Gary Chapman in his book *The Four Seasons of Marriage* says that children copy bad behaviors from their parents and transfer them to their new homes. He says that partners don't love themselves to the maximum and don't fulfill God's purpose for marriage. This also has contributed to Christian families to disintegrate.

He does not however talk about how one ought to adapt to the changing seasons in marriage that leads to the unrest in Christian marriages and how to overcome the bad seasons.

Edward P. Mermilliod in his journal *A Synthesis of Academic Research* says that the parents are one of the most significant factors of faith formation among the Adolescents. He uses the words of Deuteronomy 6:4-7 that tells the parents to teach their children the law of the Lord. It is the lack of this that has caused the drifting Christian family life.

The journal only duels on children and leaves the parents who also need to lead an example so that the children follow.

Tobias Brandner also in his journal as he looked at the strength and the dangers of the family says that the family has the significant impact on the church. So it needs to be handled with care so that even the church becomes purposeful with people who are well nurtured in families. It is therefore the lack of this that has caused the drifting Christian family life.

The journal does not however show how the church too has a significant role in shaping families. Therefore it is not a one way.

David Prince also in his journal *The Pastor's Home as a Paradigm for the Church's Family Ministry*, says that fathers should be the pastors or shepherds of their homes. They have the responsibility to guide their children and wives towards Christian maturity. It is the negligence of this role that has caused a drifting Christian family life.

The role of a woman however in guiding her house hold to Christian maturity is not mentioned.

Emily Hunter McGowin in her journal she titles *Every Woman Has a Church in Her Home* says that a home should act as a church where mothers should be influential in prayers for the strength of the family. It is the absence of this practice that has increased challenges in families.

The journal has not cautioned these kinds of parents who turn their home into the Church and fail to go and listen to other preachers for exposure.

To continue with the tertiary, Faith A. Oyedepo in his book *Marriage Ethics for Singles* says that partners don't go through marital counseling before they go to marriage; therefore they go to something not prepared for that gives them hard time. This is the reason also family violence is rampant.

He however does not clearly tell when these young ones should be ready for marriage, where to get this marital counseling and how they can tell that they are now mature and so good to go for marriage.

## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.0 Introduction.**

This chapter discusses aspects of methodology which were employed in the study. These include; research design, data collection, data analysis, target group, questionnaires, research tools, the scope of the research, and research limitations. These provided a guideline in which data was collected, analyzed and presented.

#### **Data collection:**

The researcher will collect qualitative data through interviews with Christian family members, focusing on their religious practices, beliefs and experiences within the family context.

#### **Data analysis:**

Qualitative data from the surveys will be analyzed using thematic analysis to identify the real problems in the Christian family life.

#### **Target group:**

The researcher will collect data from only Christian families who are officially married in Church. This will help me arrive at the exact problem and later recommend the way forward that will help me arrive at the solutions.

#### **Questionnaires.**

The researcher will organize questions on questionnaires as seen in the appendix 1 seeking to tackle the real challenge. The responses that he will get from the Christian married couples will help him to find the real challenge for the drifting Christian family life in Kigaaya Parish.

#### **3.1 Research Design**

The researcher will go in the field to collect data from only targeted Christian families in Kigaaya Parish. He will use qualitative design to ensure thorough understanding of the Christian family life. He will also visit the library and read some literature about family challenges that affect Christian families in order to get rich information. He will take two month in the field collecting data, using questionnaires, interviews and target group to ease my research.

#### **3.2 Research tools**

##### **Interviews:**

The researcher will have a conversation with the Christian married couples on issues concerning their life style such as interaction, friendship, sharing of things, problem solving in their homes, collective working, finance management, and many other related issues that can result into misunderstandings if not wisely handled.

## **The scope of the research:**

### **Geographical scope.**

This research will only be carried out among the Christian married couples in Kigaaya Parish-Kigaaya Archdeaconry-Bunyoro Kitara Diocese. This is because most families in this parish face domestic challenges.

### **Time Scope.**

The study will be conducted in the year 2025.

### **3.3 Data Analysis:**

Qualitative data from the surveys will be analyzed using thematic analysis to identify the real problems in the Christian family life.

### **3.4 Research Limitations:**

The researcher may find the following limitations during his research:

- Some respondents may be reserved, leaving other important information not collected. The researcher will first inform the respondents that whatever information they will give will remain confidential so that they open up to the researcher.
- Some respondents may give false information to the researcher leading to compiling of wrong data. The researcher therefore shall sensitize the respondents on the importance of the research on how it seeks to find solutions to the challenges that affect them so that they appreciate it.

## CHAPTER FOUR

### 4.0 FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS.

This chapter presents opinions, findings that the researcher got from the Christian married couples about the challenges they face in their various families. The researcher interviewed some Christian married couples and also used questionnaires to some couples, chairpersons Mothers Union, Christian Women Fellowship, Fathers Union, Parish Priest and Lay Readers to reach at the real intention of the research. The researcher will then find conclusions of their opinions about those challenges.

The following are the findings on what challenges that Christian married couples face in their families.

#### 4.1 Unfaithfulness

This is the commonest challenge that most of the Christian families are facing in their families. This was mostly reported by women whose husbands marry second wives after some time or continue to have outside affairs. Eventually this results into neglecting their homes to an extent of failing to pay school fees for their children, buy necessities at home and in many instances men completely abandon their families. As the result, women end up taking on the responsibility to look after the families, work tirelessly to raise school fees for their children, buy scholastic materials, buy home necessities out of suffering. Although men were found to be leading in committing adultery according to the families interviewed, few women also practice the same and in families where this occur, there are more challenges than where men practice adultery. In these families there is total disintegration. There is a lot of fights, family neglect and children are abandoned to be raised by relatives of those respective couples.

Tim and Beverly Lahaye in their book *The Act of Marriage* also confirm this and talk against unfaithfulness as one of the major causes of family violence. They say that sex is blessed and it should be enjoyed amongst partners within marriage but it should not be enjoyed outside marriage. They quote in Genesis 4:1 where it talks of Adam knowing Eve for both enjoyment and bearing children. They say that sex is good and blessed by the Creator and it needs to be enjoyed by partners but within the boundary of marriage. therefore, if it crosses marriage it becomes sin and later results into violence the same case is happening among some of families in Kigaaya Parish.

#### 4.2 Poverty

This is another cause of challenges in amongst Christian married couples. Some Christian families are living in situations where they cannot manage to cater for their families' necessities. This results into violence in the family mostly women become violent to their husbands who fail to support their families. This forces the husbands to lose control over their children since they have nothing or little they give them. Children eventually end up being spoilt due to lack of control in their homes. Some husbands have resorted to running away from their families and live elsewhere they can get peace. Those who remain in their homes, will have no any control over their wives,

with a high sense of disrespect. These all result into conflicts that do not exhibit the glory of the Lord in these Christian families.

#### **4.3 Lack of transparency.**

This was also found as one of the major causes of challenges among Christian married couples. This lack of transparency is common in finances. In this, the researcher found out that partners do not want to expose their financial status amongst themselves in terms of how much they earn if at all they are employed but also those who operate businesses, peasants or farmers, do not expose their yields to themselves. Men have also reported about their wives who invest in their home places without their husbands' consent. Some men have some assets that their wives do not know. All these lead to lack of trust and respect amongst these couples and in the end conflicts erupt.

#### **4.4 Lack of enough time given to couples and to the family.**

The researcher found out that after marriage the most of the couples do not give themselves time as they all become workaholic both claiming to work hard to sustain their families. The parish priest, chairpersons of Mothers Union, Christian Women Fellowship, Lay Readers and Fathers' Union both reported that these couples immediately after marriage do not give themselves enough time to stay together and learn themselves. They instead resort to work and therefore continue to live as strangers. They continued to report that whatever challenges arise are as the result of these couples not getting used to one another because of overworking. The researcher also found out that the limited time given to families results into parenting issues/ challenges. The children of such parents lack parental care and therefore some of them do not know God, some become a laughing matter in communities and others drop out from schools. This contribute to the challenges these Christian families face at Kigaaya parish.

David Prince also in his journal *The Pastor's Home as a Paradigm for the Church's Family Ministry*, also talks a lot on the need for parents to give enough time to themselves but also to their children. In his journal, David says that fathers should be the pastors or shepherds of their homes. They have the responsibility to guide their children and wives towards Christian maturity. He stresses that it is the negligence of this role that has caused challenges in Christian family life.

Besides David Prince, Emily Hunter McGowin in her journal she titles *Every Woman Has a Church in Her Home* also says something concerning parents giving enough time to their families. She says that a home should act as a church where mothers should be influential in prayers for the strength of their families. It is the absence of this practice due to limited time given to families by the couples that has increased challenges in families.

#### **4.5 Communication gap**

This was also found out by the researcher as one of the leading cause of challenges that Christian families face in Kigaaya Parish. The researcher found out that these couples do not engage themselves in the discussion about the matters of their families. They do not have time to sit at the round table to discuss about the weaknesses and the strength of their families so that they find

solutions for the problems that affect them or maintain with what they find good. They do not discuss issues concerning their children such as how school fees should be paid, how to raise them, financial discipline, their schedules concerning jobs or ministry. So when issues arise, they are not solved diplomatically but through violence. The researcher continued to find out that even at the end of the season when the harvest is done or at the end of the month salary, no meeting is held between the two couples to agree on what to do with the man. Each one resorts to do whatever thing he/she feels like. This in the end brings chaos in the family.

#### **4.6 Lack of responsibility at home.**

The researcher found out that most men do not have enough responsibilities over their homes. Few of them were found offering full responsibilities in their homes. It was found out that men leave the responsibilities of school fees, managing for the families to women as they resort themselves to gambling and other unprofitable things. For the case of men who were found employed, do not disclose their salary to women and therefore do not offer much at home. Other women revealed to the researcher that when men give them a business, they see themselves as have done it all. They therefore do not support the family in anything as they claim that the women can support since they were given a business even though the businesses do not bring much and enough. This therefore bring challenges hence chaos in homes.

#### **4.7 Fights by husbands to wives.**

The researcher also found out that men beat their wives. This was found in some families where women were found fade up with the situation of their families for being beaten like children. It was found out that some men do not have peaceful ways of solving issues and end up by disrespecting them through fighting their wives. This therefore results into quarrels and conflicts between the two and the conflicts end up disorganizing the whole families. Due to these conflicts, women tend to lose morale for their families, neglect their responsibilities and these contribute to family break ups.

## **4.8 CONCLUSIONS**

The researcher was able to draw conclusions depending on the findings he got out of those interviewed both orally and by the use of questionnaire. The following are the conclusions got from the research made.

### **Poverty**

Poverty was found to be the leading factor contributing to the challenges that these families are facing. This is because the neglect of families by men as it was found, struggles in paying the children's school fees, and other problems were centering on poverty. Due to this, families do not fulfil all their needs and as the result conflicts erupt. If this one is corrected in families I believe there would be a reduction in family challenges that they get.

### **Pre-marital counseling**

It was also concluded that there is no adequate pre-marital counseling in many churches in Kigaaya parish. For those few which are conducted, are done for formality and they do not last for more than two days. This means that these couples do not get enough counseling from the concerned people in the respective churches. It is concluded that these couples after marriage, the church abandons them-no follow up is done to these newly married couples to check whether they are doing well or not in their families. However, for those couples who received enough counseling and are being followed or they are always engaged with the church leaders, do not face serious challenges in their families.

Faith A. Oyedepo in his book *Marriage Ethics for Singles* also says that some people do not go for pre-marital counselling as they prepare for marriage. This therefore takes them into something new and unprepared for that eventually causes conflicts. This is true because they do not have the knowledge to handle families. He therefore expresses the need for them to attend pre-marital counselling so that they prepare for everything that happens in marriage.

### **Failure for families to sort out issues themselves.**

Most families, cannot also sort out issues themselves. They lack that sense that some and most of the issues can be sorted amongst themselves without reaching to an extent of break up. This was found out that all these arise due to limited or no time given to them during pre-marital counseling in their respective churches.

### **Couples between 20s-35 suffer more challenges.**

Couples between 20-35 years of age have more challenges than of the above 35 years. These couples are found of struggling with how to manage their families and sorting their own issues in families. Most of them have common challenges such as financial mismanagement, marital unfaithfulness, abandonment of family responsibilities like failure to pay school fees and other similar challenges. And another conclusion is that the first five years of marriage are of struggle as it was concluded that these couples have not gotten used to one another. Some after around 5 years stop having serious challenges whereas some proceed and if they do not get help they end up breaking up.

### **Women face more challenges than men**

Another conclusion is that women are facing more challenges than men in families. Most of the challenges received from the field show that women are at the fore front of facing most of the challenges. This also concludes that men are the root cause of most of the challenges in families in Kigaaya parish. Most of the challenges such as adultery, family neglect, beating, alcoholism, lack of respect, lack of transparency and others, are mostly as the result of men therefore putting the women at the risk of being tortured in their families. In the whole parish they are even women who mostly report to the concerned religious leaders than men all these showing that women need more help than men in their families.

### **These conflicts negatively affect the church**

These challenges that affect families, also directly or indirectly affect the church. According to the findings from the research the researcher finds out that the church is affected in the following ways; the conflicts in families lead to the disorganization in the church in such a way that if the families of the administrators of the church have no peace then directly or indirectly the work at church will be negatively affected. Also, these Christians abandon the church due to conflicts at home. Also, the children in such conflicted families do not get proper nurturing as they grow. This means that the church does not also get upright Christians who will be exemplary to the young generation.

According to the research findings, the researcher concludes therefore that the church and family are inseparable. What happens in families affects the church also because homes are the source of worship, therefore if there is no peace in homes there is not likely to be peace in churches.

### **Isolation from the church**

It was also concluded that families with challenges in their homes are inactive also in church activities. This comes in the sense that men fear to come to church and meet the elders of the church where their wives always report them. In return therefore, these men isolate from church. To continue with, women who are affected with these conflicts also find it hard to engage themselves in church activities. Some judge themselves as unworthy to do God's activities in church and end up isolating themselves from there.

## CHAPTER FIVE

### 5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

This chapter gives the recommendations to the church on how best it can engage in solving the issues that affect the Christian families. These are based on the researcher's findings in his research among the Christian married couples. These include the following;

#### 5.1 Strengthening pre-marital counseling and follow up.

Kigaaya parish needs to conduct a thorough pre-marital counseling to couples preparing to get married and also follow up those couples from time to time and see how they are taking their families. Follow up needs to be done in form of visiting them often, engaging them on phones, making inquiries about them and many other ways to ensure a peaceful and God fearing homes. During these pre-marital counseling sessions, major issues that happen in families and lead to conflicts need to be given priority and attention. These issues include; financial management, nurturing of children, responsibility, respect, and others need to be taken serious. The content also that is used to counsel these couples need to be revised from time to time depending on the changing situations and time. This will open the minds of the couples and go to marriage institutions they have understood well and be able to handle. When they have learnt to solves their issues, respect one another, each one knowing his/her responsibilities and also knowing that the institution they are yet to start is God's institution and that they have God's purpose to fulfil there, will help to eliminate the challenges Christian families face in their homes.

#### 5.2 Strengthening seminars

The parish needs to start and strengthen seminars targeting families. This would be termed as post-marital counselling to help Christian married couples stay in meaningful families that give glory to the Lord. These seminars will also help men who suffer silently with domestic challenges have platforms to share their challenges with counsellors and also get tips on how to take forth their families in a Godly way. They will also help the youth who have not yet got married to prepare for their marriages by learning more how they are handled. This will help the parish have a stable church with Christians who are stable in their families and in church.

In addition to the above, the parish also needs to use the same platform to educate the couples on how best they can strengthen their financial statuses so that they fight against poverty in their families. Community development officers, NAADS coordinators for instance can be invited and talk to them on modern farming, how to start small scale businesses so that they boost their financial statuses. If this is done, they will be encouraged to work hard in their families and this will mean that domestic challenges that have been arising as the result of shortage of finance will be solved indirectly. All of these therefore will help to eliminate family challenges among Christian families.

### **5.3 Preaching the word of God (particularly on family)**

The parish also needs to strengthen on preaching the word of God centered on family and its divine purpose. Testimonies based on family can be shared for people to be inspired to have better families based on Christ. The parish priest therefore needs to tell his Lay Readers to prioritize on preaching about family for some time for people to learn more about family. This will also help to reduce the challenges in Christian families.

Also, Ajith Fernando in his book *The Family Life of a Christian Leader*, pages 51-54 quotes in Ephesians 5:25 and 1Peter 3:1 that all teach about submission and love for all partners in a home. Ajith also stresses the need for religious leaders to preach on these issues so that partners understand their roles in families so that married couples have peace in their families which also glorifies God.

These recommendations if well put in practice, those challenges will be reduced among Christian married couples. They will also enjoy their marriages to the glory of the Lord.

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**APPENDIX 1**

**THE QUESTIONNAIRE FOR THE PRIESTS, LAY READERS, MOTHERS UNION/ FATHERS UNION/ WOMEN CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHAIRPERSONS.**

This research is being carried out within Christian families in Kigaaya Parish. It is aimed at finding out the challenges that they face, the causes for those challenges and how the church can come in to reduce them. The responses given will be of great importance and above all kept confidential.

Name.....  
.....

Position.....  
.....

Parish/  
Church.....  
.....

1. What is the approximate number of wedded couples do you have in your area?  
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2. Do you organize pre/post-marital counseling in your area?  
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3. If yes, for how long does pre-marital counseling take?  
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4. If no, why?  
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5. Do you get reports from these married couples about the challenges that stabilize their families?  
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6. If yes, what are those challenges do these couples commonly report?







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**APPENDIX II**

**QUESTIONNAIRE FOR CHRISTIAN MARRIED COUPLES.**

This research is being carried out within Christian families in Kigaaya Parish. It is aimed at finding out the challenges that they face, the causes for those challenges and how the church can come in to reduce them. The responses given will be of great importance and above all kept confidential.

Name.....  
.....

Occupation.....  
.....

Time in  
marriage.....  
.....

Parish/  
Church.....  
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1. Does your family face challenges that make you uncomfortable?

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2. If yes, what are they?

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3. If no, how have you managed this?

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4. At which stage from the time of marriage did you start to have serious misunderstandings?

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5. Which measures do you employ to solve issues in your family?

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6. Do you find it easy to solve your issues with your partner, if no, why?

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7. What do you think is the root cause of these family challenges you face?

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8. Do you have hope for immediate prospect for restoration of peace in your family?

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9. If no, what is your future plan for your family as far as restoring peace is concerned?

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10. How have these challenges negatively affected your family?

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11. How do you think the church can come in to help you overcome your family challenges?

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**APPENDIX III: INTRODUCTION LETTER**



**UGANDA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY**

A Centre of Excellence in the Heart of Africa

24<sup>th</sup> ~~November 2023~~ <sup>Feb. 2025</sup>

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Dear Sir/Madam

INTRODUCTION LETTER FOR DATA COLLECTION

This letter serves to introduce to you MPEERUKA MOSES a student of Bishop Tucker School of Divinity pursuing a Master of Divinity/ Master of Arts in Theology/ Master of Arts in Theology and Development/Master of Arts in Theology and Health care Management/ Bachelors of Divinity.

His/her is carrying out a research as a partial requirement for him/her to be awarded the degree he/she is pursuing. So kindly avail him or the required information for building his/her research work.

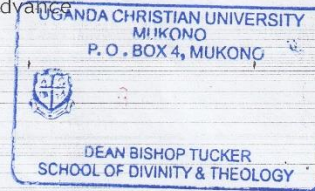
Counting on your cooperation and thank you in advance

Yours faithfully

Rev. Dr. Emmanuel Mukeshimana

Research coordinator, Bishop Tucker School of Divinity and Theology.

[emukeshimana@ucu.ac.ug](mailto:emukeshimana@ucu.ac.ug), 0772505474






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# Mpeebwa Moses

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