

THE PARTNERSHIP

The Partnership

Restoring the Beauty of Family

By Rolf Weichardt - YFCSA National Director



In October 2008, the Youth for Christ South African Leadership Team (SALT) and a few other senior staff members gathered at the YfC training centre in Magaliesberg for a time of reflection and prayer, specifically regarding the vision for YfC SA.

Prior to our time together, several staff members had asked me, 'so what is your vision for YfC SA...?' My response has been cautious as 'vision' is not something to be taken lightly: it clearly needs to be from the Lord.

In my solo prayer time I reflected on this and specifically asked God that He would speak very clearly to us as a leadership team and stir in our hearts that which He would desire for us to do.

As I waited on the Lord the lyrics of a well known song echoed in my mind:

'I believe that children are our future, teach them well and let them lead the way Show them all the beauty they possess inside...'

...let the children's laughter remind us how we use to be...'

I pondered on this: what goes wrong in the lives of our children, for them to stop believing in the beauty they possess inside?

I believe God led me to a well known scripture, but one we have not considered much in all our efforts to make sure the lives of our young people are not destroyed:

"He will convince parents to look after their children and children to look up to their parents" Malachi 4:6 (The Message)

"He will turn the hearts of the fathers to the hearts of their children"



The reality is that we have a generation of fatherless young people. Young people who desperately need to know that there is a parent who deeply cares for them. Sadly so, many of these parents may already have died, especially in communities where the HIV and AIDS pandemic is rife.

Yet, I choose to believe that God can raise up men and women who would 'parent' the parentless and father the fatherless. Just a few days ago I sat in an international HIV/AIDS conference where much of the debate was around 'how we change attitudes and behaviour' with regard to lifestyle choices and in some instances, even cultural norms and values.

I allowed my mind to drift to the late 70's, 80's and early 90's when YfC SA with great humility, yet so courageously and effectively spoke into the 'sins of apartheid' (which at the time was culture, i.e. a lifestyle for many), how my own life (and behaviour!), the lives of my parents and family and literally thousands

of both black and white South Africans were so radically challenged and changed by the then radical message of Racial Reconciliation through the cross of Christ (repentance, forgiveness and restitution). I have strong memories of how difficult and tense it was at times going into black and white churches with racially integrated teams, challenging the sin of racism and division...and how wonderful it was to see **behaviour change!**

I cannot help but ponder even more deeply the possibility that exists in addressing the notable falling apart of morals in our nation through the reconciliation and healing of the parent-child and child-parent relationships. I strongly believe that addressing the dysfunctions in relationships between parents and their children, through the help of God's Spirit, will bring our nation, God's healing. I believe that it is also time to reach out to the next generation of true and godly fathers by reaching the 'boys' that are now.

My deep desire is that God would also raise up Youth for Christ to once again be a Voice in the Wilderness, prophetically challenging fathers who no longer care for their children, to love, care and nurture them, *and for children to choose to honour their parents.*

Much of the 'what, when and how' still needs to be prayed through and strategised, but for now will you please join us as we prayerful wait on God to unfold His plan for us to minister into this great area of need.

"I believe it is time to reach out to the next generation of true and godly fathers"

Staff Excellence Awards

On Monday, 8 December 2008 the staff and volunteers of Youth for Christ KZN met at Project Gateway to celebrate our STAFF EXCELLENCE AWARDS for excellent work and service during 2008.

The theme of the staff excellence awards was "Back to the Basics", where all staff and volunteers were encouraged to come dressed either as gogo's and umkhulu's OR in 50's /60s style! See the Current News Link on our website for these fun-filled photos (www.youthkzn.co.za)

All recipients of the staff excellence awards received the awards based on their excellent performance by having a

positive attitude; being hardworking; supervising with excellence; living out the core values of YFC/KZN and being someone who contributes to the transformation of the organisation through leadership, Christian walk, showing and leading people to Christ, upholding policies etc. The four recipients of the staff excellence awards based on staff nominations were Derrick Mabaso; Sane Mabaso, Sthembiso Kunene and Thabisile Ntombela. Rod Capon was the recipient of The Provincial Directors Award, chosen by Kanthie Raidoo.

Thanks to the committee: Kanthie, Jeff, Martine, Phili, Sthembiso and Nkululeko.



Thabisile



Derrick



Sthembiso



Rod



Sane

Entry School

Entry School took place from 26 January- 04 February 2009. Entry School is an orientation programme for new staff that have joined YFC. YFC/KZN had 17 delegates attending this YFC national event at the YFC Training Centre in Magaliesburg.

Entry School was an awesome time to meet youth workers from other YFC Centres around the country, for building a sense of family, to learn the ethos of the organisation, to meet with God in a personal way and to be empowered with youth work skills. The participants felt that their lifestyles were challenged through the various sessions. They came back motivated to be catalysts of change and geared up to these trying times, but being reminded that they should be anchored to the Rock-Jesus Christ. YFC/KZN played a major role in the training and development of these entry school delegates.

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

I am **Kego Molokwane**, a child of God who is fully dependant on Him with my life. In 2006 God blessed me with a baby boy. The word of God is an inspiration in my life, without it I don't see myself as a survivor. I joined this ministry work (YFC) in 2003 as a volunteer and this has been a long journey since then. Today I am serving on the community programme within the Tennyson House project and I could not do this without LOVE AND COMMITMENT.



My name is **Jeanette Nzimande**. I accepted Jesus as my Saviour on 14 February 1997. I received my calling and studied theology. On 14 February 2003, I got married to a wise man called Wiseman and we have 2 sons. I believe that I live a purpose driven life. For me, being in YFC, in the May'Khethele project is part of God's purpose. My favourite scripture is Ecclesiastes 9:11 - ...the race is not to the swift, nor battle to the strong, nor bread to the wise, nor riches to men of understanding, nor favour to men of skills, but time and chance happens to them all. Use your chances as they come!



My name is **Senzekile Ndlovu**. I have been with the Khayaletu Community team for 4 years. I am based at Haniville community. I started as a volunteer in 2004. Since I started working at YFC I have grown a lot in terms of serving children and their parents in the community. I have also grown a lot spiritually. My favourite verse in the bible is Ecclesiastes 12v1-8- Remember your Creator while you are still young.



Vusi Phungula started working at L'Abri in August 1989. Vusi is married with three children and has also adopted six children from his brothers in law who have passed away. He enjoys soccer, spending time with his family and offering a helping hand to others. Vusi is passionate about helping disadvantaged people and communities especially around L'Abri. He wishes to serve at L'Abri for the rest of his life, and appreciates the help he receives from his site colleagues, Mzwa and Bheki.



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