



November 2018 Vol. 9 No. 11



## In This Issue

Valedictorian Speech by  
Chilanje Mhone

Prayer and Praise

## Valedictorian Speech by Chilanji Mhone

Presented on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2018 at the 2018 Graduation



The Chancellor, the Vice Chancellor, members of the faculty, members of staff, fellow Scholars, our most cherished parents and guardians, ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls.

Proverbs 6:9-11 (KJV) states:

*How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? When wilt thou arise out of thy sleep? Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep; So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth, and thy want as*

*an armed man.*

How long must a person sleep? A person must sleep long enough to recreate himself so as to perform assigned duties. Many a time we sleep to indulge in indolence that profits nothing. Those looking at our state of slothfulness wonder when we will arise to a life of purpose. "When wilt thou arise out of thy sleep?" King Solomon asks in this proverb. A hard working person deserves **a good soothing sleep** that will taste like **cool water on a parched throat**. We all know that feeling. When a man is not tired, sleep does not come easily and when it does, it is punctuated with hallucinations. Yet we are talking about a man who wants to sleep and does not want to wake up. It is a little sleep, a little slumber and a little folding of the hands which leads to poverty.

The Vice Chancellor, prominent and eminent personalities gathered here this morning, it is my duty to pause and thank African Christian University for having taking us through the mill, where, like grain, we were refined and we now make manifest what was eaten in the confines of the university.

Firstly, we thank our parents. If you had not taken us to ACU, we would not be at this intellectual level where we would stun you with knowledge of the "Grand Narrative" that leads to Critical Thinking and its rhetoric. Pardon me for sounding rather showy. It is all to do with language arts and disputatio.

On behalf of my brothers and sisters, I would like to thank the instructors who took us on this path paved with nuggets of biblical worldview. Indeed, all knowledge belongs to God. We assumed that scientists were the custodians of knowledge. The truth of Romans 1: 22-23 hit us across the face: *Claiming to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.*

Thank you for bringing the truth to us in such a vivid manner. We can clearly see how even the study of Computers is all about our Creator.

Be comforted, we shall never be better than you. John 13:16 (ESV) says *'Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him.'* Listen to this: Luke 6:40 states *'A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher.'* Watch out, we are coming! But we know that we will give you much joy when we do better than you! We shall instead endeavour to spread the good news about ACU.



I remember the first days when we arrived at ACU, everyone so unique and full of life. A typical week in class was always something to look forward to. Monday mornings, we always started with prayer before a Language Arts lecture. One time, Hannah pointed out that we did not pray but it turned out that we actually did pray - she just came in immediately after the prayer. The prayer would then be followed by Mr. Tembo shooting questions at us, specifically at Pilila, Stella, Chimwemwe, Kipesho and myself. It was always a funny moment to have to see Pilila try to dodge his questions but it never worked. In addition to that, Mr. Tembo's classes were never complete without him commenting on Wachikuku's constant chewing of his nails.



There's always that one student in class who always asks questions. Well, for us, that was Anthony. He always had a question in every lecture. In the Bible's Grand narrative, Anthony always had a question for Mr. Paul and Pastor Makashinyi and most times they would just ask him to see them after class.

On Tuesdays, we had more laughter when Pastor Kalifungwa taught us Christian Reasoning and Rhetoric. Elias and Garnet never seemed to be prepared for class and always had to take coffee at breakfast just to stay awake. However, Pastor Kalifungwa was always successful in spotting someone who was "catching fish" (as he would say to Kipesho).

Mr Hoffman always made Mathematics fun to learn on Wednesdays. His random sentences would always make us laugh and we knew we would stay awake in his class. We will also never forget that "pointing pointer" he brought to class when we were not expecting it. And as usual Anthony always had a question to ask.

Thursdays and Fridays were another time of laughter. Computer skills class, Mr Thakkar, may I just thank you for the grace and patience you had in dealing with us. It wasn't always easy to hand in those assignments on time but you were always there to encourage us to do our best. We would always start with a prayer before the lecture. One day, Pembuzya made mention that we hadn't prayed and this time we actually hadn't, so we had our prayer time. I remember Yvonne always looking absentminded and not responding when Mr. Thakkar called her name on the register. Even in Computer skills, Anthony always asked a question. From Anthony, we have learnt a valuable lesson, no matter who is around you and no matter who comments about you (which was always Tina), you always ask your question and learn.

There were many other joyful moments we have had in class. For instance, Charity, Given and Yvonne's random outbursts of laughter when there was a joke being told or when Charity gave up her shy nature and boldly spoke in class (she clearly understood Mr. Tembo 's words to us when he told us to stand up, speak up and sit down afterwards if we know we have something to say). Another example includes the times when people were being picked to answer questions and one of those people happened to be Charles, both of them (we had 2 people named Charles in class) would look at each other trying to escape the question. These are but few of the many memories we have made for ourselves in class.

Mentoring and the Student Labour Program have been very helpful to us in more ways than one. I don't think there will be anywhere we will go where we will find people who will want to be a part of our lives, to help us and better improve our abilities and skills.

This cannot be complete without acknowledging our lecturers in the study skills course, Dr. Turnbull and Dr. Baucham. We enjoyed having learnt from Dr Turnbull and still strive to keep up better time management. Dr. Baucham, on the first day of school, brought his sword to class to warn us



**AFRICAN CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY**  
Apply Now for February 2019

**APPLICATION DEADLINE**  
21st December, 2018

**PRE-UNIVERSITY SCHOLARS PROGRAM**

- MATHEMATICS
- LANGUAGE ARTS
- COMPUTER SKILLS
- GRAND NARRATIVE
- CHRISTIAN REASONING AND RHETORIC

**DEGREE PROGRAMS**

- AGRICULTURE
- BUSINESS
- EDUCATION
- THEOLOGY

**POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMS**

- INSTITUTIONAL CHAPLAINCY
- PASTORAL THEOLOGY

[www.acu-zambia.com/apply](http://www.acu-zambia.com/apply)  
[registrar@acu-zambia.com](mailto:registrar@acu-zambia.com)  
+260 211269932/+260 979559228



not to misbehave. May I just say, whenever he came to lecture us we were indeed on our best behaviour because we knew he would point at any of us to answer a question.

“Christian Worldview”, “Cultural Mandate”, “for the glory of God”. These are the phrases and words we heard time and time again during our time at ACU. We don't take the privilege of having learnt life-changing things lightly. We treasure them and will live them out wherever we will go.

All of these things I speak of, ladies and gentlemen, would not be possible if not for the hard work and faith of these great men and women, these servants of our holy God. They poured their lives into this university to make it what it is today. And now, Dr. Turnbull and Mrs. Turnbull, we thank God for you, for your great work here, and we wish you all the success as you leave. We will never forget you and the relationships we have made with you. You have taught us to live a life of faith and will emulate this wherever we go. We would never have even fathomed the idea of this university if not for your hard work and dedication.

Thank You to all of you.

We pray never to be sluggards but ambassadors of ACU.

---

#### MATTERS FOR PRAYER

- The Chancellor's Annual Fundraising Dinner scheduled to take place on 8 December 2018.
- The enrolment process for the 2019 intake of students.
- Continual process of accreditation of our programmes, including the seminary scheduled to begin next year.
- We have a number of applicants with scholarship needs. Please pray that the Lord may provide for them.

#### MATTERS FOR PRAISE

- We are grateful to God for Khoza Gomile who recently joined ACU as an accountant. He is a great addition to the team.
- Thank God for individuals who have given to the scholarship fund. The funds make it possible for more students to have access to education at ACU.
- The completion of the 2019 Academic Calendar. It has been published on the website.
- We are grateful for the good number of people who have recently signed up for the 450 Campaign.