

INTERVIEW (CONT.)

With regards to ministry, I have served in the ladies ministry, children and young people's ministry and hospitality at the different churches I became a member of, namely, Kitwe Chapel, Lusaka Baptist, Covenant Reformed Baptist and Southern Districts Reformed Baptist.

In Sydney, I was involved in a prison ministry called SLAM (Sports Lights A Message) which uses sports as a means to go into the prisons and preach the gospel to the inmates and guards.

2. How did you come to a saving faith in Jesus Christ?

I grew up in a Christian home learning about the truths found in the Word of God but, for a while, it was all 'head knowledge' until God started to make me aware of my sinful state and what it really meant to be a Christian. During my last year of primary school, I attended a Sunday School programme which Kitwe Chapel runs called the Holiday Bible Week. At that Holiday Bible Week, in one of the one-to-one counselling sessions, one of the female Sunday School teachers took me through the message of the gospel, one that I had heard before but this time it was like the light bulb in my head and heart went on. I understood that I was a sinner and only the sacrifice of Jesus Christ could redeem me and make me righteous before God. That day I confessed my sins and accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and Saviour.

3. What did you know about Christian education before learning of ACU?

Not much actually. After joining ACU, I realised that what I thought was Christian education was really secular education with a prayer before class or chapel at some point in the week. My previous idea of Christian education was not Christian education at all.

4. How did you learn about ACU?

I first found out about ACU from a Facebook post by Pastor Conrad Mbewe. I then learnt a little bit more from reviewing their website, prayer letters and speaking to the different staff and faculty at ACU. But, I must admit, only after being actively involved in ACU have I come to really learn about ACU.

5. What are your responsibilities at ACU?

I am the Office Manager at ACU.

As diverse as this role is, it mainly involves arranging and monitoring university operations and procedures, monitoring staff workload, attending to administrative needs, assigning and monitoring clerical functions. Apart from that, I am also involved in the students' welfare which can involve attending to any concerns they may have and also mentoring and discipling.

6. How do you think ACU will impact the graduate and Zambia/Africa?

ACU is offering something that no other university in Zambia is offering at the moment - education from a biblical perspective! It has been such a blessing to hear the lecturers in their lectures bringing out biblical principles in subjects such as mathematics. As a Christian, it is important to know that without God basic education is simply not sufficient. ACU is instilling in its students a biblical worldview which will enable the graduate to do all he/she does in the future not just for the purpose of gaining material things in this world but with a heartfelt commitment, to the best of their ability and to the glory of God.

7. Is there anything else you would like to share about ACU?

ACU has a great vision and is doing a great work which I have come to realise not everyone quite understands. This is mostly apparent in the challenges we face whilst trying to operate and develop the university. We are encouraged though, that this is God's work and our prayer is that He be glorified in the work that ACU is doing.

If anyone has any queries with regards to studying or serving in any capacity at ACU, please feel free to contact me.

Sign up to receive monthly prayer update

ACU prayer update team: prayer@acu-zambia.com
ACU-ZAMBIA: www.acu-zambia.com



In This Issue

Equipping to Fulfil the Cultural Mandate

Prayer and Praise

Interview with Dumisile Daka



APRIL 2017 VOL. 8, NO. 4



EQUIPPING TO FULFIL THE CULTURAL MANDATE

By Dr. Ken Turnbull, ACU Vice-Chancellor

Historically, the university was the avenue for bringing the gospel message of reconciliation to all aspects of life and vocation by equipping students to fulfil the cultural mandate as ambassadors of Christ through every sphere of life.

Consider one example of how the process of "equipping" enables bringing the message of reconciliation to the world through fulfilment of God's cultural mandate.

"In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Proverbs 3:6

Prior to the end of the Civil War in the United States of America, George Washington Carver was born to a mother who was a slave. As a child he treasured the forest, plants and everything related to botany. He was always a curious student of nature and developed very practical,



industrious skills. After the rigorous work of obtaining his university degree, Carver was invited by Booker T. Washington to teach and practice research at his newly formed Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. Carver's work eventually transformed the economy of the South and had significant global impact.

Carver habitually arose at 4:00 AM every morning, read the Bible, and sought God concerning what He wanted him to do. Toward the end of his life Carver remarked: "The secret of my success? It is simple. It is found in the Bible, 'In all thy ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct thy paths.'"¹

The following is an excerpt from Biographer Rackham Holt:²

[Carver] devoutly believed that a personal relationship with the Creator of all things was the only foundation for the abundant life. He had a little story in which he related his experience:

I asked the Great Creator what the universe was made for.

"Ask for something more in keeping with that little mind of yours," He replied.

"What was man made for?"

"Little man, you still want to know too much. Cut down the extent of your request and improve the intent."

Then I told the Creator I wanted to know all about the peanut. He replied that my mind was too small to know

MATTERS FOR PRAYER

- Please pray for the faculty and students as they begin this next term without having had a break.
- Pray for the new classes in the Degree Programme that will be commencing this term.
- Now that the rains have stopped, pray as they drill for water again on the Chisamba land that it would be a sufficient flow to support the future population on the campus.
- Pray as Zesco (electric company) prepares to install the transformer and the electric lines for the Chisamba campus.

MATTERS FOR PRAISE

- ACU is very grateful for the stake holding church families here in Lusaka who have voluntarily supported Scholars Programme students this year.
- Thankful for the Reformed Baptist Churches of Zambia that have helped with responding to the re-enrolment of Scholars Programme students.
- The newly enrolled students have successfully completed the intense course to get them caught up to the first term students to start with them on 24 April for the second term.

EQUIPPING TO FULFIL (CONT.)

all about the peanut, but He said He would give me a handful of peanuts. And God said, "Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of the earth ... to you it shall be for meat. ... I have given every green herb for meat: and it was so."

I carried the peanuts into my laboratory and the Creator told me to take them apart and resolve them into their elements. With such knowledge as I had of chemistry and physics I set to work to take them apart. I separated the water, the fats, the oils, the gums, the resins, sugars, starches, pectoses, pentosans, amino acids. There! I had the parts of the peanuts all spread out before me.



This story of Carver's teaches us the importance of preparation in fulfilling God's plan for our lives. Carver had laboured hard to develop his skills of chemistry. Consequently, God could answer the question Carver posed to Him. God could not reveal the answer to this question to me today; I would need much preparation before I would be in a position to understand and act upon the answer. This is true in many areas of our lives. God is not able to answer many of our inquiries or lead us deeper into our providential purpose for we have not learned enough or been properly prepared to hear and understand what He may say. This is an important lesson to learn. To continue with Carver's story, he relates:

I looked at Him and He looked at me.
"Now, you know what the peanut is."
"Why did you make the peanut?"

The Creator said, "I have given you three laws; namely, compatibility, temperature, and pressure. All you have to do is take these constituents and put them together, observing these laws, and I will show you why I made the peanut."
I therefore went on to try different combinations of the parts under different conditions of temperature and pressure, and the result was what you see.



Mr. Holt continues in his biography of Carver:³

The results: Carver discovered over 300 uses for the peanut. Food items included nuts, soup, a dozen beverages, mixed pickles, sauces, meal, instant and dry coffee. Other items included: salve, bleach, tan remover, wood filler, washing powder, metal polish, paper, ink, plastics, shaving cream, rubbing oil, linoleum, shampoo, axle grease, synthetic rubber.

He produced milk which would not curdle in cooking or when acids were added. Long-lasting cream and cheese could be made from this milk. "This milk proved to be truly a lifesaver in the Belgian Congo. Cows could not be kept there because of leopards and flies, so if a mother died her baby was buried with her; there was nothing to nourish it. Missionaries fed the infants peanut milk, and they flourished."

Carver never failed to acknowledge God in all of his vocational endeavours. He ventured into many other botanical investigations. Besides over 300 inventions from the peanut, he developed more than 100 other products from sweet potatoes. He developed a synthetic marble from sawdust and wallboard from a variety of plants. Carver was the humble recipient of many awards, He also advised many world leaders, including President Franklin Roosevelt, Mahatma Gandhi, and Thomas Edison. In his 1921 testimony before a Congressional committee, he was asked by the Chairman:

"Dr. Carver, how did you learn all of these things?"

Carver answered, "From an old book."

"What book?" asked the Senator.

Carver replied, "The Bible."

The Senator inquired, "Does the Bible tell about peanuts?"

"No Sir," Dr. Carver replied, "but it tells about the God who made the peanut. I asked Him to show me what to do with the peanut, and He did."⁴

Carver said, "My purpose alone must be God's purpose — to increase the welfare and happiness of His people."⁵ He always sought to promote God's benevolence in this world. At one point Thomas Edison offered Carver a six-figure income job. He would have been a very rich man. However, Carver graciously turned down the offer so that he could continue his research in "God's little workshop." "George Washington Carver worked for the riches of God rather than the wealth of this world."⁶

Bibliography

- 1 William J. Federer, *America's God and Country*, Coppell, Tex: FAME Publishing, Inc., 1994, 98.
- 2 Rackham Holt, *George Washington Carver, An American Biography*, Garden City, NY: Doubleday, Doran, and Co., Inc., 1943, 226-227.
- 3 *Ibid.*, p. 229
- 4 Charles E. Jones, *The Books You Read*, Harrisburg, PA: Executive Books, 1985, 132. Quoted in Federer (reference 1), p. 96.
- 5 Federer, p. 97.
- 6 James Manship, "George Washington Carver," notes of speech, 1998.



INTERVIEW WITH DUMISILE DAKA

1. Tell us about your educational, work and ministry experience

For my education, I went to Nkana Trust Primary School (now called Mopani Nkana Primary School) and Mpelembe Secondary School both in Kitwe. I then completed my Certificate in Law at the Australian Institute of Business and Technology (AIBT) which was a pre-university course in Lusaka at the time. For my Bachelor of Law, I studied at the Edith Cowan University in Perth, Australia and got my post graduate diploma to practice as a lawyer from the College of Law in Sydney, Australia.

Whilst in university, I worked as a waitress and a nurse-aid; and as a qualified lawyer, I have worked in 3 different law firms specialising in Property, Real Estate (yes, this is different from Property), Body Corporate and Corporate Law.