KABARAK UNIVERSITY 5TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

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INTEGRATING BIBLICAL FAITH AND LEARNING FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT;



A Case Study of Little Jewels Support Program,

Ngong town, Kenya.

by

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INTRODUCTION

- → The little jewels is a Christhood support program that is involved in cleaning, feeding, educating and dressing up of children of ages between 8 months to 5 years in a slum area called Gichagi in Ngong town Nairobi.
 - Started as a day care to benefit the families who are unable to provide lunch for their children, as well as a center where mother's would leave their young ones as they went around looking for odd jobs to make the ends meet.

THE PROGRAM INCLUDES

Cleaning

Dressing the kids up

Feeding

Pre school& day care

THE CLEANING EXERCISE

- ► Before the exercise begins;
- The team members or volunteer pair up (male and female). Then, adopt a child to clean, dress up and feed everyday for three weeks. This symbolizes the essence of family through love and care.
- The children are returned to their parents with gifts and with clear instruction on proper hygiene.
- All of these takes place at the kids Centre.

DRESSING UP THE KIDS

- Everyday the 'volunteer parents' come to the center with new clothes that fit their adopted kid and after washing them, they are returned to their parents clean.
- This brings that sense of cleanliness to both the parents and the kids, as towards the end you realize the kids are being brought to the Centre while clean.

FEEDING

The essence of the day care was to ensure that this little ones had something to eat every day before they were picked up in the afternoon by their parents. And so the team members ensured that there was daily supply of juice and biscuits and sometimes porridge and bread, because that is what they would afford

PRE SCHOOL AND DAY CARE

The objective of the support program is to equip the children with Christian values that would make them grow into responsible children who care for the needs of others hence creating sustainability. All the activities helps in bringing up the children holistically that is physically, socially and spiritually.

BIBLICAL MANDATE

Matthew 18:4:5 Therefore, whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. And whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.

EXPLAINED BY OKULLU AS FOLLOWS

- If God is the Creator and Judge of the Universe, He expects His creation to radiate His glory.
- If God created man in His image then man shares in God's creativity.

- If man, created in God's image, is commanded to subdue the earth, then man is surely called to manage world resources to the glory of God.
- In view of man's nature and his relationship with his creator, the church of Christ should cater for the "whole" man. (Provincial Unit of Research 1994, 133).
- This to us is therefore not a choice but a command from our God.

FUTURE PLANS

- Look for funds to meet their daily needs, expand the little jewels support program in order to accommodate more children and scholarship to further their education.
- We intend to recruit Christian volunteer teachers in order to provide better and quality education.

RECOMMENDATION

- Time has come when churches should be more practical and go more into praxis by working with those who are not privileged the blind, the Deaf, Commercial sex workers, street children and slum families.
- Advocate for young children to be equipped with Biblical principles not only in churches and as early as kindergarten but also in their homes.

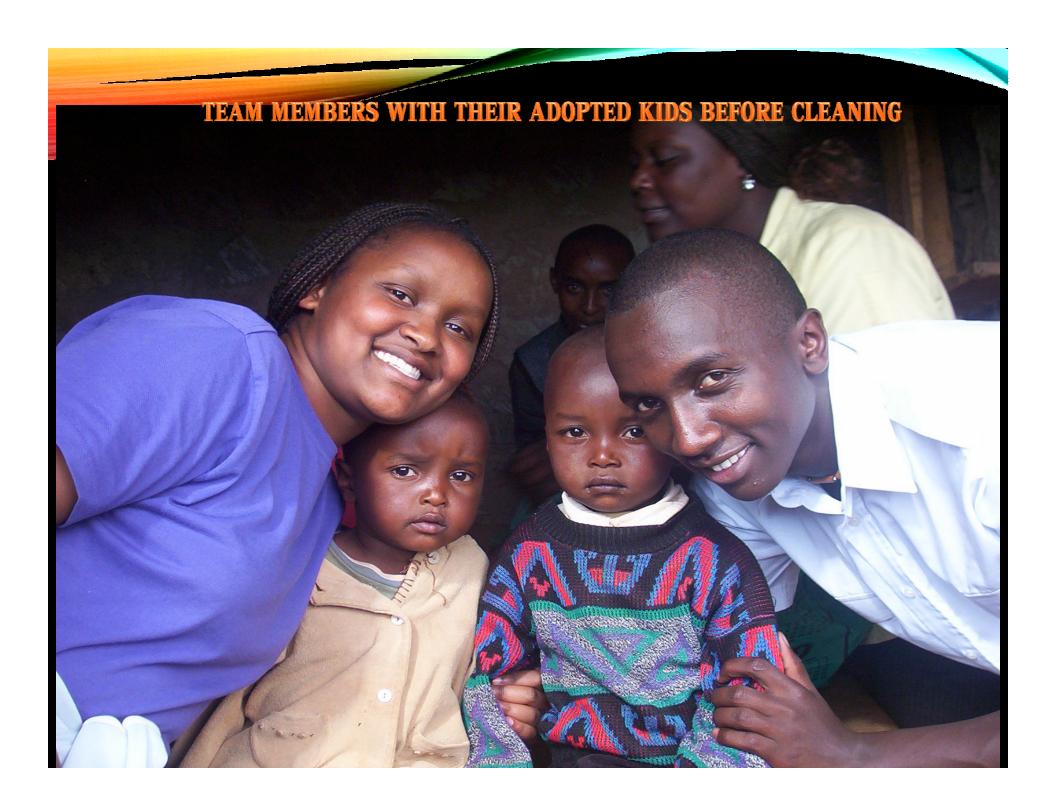
• The government should put in place policies to protect the children and ensure enforcement of the same.

PARTING SHOT

• Since the essence of Christianity is not just believing but belonging. Its at the point of belonging that we will be able to relate and touch lives.

THE FACES OF JOY, THAT SHINE LIKE PRECIOUS JEWELS







The CLEMING begins







DRESSING UP AFTER CLEANING

Due to dirt related illnesses, Christhood found it important to clean children in the slum area to teach the children on the necessity of hygiene.





PRE SCHOOL







