

FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS

I greet you all in the wonderful name of the Creator, Redeemer and Sustainers, Amen.

You found me worthy to share this time with you.

I would like to express gratitude to the GFS World Leaders for inviting me to share what God has laid on my heart – Thank you President Pama and your Team.

For such a time as this.

Allow me first to unpack, what TIME is. Time can be definite at the undefined continued progress of existence. We know the following about time:

i) Time is changing constantly

ii) Time is valuable

iii) Time waits for nobody

ix) We all have equal amount of time

x) Use your time wisely

In order for us, to use our time, in a time such as this, we have to exercise SELF-CARE.

One has to be in-love with them self before loving others. One has to respect them self. When you love yourself, when you respect yourself, you naturally only want the best for yourself. One prays for wisdom from God, to discern BAD from GOOD, and the ability to keep doing GOOD.

In South Africa, we have Mandela Day – 18 July – on this day, the country is ‘DOING GOOD’ for 67min. This is all good. But I often challenge, and say, Doing Good should not be only for 67min, it should not be for 1 day, it should be for 365 days...is should a LIFESTYLE!

Doing God is about reaching your full potential – as per the objectives of GFS, as GFS members, we should aspire to reach our FULL POTENTIAL.

The Bible tells us to Love your neighbour as you love yourself – give your neighbour the same LOVE you give yourself (SELF-CARE). Our neighbours are not just HUMANS, but the WHOLE OF CREATION – plants, animals and humans!

1 ENVIRONMENT

Psalm 24:1 The Earth is the Lords and everything in it. The Lord is hurting right now, because of the irresponsibility of HUMANS, in caring for creation. The Anglican Communion has 5 Marks of Mission, and the 5th Mark deals with CARE FOR CREATION.

God gave Humans dominion over creation. God created, and asked us to TAKE CARE OF CREATION. God’s heart is BLEEDING due to Global Warming and Climate Change.

Humanity has a Moral Responsibility of CARING FOR CREATION. GFS is part of this, as I know you have CARE FOR CREATION in your Objectives and Programs, and I can attest to this. In my time, in the Diocese of PE as the Canon for the Environment, GBFS Members, were always part of the Programs hosted by the Environment Portfolios- Beach Clean-Ups, Eco-Walks, Tree Plantings and other Awareness Programs.

GFS CONTINUE TO FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT, AND INSPIRE OTHERS.

2 INEQUALITY: RACIAL & GENDER

Genesis 1:27 "God create us in His own image."

John 13:16 "No Servant is greater than the Master" – (ie WE ARE ALL EQUAL)

In the Purpose/Objectives of GFS, I read, GFS seeks to TRANSFORM UNJUST STRUCTURES. As members of GFS, you have to be the LIGHT – by transforming the UNJUST STRUCTURES.

Michelle Obama, has a saying "Find your flame and keep it Lit" – GFS has to be that FLAME, and has to be LIT all the time!

#AllLivesMatter #GFSMatters

As the GFS Family, we have to make sure we all feel at 'HOME' in the GFS Family – we have to embrace DIVERSITY.

Archbishop Desmond Tutu states:

"If you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor"

GFS has the Orange Awareness Campaign, and I specifically chose to wear my ORANGE JERSEY today, in support of the Campaign.

3 COVID-19

2 Chronicles 20:12: "We do not know what to do, but our eyes are fixed on you"

Covid-19 affects different people in different ways – Mental Health, Loss of Income and Loss of Life

The last time a similar pandemic was experienced was the Spanish Flu 1918-1919. The leaders and Scientist fighting the Spanish Flu are not the Leaders and Scientist fighting the Covid-19 Pandemic. The Leaders and Scientists have never led through a Pandemic, so things are Trial and Error.

GFS has an Objective of Growing through PRAYER & ACTION.

When we PRAY in this time, we pray to God asking for Wisdom, for the Leaders and Scientist to lead us to better times – ie a Vaccine. In the meantime we have to take ACTION, by doing what they are stating in the regulations – wears masks, sanitise and social distance.

CONCLUSION

Albert Einstein states: In the middle of difficulty lies opportunity.

Such a time like this is RAISING PRAYER WARRIORS & RAISING LEADERS.

GFS Verse says Gal 6:2 "Carry each other's burdens, in this way you fulfil the Law of Christ"

As per GFS Objectives to GROWING PRAYER & ACTION – we have to PRAY, we have to TAKE ACTION.

We have to CARE FOR CREATION – Jesus dies for the WORLD, we have to take care of creation.

We have to be the light and TRANSFORM UNJUST STRUCTURES. We can not remain NEUTRAL.

We have to adhere to the Covid-19 regulations

The Generosity and the love that have been shared at this time has been amazing, and I plead for everyone to continue the GENEROSITY and the LOVE.

I leave you with this quote – Eugene Bell Jr

ASPIRE TO INSPIRE BEFORE YOU EXPIRE