

The Pretoria UBF Easter conference took place over the weekend of March 22nd–24th, 2024. The conference theme was ‘To Do Good Works.’ We commenced preparations for the conference five weeks prior to the event. Our preparations were not taken lightly, especially considering past incidents during our conferences. We approached the planning with vigilance, holding prayer sessions twice a week to seek guidance and protection from the schemes of the evil one. Each prayer session included a brief message from the shepherds. Additionally, in the week leading up to the conference, the shepherds engaged in prayer and fasting.

This year’s conference was attended by 52 adults and 19 children (aged 12 and under). Shepherdess Mpho Kganane prepared materials and conducted studies with the CBF (Children's Bible Fellowship), while Missionary Joshua Suh prepared and conducted studies with the TBF (Teenage Bible Fellowship). Three messengers prepared and delivered messages.

On Friday evening, we delved into a Bible study focused on Genesis 1:1 and 1:26-2:3, with the theme ‘It was very good.’ Brother Acene delivered a profound message, emphasizing God's intricate and marvellous creation of humankind. The following morning, we explored Ephesians 2:1-10, centred around the theme ‘To do good works,’ followed by a message from Brother Archie Malinga. Through God's grace and love, we were able to establish a new messenger, Brother Archie, who despite delivering his first message, conveyed it powerfully and with great conviction, encouraging us to engage in the good works prepared in advance for us by God. On Sunday morning, our Bible study centred on Matthew 28:1-20, themed ‘He has risen,’ with Brother Brian Mashapa delivering the message. Brother Brian shared God’s grace on how the risen Christ helped to overcome bitterness and sexual immorality.

This conference marked my first term as UBF Pretoria Director. I found myself making many decisions independently, a responsibility previously held by my predecessor, Missionary Joshua Suh. At times, I felt burdened and hesitant, but I found solace in the reminder from God's Word that my appointment was not by human authority but by divine calling. This realization gave me the strength and confidence to fulfil my duties promptly.

I extend my gratitude and praise to God for the success of the conference, and I pray that the seeds sown during this event may flourish and grow into mighty trees in our

hearts.

Prayer topics

1. Books of Genesis and Proverbs
2. To raise 4 Shepherds this year
3. To raise 40 shepherds by 2030
4. To establish a new Chapters in Eswatini (Swaziland) and Mozambique
5. CBF and TBF to grow in His Word and Grace

Report by Abia Kganane