

## Summary of Responses on the Theme: "Ethical Failures" in Mangochi

### 1. What is the role and place of the church in Mangochi in responding to the crisis of Ethical Failures?

Participants discussed the significant role the church plays in educating the community on ethics, particularly in addressing misconceptions around issues like witchcraft. They emphasised the need for the church to facilitate mindset changes by teaching the community the difference between what is right and wrong according to biblical principles. The church is seen as a critical platform for airing out and voicing ethical concerns, helping to communicate and identify ethical failures, and guiding the community towards the truth as presented in the Bible.

### 2. What are three practical steps that the church in Malawi can take to respond to the Ethical Failures?

The participants highlighted three key steps:

- **Air Out Ethical Failures:** The church should take an active role in identifying and communicating ethical failures to the appropriate authorities. This involves voicing concerns and making the root causes of these failures known to national leaders and the broader community.
- **Engage in Dialogue with National Leaders:** The church should seek opportunities to dialogue with national leaders, particularly through Christian groupings and committees like the Public Affairs Committee. This dialogue should focus on addressing ethical concerns at a national level.
- **Follow Up on Changes:** After airing out ethical failures and engaging in dialogue, the church should follow up to see if the necessary changes are being implemented. This includes maintaining relationships, building connections, and ensuring that the actions taken by the authorities align with ethical standards.

### 3. What are three practical steps that your church community can take to respond to the crisis of Ethical Failures?

At the local church level, participants suggested the following steps:

- **Teach Good Ethics Through Biblical Stories:** The church should use biblical stories that teach good morals and ethics to educate the community, helping people understand the difference between right and wrong, and how these relate to ethical concerns like corruption and crime.
- **Practice What You Preach:** Church leaders and members should lead by example, practicing the ethical standards they preach. This involves living out biblical principles in their daily lives to serve as a model for the community.
- **Support Victims of Ethical Failures:** The church should provide support to those who have been victimised by ethical failures, offering guidance, assistance, and a platform for healing and restoration.

These discussions emphasise the crucial role of the church in addressing ethical challenges in Mangochi, highlighting the need for education, dialogue, and practical action within the community. The participants underscored the importance of mindset change and the church's responsibility to uphold and promote ethical standards in society.

