

## **Summary of Responses to the Three Questions on the Theme "Family and Community Values" in Lusaka:**

- 1. What is the role and place of the church in Lusaka in responding to the crisis of Family and Community Values?**
  - The church in Lusaka holds a central role in shaping and upholding family and community values by providing spiritual guidance and moral teachings. The church acts as a stabilising force, promoting the importance of family unity, mutual respect, and communal support. It creates a safe space where individuals can discuss and address issues affecting family life, such as parenting, marriage, and intergenerational relationships.
  - Additionally, the church serves as a mediator and counsellor in conflicts within families and communities, advocating for reconciliation and the restoration of broken relationships. The church's teachings emphasise the significance of living according to Christian principles, which directly influence the behaviour and decisions of its members in their family and community interactions.
  
- 2. What are three practical steps that the church in Zambia can take to respond to the crisis of Family and Community Values?**
  - The church can implement regular family-orientated programs, such as seminars, workshops, and retreats, that focus on strengthening marital relationships, effective parenting, and fostering healthy family dynamics. These programs should be designed to address the specific challenges faced by families in the Zambian context.
  - Churches can establish support groups for different segments of the community, such as married couples, single parents, widows, and youth. These groups can provide a platform for sharing experiences, offering mutual support, and finding collective solutions to common issues affecting family life.
  - The church can actively engage in community outreach initiatives that promote family and community values. This could include organising community service projects, offering counselling services, and creating partnerships with other organisations that work towards the welfare of families and communities.
  
- 3. What are three practical steps that your church community can take to respond to the crisis of Family and Community Values?**
  - The local church community can prioritise family-centric sermons and teachings, ensuring that issues related to family life, relationships, and community values are regularly addressed from the pulpit. This can help to continuously reinforce the importance of these values within the congregation.
  - The church community can establish a mentoring system where older, more experienced members of the church mentor younger families and individuals, offering them guidance, support, and practical advice on how to navigate family life and uphold community values.
  - The church can also create and promote opportunities for families to participate in church activities together, such as family prayer meetings, joint worship services, and community-building events. This not only strengthens family bonds but also fosters a sense of belonging and shared responsibility within the church community.



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