Understanding Human-Made Crises

- **Definition:** Not every crisis is natural. Many are worsened—or even created—by human choices, leadership failures, or inaction.
- **Examples from Gaborone:**
  - Delayed drought relief due to poor leadership.
  - Churches staying silent during political unrest, leaving communities abandoned.
  - Organisations waiting on external aid instead of acting locally.
- **Powerful Quote:** "*Drought is nature, but when we ignore it until people suffer, the crisis is ours, not the rain's*."

The Role of Leadership in Making Crises Better or Worse

Key Insights from Leaders:

- Fear, disunity, and lack of preparation often escalate crises.
- Some churches hid behind **prayer** and avoided taking necessary action.
- Leadership means **owning responsibility**, even when resources are scarce.
- Relying on external help wastes precious time that could be used protecting the community.

"*Sometimes, we used prayer as a way to avoid action. We prayed while our people starved*."

Moving from Reaction to Responsibility

Reflective Questions for Leaders:

- What is my role in this situation — am I helping or making it worse?
- Am I passively watching or actively solving problems?
- How can I protect and empower my community right now?

Core Message:

You can't prevent every drought, election, or disease — but **your response as a leader** defines the outcome. **Leadership matters most in the response.**

© All Rights Reserved

Personal Reflection Guide (300–400 words)

Reflection Example from Gaborone:

- A church delayed action during a drought, waiting for outside help.
- Later, they realised: *"We had land. We had people. We could've started gardens or water collection. But we froze, waiting for rescue."*

Your Reflection Prompts:

- Describe a time when the church's or leadership's failure to act made things worse.
- How did you feel about the response?
- What should have been done differently?
- What did you learn about leadership responsibility?
- What leadership lesson will you carry forward into future crises?

Writing Tips:

- Be open, honest, and personal.
- Use simple, clear language — like telling another local leader your story.
- Reflect on what you saw, felt, and learned.

Final Reminder for This Session

Leadership is not about having all the answers—it's about showing up when it matters most.
Taking responsibility and acting wisely can change the story of your community during a crisis.

© All Rights Reserved