

December 2025

[From Ibrahim Charo]

The month of November has been very busy on my side evangelising, doing home Bible study and personal devotion and for most I was preparing for the constitution of our local Church "UTAKASO BIBLE CHURCH". I thank God for His faithfulness, for He led us safely though it was not easy. And now as I speak, the church was officially constituted on 07-12-2025, which was preceded by baptizing five people, three men and two ladies. The whole function was led by Mwalim Barnabas Olare. The Gospel Mission Agency Church joined us and worshipped with us together and also other churches and pastors. Finally I was set-apart, and took for the first time the Lord Supper. And the church was officially declared a true biblical church and I was elected her pastor, with 18 members. And as all these took place, your words were ringing in my mind which you told me. Your words are: "Though things seem to be well, I should not be surprised if conflicts arise both from inside and from outside, but always to be steady-fast in the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ. This is very helpful. Therefore, be praying for me and the church at large, that God will be pleased to grant me the necessary wisdom as I minister, and that I will remain faithful to the end. May all the glory be to God.

October 2025

[This is from Ibrahim Charo, pastor of Utakaso Bible Church in Mishomoroni, Mombasa]

As I told earlier that there were six people in our congregation who had applied for membership. I planned with Mwalimu Barnabas to come and interview them. The interview happened on 10/10/2025 at the church premises and out of the six which were interviewed, five of them had credible testimonies and now are awaiting baptism which will be done this month of November though the exact date has not been fixed yet. This will add the number of those who were already baptized to 18 people. The date of constituting the church is still on 07/12/2025, so, the church shall be constituted with 18 people, 8 men and 10 ladies respectively God willing. We still do evangelism on Fridays noon hours and we have two areas which we focus more in doing our evangelism, and that is Mariani and Kajiwani. Kajiwani is not very far from where we meet for worship and Maimani is a bit far, almost 8km. Yet we have a family almost 10 people coming from that end. In fact our aim of doing evangelism there is to plant a church, because means of transport is very high, one person is 800/= (£5) to and from, and sometimes they fail due to lack of transport, sometimes half of them come, and sometimes only two do come. But I know challenges are always there. Therefore, brother(s) may you remember us in your prayers and as well we unceasingly praying for you always that your labours may not be in vain.

August-September 2025

UPDATE FROM MOMBASA (Barnabas Olare, Pastor)

REFORMATION CONFERENCE-27TH-30 AUG 2025

The Reformation conference is the highlight event of the year for us, and the Lord gave us a highly successful one. We had more than 300 registered delegates from across 4 of the six counties in the coast region covering Mombasa, Kwale, Kilifi and Taita Taveta. Sitting space was a much bigger problem this year than in past years. At one point there were almost as many sitting outside the meeting hall as there were inside, especially on Saturday. We also had a record number of boarding delegates. Due to the widening catchment area, we are getting conference attendees from further and further away, accommodating the 60 plus boarders was especially challenging. This highlights the great need to expand our facilities. We recently acquired the plot next to our Church. There is a building on it which we hope to renovate in readiness for the next conference season next year. The ministry of the word was very rich, God honouring and Christ exalting. We had 3 speakers prosecuting the theme "Things most surely believed among us". Our goal was to give an overview of the Christian faith *from a soteriological perspective*, that is, to highlight the major doctrines and practices of our faith especially as they bear on the matter of salvation and Church life.



This in order to affirm and strengthen the saints in the faith they possess while challenging them to the duties arising therefrom, and on the other hand to challenge those who merely presume to have faith to serious self-examination. Subjects dealt with included scripture as the manual of our faith. In this opening address I argued from 2 Tim 3 vs. 1-17 that the difference between that religion which is true, pure and saving, and all others which are false, without godliness and therefore damning is traceable to the foundations. Saving religion is founded on revealed truth-scripture ALONE. I argued for the necessity, authority, and sufficiency of scripture in showing us the way of salvation and regulating private and corporate (church) life. Our three speakers, pastors Elly Achok, Osinachi Nwoko and Michael Maura then followed and showed that the God of our salvation is triune and all three persons are involved in our redemption, acting covenantally thus guaranteeing it as sure to the eternal objects of God's love. Then Christ as God and man was set forth as the centrepiece of the saving design of God, themes of substitutionary atonement, justification, the new birth, adoption and sanctification were expounded, followed by the great implications of all these in personal piety and church life. The necessity and benefits of belonging to and participating meaningfully in a local Church, the duty of evangelism etc. The word was very well received and good questions asked and answered. We pray that the Lord will be

pleased to bless the ministry that went forth, and bring forth much fruit for His glory. We rejoice to see the Reformation conference growing from strength to strength, even birthing other mini conferences beyond Mombasa.

WTC GRADUATION

This year we graduated only certificate students as the Diploma class did not complete their modules in time. In all we had 70 graduates from our four centres (Mombasa, Kilifi, Malindi and Kaloleni). From the speeches given by the students' representatives, we have reason to hope that a great work is going on. It no longer surprises us, yet it remains an amazing thing that many who join the classes think that they are saved, but as they sit under the teaching, they realize that they had built their hope, not on the solid foundation of Christ the Rock, but had trusted in a refuge of lies that is works-righteousness. It does take a while for some of these to come to an adequate understanding of the gospel and so patience and consistent sowing of the gospel seed is needed, yet the realization that they were deluded is a significant first step, as it were, grace must cause the heart to fear before bringing true relief from fear. It is heartwarming to see that some of the students who are pastors are committing to the long and difficult task of reforming their churches, knowing that this is bound to elicit resistance from their members and denomination leaders. It is such men that we take keen interest in for purposes of engaging them in further training in the special Diploma class, then send them back to their areas. Our prayer is that year after year we will see more such, and that this way, more and more churches will become outposts of gospel truth so that knowledge of the gospel will spread across and cover our land as the waters cover the sea.



Let me at this point share an account of a student from the Kaloleni class (SK), disabled yet travelled long distances to attend classes. Often, she could not afford the transport and had to be assisted by fellow students or even us teachers. From the outset, S's family which is fiercely Roman Catholic was opposed to her joining the school, and became even more hostile as the nature of doctrine taught became clear to them. S became convinced very early in the course of the falseness of the Roman Catholic system, and the lostness of her soul under that system. She left the Catholic Church and was immediately shunned by her family. S has now joined a Church in Kaloleni led by a former WTC student and is sure to be sitting under sound preaching of the gospel. This story is replicated many times across all the WTC centres. We earnestly pray that S and others who are experiencing similar awakening will come to a true profession of the Saviour.

NEW WTC CLASSES

We first had our in-person WTC class in Mombasa about a decade ago, with all our students coming from Mombasa and its environs. It was always a concern then whether the interest in the training will be sustainable, seeing how confrontational and offensive the teaching is to established false doctrines and practices. We are thankful that the interest has proved to be not just sustainable, but increasing. After graduating 70 students from 4 different centres in August, in



(The class at Chamari)

September we began the new class season with over a hundred and thirty-eight (138) students spread across 7 centres. In order to better manage student numbers per class, we have split the Mombasa class in two, Maweni which remains the main centre and Mtwapa class which will be hosted at GMA Mtwapa where pastor Joseph Baya is. We have other centres in Marereni, Marafa, Chamari, Kaloleni, and another one in Madzimbari near Mariakani.

We are thankful also that God is raising men who can teach alongside me. Joseph Baya, Ibrahim Katana, Ben Kasili and Samson Mwayele have been very helpful the last few years. This year we hope to include brother Protus Juma in the team. He is finishing his second year in Nairobi. I am particularly thankful that the raising of more men is easing my workload allowing me focus more on my pastoral work which is number one priority. We are also planning to send two other men to join brother Milton and Protus for further studies in Nairobi in January next year God willing.

PRAYER POINTS

1. The need for more elders to serve with me in our church is growing. The Lord is raising among us some men who show promise and desire for ministry, please pray for wisdom and patience, and that in God's time some of these will step into the role.
2. We have a growing number of young people joining our church, mostly university graduates. Please pray that they will find gainful employment, and that the Lord will grant grace and wisdom as they seek to start families of their own
3. We are concluding the first round of WTC lectures for the 2025-26 season. The first unit is titled "Are you a Christian?" and is designed to press the duty of self-examination even before we get into the course proper. Please pray that the Lord will use this to awaken the deluded, and affirm his own.
4. We are very thankful for the growth our Church is experiencing both in the number of attendees and those joining membership. Please pray that the Lord will help us to be faithful stewards of these souls.

In Christ,
Barnabas Olare

September 2025

[This is from Ibrahim Charo, pastor of Utakaso Bible Church in Mishomoroni, Mombasa]

Shalom! The month of September has been somehow a busy month as the WTC (Wisdom Training Centre) classes started in that month. From 15/09/2025 to 18/09/2025, I was teaching WTC class at Madzimhani in Mariakani within Kilifi county where we have 21 students. I was teaching unit 'A', Are you a Christian? In this unit, we seek to prove from the scriptures and show it to the students by explaining it clearly why we need to be saved and how we are saved. At the same time refuting the wrong ways that has made salvation so cheap; e.g. the sinners' prayer among others. This unit brings to the students the saving gospel in its reality. And almost all of them at the end agree that they are not saved.

And on 22/09/2025 to 25/09/2025 I was in Chamari in Malindi, Magarini sub-county still in Kilifi county teaching the same unit. There I have 35 students, most of the residents there are 'Wartha' they are Cushites, their language is somehow related to the Somalis, but this ones are hunters and gatherers. What I noticed there is that place is totally dark, yes there are few buildings called churches but they go to church yet following their traditions. I thank God for giving me an opportunity to preach to them the Gospel. Therefore, kindly remember praying for the work of WTC along side coast region, that it will please God to save His people whom He gave them an opportunity to sit under the preaching of His word.

At Utakaso Bible Church, we thank God for building His Church, right now those who attend regularly are like 30 people. Among them 13 were baptised, and 6 are awaiting interviews. We do our evangelising on Fridays and we thank God, for through the evangelising, we receive visitors though not every Lord's day. But whenever we have visitors, I personally meet with them after the service with an aim to see where they have been challenged, or where they have not understood and answer if they have questions. But the foremost reason for meeting them is expound the Gospel to them again and again in a way that even if they will not come back, they may have heard the Gospel that saves. I always appreciate you for your advice that I should not be amazed if troubles arise, but to be steadfast, patient and faithful to my Lord. I'm eager longing for the return of my Lord and Master. Be praying for us ever.