Greetings
Connexional Coordinator and Connextional Executive
Members of CE and Bishop Present here
Connexional Youth Exco
Delegates to the 2011 CYC
Colleagues in the Ministry
Observers of the CYC

Greetings
Friends, greetings in the wonderful name of our Lord and Savior
Jesus Christ. It is indeed an honor and privilege to be standing here
this morning, for that, I thank God. I have been invited to
participate in the CYC by facilitating two Bible studies, this morning
and tomorrow morning. Connexional Coordinator sir, Thank you for
the invite. I am aware sir that my time to be called YOUTH is ticking
faster than I ever imagined, the sad part is I can feel the shift of
paradigms in me. So sir, I come to this gathering conscious of the
fact that, indeed I am product of this gathering. I am shaped and
formed by the Youth Movement, for that I thank the Youth
Movement, especially the Wesley Guild that has become a fountain
of life for many of us. Therefore sir, my contribution here is a
minute contribution compared to what this movement has done to
me. I come like a Legend of the Bible tells a story of an old man
who every morning will take his grandchild and two liter bottle of
water to go and water a huge Sycamore tree...

Introduction
This year sir I had an opportunity to facilitate Bible studies outside
of my circuit, this is my third invitation in 2011. In April I was in
Mafikeng invited by the Limpopo YMG to conduct a Bible in their
District Convention, in May I was in Kuruman invited by Soldiers of
the Cross of the UCCSA to Facilitate a Bible Study there, and now I
am here Sir. There are two common denominators in all these
three gatherings, one is that, I used the Bible to conduct a bible Study and two is there were Elections, and I gathered there are elections here. Ask me how do I know, I can see it in your eyes. The good thing is that in all these elections, I had no interest; I was just a resource person, like I am here.

I was given the Theme of this CYC as **Initiating a Purpose Driven Change**, immediately as I saw the theme as it is, I immediately put on my missional glasses. I will not unpack the Theme sir, since that was not part of my brief, I will simply look at the theme from two biblical texts. Through the bible studies, I will make two submissions sir in contributing towards initiating a purpose driven CHANGE. My first submission today is titled, The Will to rise and tomorrow we will look at Perspective/ Model of a Purpose driven Church. Let us read the word of God as it is written in the Gospel of **Luke 8: 40-56**

Friends, I am not going to bore you with Historical Critical Methods of reading text and Authorship jargon but I have to read Luke as a prelude to my two day Bible Study because, Luke puts a solid foundation for me for a clear purpose of initiating a Purpose Driven Change, in Luke 4: 18

Jesus declares a purpose driven Change, and he says, The Spirit of the Lord is upon me He has anointed me to preach Good news to the Poor He has send me to proclaim freedom to the prisoners And recovery of sight to the Blind To release the oppressed To proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.

This for me Friends, it’s a clear intention to radicalize an institution based Church and initiate a purpose driven Change, but for us to achieve this, I submit, we need the courage but above all we need the WILL to RISE. Friends Life is an activity of falling and rising. Everyone at some stage falls and not everyone rises. Those who rise have got one thing in common, The Will. They say Where there is a Will there a Way.

What is a WILL: Faculty (Sense, power; ability) of conscious and deliberate choice of action; an instance of asserting a choice. The Text
This scene is preceded by episode of the Gerasene demoniac in Luke 8:26-39 and following this story is Jesus sending the disciples to Go, Preach the Good news and Heal Luke 9:1-6.

Jesus is interacting with a number of Characters.

- The Crowd: Faceless and nameless but excited to see Jesus Christ
- Jairus: Concerned Father, concerned about his sick daughter, the daughter is not only sick but she is dying
- The mourning and later laughing crowd at Jairus house
- The Mother of the Child See how Jairus turned from leader of the synagogue to the father of the Child.
- Peter and the other disciples
- Messenger
- The Child raised to life
- The Woman with a flow of Blood

In this reflection Friends, we shall seek to savor the story in itself and to draw meaning for ourselves from the interactions between Jesus and these characters.

Luke introduces Jesus as coming from Geresane, where he was urged by the inhabitants to leave their country as a result of healing a demon possessed man, then immediately Jesus encounters a crowd. This is a nameless, faceless Crowd, they are happy to see Jesus. Jesus moves from a state of rejection to a state of acceptance, in fact Luke says, the Crowd has been waiting for Jesus. Tomorrow I will spend some time on the Waiting as Spirituality. The Interaction of Jesus and these Crowd is impersonal

During and The interaction with the nameless faceless crowd emerges man called Jairus

- Jairus has got a problem; he is a Father with a concrete and urgent need.
- Luke does not only give us his Name, he gives us his position in Society
- He is a Key person in the Community, A ruler of the Synagogue
- His daughter is Sick, not only sick but dying, this is a serious, genuine and a concrete Concern
- It is serious because Jairus come and fall on the feet of Jesus
- It is unlikely that the Person of his position and power will come publicly and kneel on the feet of an itinerant Preacher
- He plea gets an immediate response and Jesus takes a Journey to Jairus house.
- On his way, there comes another Character in dire need
  - A nameless Woman
  - She suffering from hemorrhage
  - Her Problem is twelve years Old
  - She has tried every doctor, but she could not get help.
- But, That is not her only Problem, Jairus Approached Jesus from the Front and fell on his feet. Vs 41,This nameless Woman comes from behind, Because in terms of Leviticus 15:25-30, a woman with a flow of Blood was a source uncleanliness and contamination
- Also that in Jewish society it was considered indecent to for a woman to speak publicly with a man, let alone touch him
  These did not deter from her determination to get healing, this did not deter her from her intention to initiate a Purpose driven Change. But how does this woman

1. Reason

This woman reasons with herself, she says it is now or never. Healing has to happen here and now, this situation will change, no one will do it but me.

She says: if a woman with the flow of blood is unclean, and everything she touches is unclean, it means uncleanliness goes beyond bodily touch therefore anything that touches a holy person has sanctifying power. She then says to herself, all I need is to touch his garment, in fact Mark 5:28 says …because she THOUGHT… the only way we are going to Initiate a purpose driven Change is mastering the process of THINKING and REASON. In Philosophy, they say, reason, is a means by which thinking comes
from one idea to a related idea. But more specifically, it is the way rational beings propose and consider explanations concerning cause and effect. The ways in which human beings reason through an argument are the subject of inquiries in the field of logic. Albert Einstein asserts that the problems of today cannot be resolved by the same mentality that created them. The problems of Power, self-centeredness, individualism, To shift paradigms, we need original ideas. Paul urges the Romans not to conform to the Standard of the world but to be transformed by the renewal of the mind

2. Action

- This woman does not only think about touching Jesus, she actually acts on her thoughts. Sometimes we have nice ideas, Fruit Juice Phenomenon. Nice Talk, Vido calls it STT, Smart Talk Trap
- She maneuvers her way through the Crowd (Opposition, Systems, Processes and Procedure, Structures)
- She took a step towards Jesus (Participatory Healing) Prodigal Son Luke 15, Lazarus John 11 : 43, Bethsaida John 5 : 8, Bartimiuas Mark 10

3. Purpose: Who Touched Me?

- He action Produced results, Jesus asked Who has TOUCHED Me. Peter Says: Be reasonable, What do you expect? Don’t be impossible
- But Jesus says, this is a different touch. It’s not an impersonal touch
- It’s not an Unintentional
- It’s not Crowd conditioned touch
- Deliberate, meaningful, prayerful, personal purposeful touch driven by will power to Change. We need Purpose to achieve greatness.

4. Lastly, Be careful of the Messengers. Verse 49. Your daughter is dead; do not trouble the teacher anymore
- Nameless
• Genderless
• With Bad news
• Words of discouragement

Who is your messenger? Who kills your will, your purpose?

But can you hear Jesus saying, Do not fear just believe

Fear vs faith

Fear: alarm caused by impending danger

• Easy to confuse
• Kills hope
• Fear takes away capacity
• Fear plants doubt
• Fear is terminal
• People who fear complain about everything
• Fearful people are not welcoming to anything not tested

But Faith is strong unshakable believe in something especially without prove or evidence, the Hebrew writer defines faith as the substance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

• Faith creates somebodies out of nobodies
• Faith creates Possibilities out of Impossibilities.
• When the messengers say, No! Faith says, Yes!
• Faith makes crocked way to be straight
• Faith brings hope in a hopeless situation
• When the world says, You Can’t, You say I Can, because I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Thank you!