

(South Africa) Living Water: 2025 Easter Conference Report (By Abia Kganane)

The Pretoria UBF Easter Conference took place over the weekend of April 11-13, 2025, with the conference title “Living Water.” As we usually do, we began preparations for the conference five weeks prior to the event. We approached the planning with vigilance, holding prayer sessions twice a week to seek guidance and protection from the schemes of the evil one. Each prayer session included a brief message from the local shepherds. Additionally, in the week leading up to the conference, the shepherds engaged in prayer and fasting.

God blessed our conference abundantly, which was attended by 109 people: 79 adults, 11 Teenage Bible Fellowship members (ages 12-17), nine Children Bible Fellowship members, and 11 Babies Bible Fellowship members (ages 0-6). Missionary Joshua Suh prepared the question papers for the three main studies, led the Teenage Bible Fellowship, and assisted the messengers with the final preparation of their messages. Shepherdess Mpho and Missionary Petra Jeon cared for the Babies and Children Bible Fellowships, aided by three nannies.

Three messengers delivered the conference messages. On the evening of the first day (Friday) of the conference, after supper, we had a group Bible study on John 3:1-21. Following this, we heard a message from Shepherd Acene titled ‘Are You Born Again.’ Through this passage, we learned that no one can see the Kingdom of God unless he is born again. Therefore, without being born again, we cannot experience God’s blessings.

On the second day (Saturday), we gathered in our Bible study groups for a study on John 4:1-30. Following that, we listened to a message from Brother Archie titled ‘Living Water.’ In this passage, we learned that the things of this world cannot quench our thirst. The more we drink from them, the more we become lost, drift away from the Lord, and eventually become strangers to both our Lord and the society we live in. However, when we drink from the living water Jesus offers, we will never thirst again. In the evening, we shared our testimonies, and Missionary James Lee presented a report on his short mission to Madagascar. Saturday evening concluded with a talent show featuring our members.

On the last day (Sunday), we gathered once more in our Bible study groups to study Exodus 16:1-36. Afterwards, we listened to a message from Shepherd Brian titled ‘Daily Bread

Training.’ In this passage, we learned that God taught the Israelites to rely on Him daily for their provisions and to follow His instructions. In the same way, we must train ourselves to trust and depend on God daily while listening obediently to His Word.

Subsequently, Sister Tumishang Matsimela shared her life testimony and was appointed as the shepherdess for campus students. She had been visiting the UBF ministry since 2006 but did not become a member until about two years ago. She is a sister to Shepherdess Midah and a mother to Shepherdess Lebo. When she accepted the role of campus shepherd, we could only praise God, who continues to respond to our prayers to raise 40 campus shepherds by 2030. By faith, we believe that by the end of this year, we will have raised more shepherds as per our prayer requests.

Prayer topics:

1. Books of Exodus
2. One or more shepherds by the end of this year
3. To raise 40 shepherds by 2030
4. Bible Africa: Specifically, to establish chapters in Mozambique, Swaziland, and Madagascar.

