

ANCCI UNIVERSITY
PT 310 - ORPHANS MINISTRY COURSE

RATIONALE

The course on orphans' ministry is of great importance since Africa is having the unprecedented number of orphans in the world caused by high rate of death of parents due to HIV/AIDS, genocide, massacres, political instigated killings, refugees , internally displaced persons(IDPS) and road carnage.

This as a result has caused African migration, women and children human trafficking and hence created abuses such as child labor, prostitution, soldier and other forms of abuse like slavery.

The course would help students to create passion, awareness sensitize and to mobilize local churches and extended families of the widows and bodies that are involved in this ministry and see the needs and create opportunities to do orphans ministry.

This would help leaders redeem and develop orphans future serve generations to come in both church and society by making them productive.

OBJECTIVE

The student will discover and determine the potentiality/talents, resources they have that are God given that they can channel through various modes of services to the orphans.

The course will help the students to acquire skills to establish structures to do orphan ministries. To encourage the orphans to break completely with their past experiences and help them develop self-reliant people through training.

STRATEGY

The candidates are expected to deal at the beginning of the course with some background information regarding mourning such as the cause of death of the parent(s), bereavement period experiences, burial arrangements (rites), adjustment process and settlement in a home or adoption.

1. WHAT ARE CAUSES OF ORPHANS

In this section the candidates will look at various causes of orphans both local and international. This will enable the students to gain knowledge of the orphans and what they go through before they settle in the life of orphanage. This will help the student to understand the trauma the orphans go through and this will help to see the need of the orphans. The study will not go into depth of the causes but will only consider the areas that cause the orphans.

There have been cases of HIV /AIDS that have killed both parents in many communities. This has been the major cause of orphans.

Political instigated killings caused refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPS) and migrations, intertribal/ racial war such as cattle rustling / religious conflicts and border dispute cause wars, Massacre, Genocide etc.

Natural calamities include such as earth quakes, floods, drought, famine, and wild fires.

2. WHAT THE BIBLE TEACHES ABOUT ORPHANS

The students will walk through the Bible passages that are related to orphans in both Old and New Testaments and draw lessons on what God says about the orphans and how the people of that time dealt with the problem of orphans.

The Books of Exodus and Deuteronomy record what the law says about the fate of the orphans and the widows, Levites and the aliens in the midst of the Hebrews, their welfare, justice, and protection were to be provided. On the law concerning civil and religious obligations it protects the orphans from any afflictions (Exodus 22:22).

Besides, executing Justice, food and clothing should be provided for them (Deutr.10:18). On their rights they had right in sharing in the annual feasts (Deutr. 16:14) and in tithing, they had a portion of tithes of crop set side for them (Deutr. 26:12). They had also right in inheritance (Deutr.16:11).

We find that the law regarding the orphans was not followed because we find in the books of psalms, Job, and prophets they are accusations and laments because the orphans are denied their rights and are oppressed. Prophet Ezekiel out cries the oppression of the fatherless and the widow (Ezek. 22:7). Justice has been withheld from them. Their plight is pitiable and they have been robbed and killed according to the book Job (Job 24: 3, 9) . In the New Testament, the gospel of John (14:8) Jesus speaks of not leaving his disciples as orphans and praised the giving of the widow in St. Mark gospel (Mark 12: 42-44). James says the pure and undefiled religion is look after the widows and orphans. This is practical and practicing Christianity which should be the emphasis of Christian teaching. The students are expected to do more research to show how the bible is the basis of our teaching and practicing what we belief. The orphans' fate is part of our gospel that should not be neglected.

3. SUPPORTING THE ORPHANS.

This will be the heart of the course that will equip the students with the skills that one needs to deal with the ministry of orphans such as

- Supporting and caring of orphans: The students will do reading of ways and means to support the orphans. This will include books, articles and internet search on what others have done and said about the support and caring of orphans.
- Adoption in both domestic and international. Adoption as one way to do orphans ministry will include many things like culture, language location Laws regarding adoption in respective countries and international. Problems regarding blending an orphan in a family.
- Giving foster and adoption parent's care: This will include whether the sponsor will sponsor an orphan in the orphanage, or joining a family becoming part of the family .Issues regarding relationships with sponsor and the support commitment they make.
- Physical basic needs such as food, shelter, and fund raising: This will involve the partnership with donor agents and how the support of the orphans will be channeled to the children homes intuitions and accountability and transparency will be provided.
- Financial support that will include sponsorship, fund raising, partnership and donations. This will include forms of making of appeals for support.
- Establishment of Leadership structures: It will involve making structures to help in every day running of the ministry which includes personnel and the machinery used. The pastoral team of elders, ministers and volunteers.
- Education will include seminar and workshops for creating awareness and recruitments of the personnel and leadership. It will include using education tools to reach the churches, communities and the personnel.
- Special prayers that will include intercessory, appeals, supplications. Christians will be called to organize prayers for the ministry.
- Orphans evangelism: Students will be required to make a well detailed evangelism schedule to the orphans in foster family or an orphanage.
- Rights of children: both locally and international they are laws protecting children, such as the United national child declaration.
- Marriage and Friendship: Issues regarding friendship relationship that will help the orphans to live harmoniously or that might lead to marriage. The marriage issues regarding preparation and how to maintain it will be dealt with.

4. WAYS AND MEANS TO CURB CREATION OF ORPHANS

This will involve areas of future of humanity how some global international and local causes could be tackled and how suggestions and solutions could be offered through international organization that foster peace such as

- The United Nations children Department
- The department of refugees and immigrants Human rights agitators for the abuses of children
- World council of churches Department that deals with refugees and migration
- All African conference of churches: This is sister organization of WCC in African.
- The African union that brings African nations and urges them to propagate democratic rule and governance. Africa has produced the greater number of orphans through AIDS/HIV and political upheavals.
 - The students will be expected to be conversant with global and local concern groups of orphans and how the joint efforts at international and local levels could be handled.

EVALUATION.

The instructor will use various tools to grading papers such as,

- a) Study case/ research paper

The students will write a paper on a case study on living case or do some researches of a family that was orphaned or a case that produced orphans such as a Massacre and genocide.

In the paper the candidate needs to show what the causes were, how the situation was arrested and how the orphans were taken care of.

Or a student can write on how to start an orphanage or consider how the candidate's peoples' community used to deal with the problem of orphans.

The size of paper will be 15-20- pages double spaced. The recommended books will be suggested and more details given when a student submits the topic for approval.

- b) There will be written examination which the faculty will give the style the exam will take at the end of the course. More details on examination preparation and format will be provided.

- c) Hours spent in study and preparation of assignments will be considered when grading the papers.

- d) Questions and answers will be given on line or on telephone call.

TEXT BOOK

Kirwen C. Michael, *African widows*. (Available at Amazon.com) . **RECOMMENDED** 1.Derek Prince, *The poor and oppressed (orphans and widows*.

2. Kathe Wunneberg, *Grieving the loss of beloved one*. 3 Lopata Helena Znanioka. *The Current widowhood, Myths& realities* 4 Martin M. Auz, *Handbook of those who Grief, (What you should know and what you*

can do during the times of loss)

5. Mary Reese Ellen, *Moving the overcoming the crisis of widowhood*.

GRADING SCALES All nations Anglican Seminary system of grading will be employed.