CRE FORM FOUR NOTES

COMTEMPORARY CHRISTIAN LIVING

Introduction in Christian Ethics Morals

Meaning of Christian Ethics

- The term ethics is derived from a Greek term Ethike which means morals. Ethics are moral principles that govern human relationships. The behavior of one person affects the life of another.
- Christian ethics refers to the mode of behavior expected of Christians.
- Christian principles and values are used to study human conduct.
- Christian ethics are necessary in guiding ones actions in the modern dynamic and challenging world so as to make sound judgement.

The basis of Christian ethics

Christian ethics are derived from the following sources.

(a) The Old Testament.
   - In the creation stories, God commanded human beings to obey him and have self-control. Disobedience would result in punishment.
   - The Ten Commandments guided the Israelite in their behavior towards God and fellow human beings.
   - Christians as the new Israel, have to love God and their neighbour.

(b) The New Testament
   - John the Baptist’s teachings on charity, honesty and justice give the standard of living to Christians.
   - From the teachings of Jesus, Christians learn about the principles of love for God and their neighbour, love of the enemy, being concerned for one another and forgiving each other.
   - The Holy Spirit guides and counsels Christians to make ethical judgement.
   - The early Church leaders like Paul and Peter advised believers on how they should behave ethically on different issues.

(c) Church Laws
   - Different churches have interpreted the scriptures and come up with different principles that govern the ethical behavior for their members.
   - These guidelines are set by church leaders in their governing councils.

(d) Use of Natural Law
   - Human beings have the ability to judge an action as being good or bad. Christians believe that this ability was given to them by God at creation. They have to make the right decisions on various matters of life.

(e) Use of Conscience
   - Conscience is the mind making practical judgement on one’s actions as to whether they are right or wrong, good or bad. However the judgement may be subjective.
(f) Use of Knowledge and Free will
- An action is judged as ethically right or wrong depending on if one had full knowledge of it, its aims or circumstances under which it occurred.
- There should be freedom to perform the act or not to perform it. However this mode of judgment on ethical issues may be hampered by ignorance, strong emotions or mental illness.

(g) Use of Compatible Traditional African Values
Both Christianity and African religion have some similar moral values. These values have been incorporated in Christian ethics and can be used to make moral judgment.

(h) Use of Secular Laws
The laws governing any society such as state laws, form a basis of Christian ethics. It is a divine requirement that Christians should obey the laws of the Country. This helps one to borrow applicable ethical values that can promote the wellbeing of a Christian

**FORM 4 QUESTIONS**

Explain the meaning of Christian’s ethics

1. Explain the basis of Christian ethics
2. State the role of professional ethics in a work place.
CHRISTIAN VIRTUES/MORAL VALUES THAT CHRISTIANS SHOULD DEMONSTRATE/VALUES THAT ENHANCE THE CREATION OF A JUST SOCIETY

These Christian virtues were taught by Paul in Galatians 5:22-23.

1. **Love  1 Corinthians 13: 4-7**
   This is the kind of love that Jesus offered to human kind. It’s agape love which is selfless and unconditional.
   - We should love all the people regardless of their social status, ethnicity, race, gender and disability.
   - It should be sacrificial and self-giving i.e. love God, neighbors, parents etc.
2. **Joy**
   It’s the state of great inner happiness even in the face of difficulty Christians should be sources of happiness.
3. **Peace**
   Being in a state of order and balance socially and emotionally, Christians should create and maintain peace with others.
4. **Patience**
   It enables one to wait calmly for a long time. It’s related to persistence, perseverance and enduring. Jesus taught mainly on persistence and perseverance.
5. **Kindness**
   Its caring and concern about the feelings of others. Its related virtues are compassion and mercifulness.
6. **Goodness**
   Being likeable, pleasant and humble
7. **Faithfulness**
   Being true to God. A faithful person believes and trust in God and doesn’t compromise his faith in God.
8. **Gentleness/humility/meekness**
   Not boasting about one’s strength and achievement but instead assuming a lowly status before God. It’s associated with humility/meekness.
9. **Self-control**
   Being able to restrain oneself not to over –react about something. It’s maintain calmness even in desperate situations. Self-control is important in preventing violence, irresponsible sexual behavior and drug abuse.
10. **Honesty/Reliability/Faithfulness**
    Being trustworthy/truthful. Helps to prevent corruption theft and cheating.
11. **Fairness/justice**
    - Treating everybody equally and with dignity
    - Justice means giving right judgment /punishment when someone wrongs you.
    - Christians are expected to show justice/fair dealing to all people.
    - They can promote justice by carrying out their duties honestly and faithfully and with dedication.
12. **Respect**
• Treating others with honour while appreciating their authority.
• Christians are to show respect to fellow Christians and to all people they interact with, respect themselves, their work with diligence, integrity and loyalty, and reduce corruption.

13. Chastity
• Maintaining sexual purity. It helps to prevent sexual evils like fornication, homosexuality and prostitution.
• A sexual evil lowers self-esteem and dignity and alienates one from God.

14. Perseverance/Persistence
• To show determination and endurance in pursuing a good goal.
• A person does not give up however challenging the situation or the task may be.

QUESTIONS
1. Outline ways in which the problem of stress can be dealt with in society.
2. List reasons why Christians are not able to keep the law of God
3. Identify six reasons why people are attracted to join churches today.
4. Explain the basis of Christian’s ethics
5. In what seven ways in Christians help to reduce human suffering?
6. How can Christians evade God’s judgment today?
7. How do Christians practice hypocrisy today?
8. Explain the importance of professional ethics
9. Explain the social problems facing the society today
10. Identify the main sources of Christians ethics
CHRISTIAN APPROACHES TO HUMAN SEXUALITY

Definition

- Sexuality is the aspect of either being male or female.
- Human sexuality refers to the total make of a person.
- Refers to all activities, relationships, attitudes and emotions that are male or female, girl or boy, man or woman.
- Sex is an integral part of human’s sexuality.
- Biologically both males and females are different because of the role they play in reproducing life.
- As persons they are equal because they have the same common origin and destiny and this explains why each one of them should respect the other.

Traditional African Understand of 5 ways of sexuality

- It’s viewed as sacred because of its power to transmit life.
- Sex was allowed only in marriage. It’s a taboo to engage in sex matters freely or carelessly.
- Virginity is highly valued and brings honour to the family.
- Sexual offences such as fornication, incest, homosexuality, adultery, bestiality are severely punished.

- The purpose of human sexuality was for
  1. Procreation
  2. Sealing rituals
  3. Religious significance
  4. Satisfaction of the man
  5. To show hospitality to guests
- Prostitution was unheard-off in Traditional African Community.
- Children are taught sex education by their parents.
- Young people are prepared for adult life within the context of gender and age group.
- During initiation the initiates are given vigorous sex education on matters such as
  1. Sex and procreation
  2. The mystery of manhood and womanhood.
  3. Their roles such as husbands and wives and mothers and fathers.
- Boys and girls are not allowed to mix freely without supervision by elders.
- There is division of labour based on age, sex and status.
- A woman is subordinate to the man but less her established rights as a wife and mother.
- Sexual intimacy is only allowed in the context of marriage.
- Sexual offenders were punished by:
  1. Stoning
  2. Flocking
  3. Paying a fine
4. A young girl being forced to marry an old man if she became pregnant.
5. Being ridiculed and humiliated in public.
6. Being chased from the community/excommunicated

- There was various sexual taboos and regulations that helps to control sexual behavior such as;
  1. Not showing their private parts.
  2. Not entering parent’s bedroom
  3. Girls not sleeping with boys in the same bedrooms.
  4. Not having sex before marriage.
  5. Not using vulgar language

**Christian Teachings on Human Sexuality**

- It’s derived from the Bible God gave man the responsibility to be fruitful and multiply. Genesis 1:29.
- Human sexuality is a sacred and a gift from God.
- The purpose of marriage was for procreation and companionships, to deepen the relationship between the spouses.
- It is meant for the survival of human race.
- Human beings are created in the image of God.
- Both men and women are equal in God’s eyes and none is subordinate to the other.
- The church teaches that young people to abstain from sex before marriage. Chastity is highly encouraged thus virginity is highly honoured.
- Sex should only be used in the context of marriage as an expression of permanent, stable and exclusive relationship between married couples.
- Christians teach that irresponsible sexual behavior is harmful to the body and can lead to.
  - (a) Family break-ups.
  - (b) Bring diseases such as AIDS and STI.
  - (c) Can cause distress and disagreements.
  - (d) Can lead to abortion.

- In the Old Testament the law forbids lesbianism, incest, adultery, homosexuality, bestiality and sodomy.
- A New Testament St. Paul teaches that husbands and wives should respect one another. They should give to each other mutual love.
- The body should be kept holy as it’s the temple of the Holy Spirit.
TRADITIONAL AFRICAN PRACTICES RELATED TO MALE AND FEMALE RELATIONSHIPS AT VARIOUS LEVELS.

- Gender differences were evident right from the time of birth.
- When a baby was born, the sex of the child was announced differently. Four ululations for a boy and 3 for a girl when born.
- Girls did chores such as fetching water, firewood, cooking while boys were grazing, fencing, flashing.
- Girls were socialized on moral values, duties and good conduct by their mothers, aunt, grandmothers while boys were taught by their male relatives.
- Young children related freely under the guidance of their mothers.

(b) During Adolescence

- Not allowed to interact freely without supervision.
- Taught sex education separately by their grandparents.
- Boys slept in their own huts while girls slept in their grandmothers’ house.
- Girls who were too close to boys were ridiculed and labelled as cheap/or lose morals.
- Girls were initiated separately from the boys but both of them were introduced to adult life.
- Boys and girls engaged in different economic activities.
- Rules, regulations and taboos were given to regulate male and female relationship.
- Early marriages arranged after initiation to reduce pre-marital sex.

(c) Marriage and adulthood

- Male and female relate as husband and wife and free to have sex and produce children.
- Wives were subordinate to their husband and all adult male in the community.
- The women had their own roles while men also had their roles.
- Men made decisions in their own family and community.
- If one fails to maintain and uphold female and male relationship result in payment of heavy fines and punishment.

Christian teachings on male and female relationship at various levels

- God created man and woman in his own image and likeness Gen. 1:27. What God created was good.
- Christian views on sex and sexuality are derived from the Bible.
- The main function in male and female relationship is for procreation Gen 1:28
- They both have a distinct role of passing on the gift of life to the next generation.
- The union of male and female is consummated in marriages and is supposed to be a lifelong relationship.
- Both the man and woman are complementary to each other and to provide companionship for each other.
• They are both equal before God and should live in love and harmony.
• Their relationship should be characterized by affection, tenderness, respect and concern for one another.
• Husband and wives should abstain from sex until marriage.
• Male and female relationship in marriage should be governed by love and faithfulness.
• In the Old Testament, the Law of Moses provided regulations on how men and women were to promote sexuality. The law forbids lesbianism, incest, adultery, homosexuality and sodomy.
• In the New Testament St Paul teaches Christians on how to relate sexually.
  1. Husband and wife should respect one another and give each other in mutual love. 1st Corinthians 7:4.
  2. The body is not to be misused in immoral sexual practice but should be kept holy as it’s the temple of the Holy Spirit. 1st Corinth.
  3. The church teaches that young people should abstain from sex before marriage. Chastity is encouraged and virginity is highly valued.
  4. Christians teach that men and women are equal in the eyes of God and equally share God’s salvation.

Christian teaching on responsible sexual behavior

• Avoid physical conduct such as kissing and hugging.
• Avoid conversations on topics that are sexually suggestive
• Dwell on positive thoughts.
• Avoid meeting in lonely isolated places.
• Avoid social functions such as discos and parties that may create room for sexual abuse.
• Avoid visiting each other frequently.
• Avoid pornographic literature, films and music.
• Seek guidance from Christian leaders and counselors in their relationship.
• Pray God for guidance
• The married are encouraged to uphold moral sexual behavior
• The relationship between husband and wife is of respect, love, faithfulness, care, mercy, submission, tolerance and forgiveness of one another.

Christian teaching on irresponsible sexual behavior and its effect

• Irresponsible sexual behavior refers to the perversion, misuse and abuse of sex e.g. adultery, prostitution, homosexuality, incest, sodomy, rape, fornication, concubinage, trial marriage.
• It has been in the Old Testament, New Testament, and Traditional African Communities, in Christianity and in the Contemporary society.
• It has effects on the individual, on the family and entire society.

1. Incest
   • Sexual intercourse between people who are closely related e.g. brother and sister.
- It’s condemned in the Bible
- It was a serious offence punishable by death.
- Paul also condemned marriage between a man and his stepmother.
- The offender was to be ex-communicated completely from the church.

Why incest is condemned by both T.A.C. and Christianity teachings.

1. It’s against God’s intended purpose for sex
2. It’s morally wrong
3. In T.A.C the union caused ritual uncleanness.
4. The church condemns incest as an act sexual perversion.

Effects

- Undermines a healthy relationship between members of a family
- It brings guilt and shame between the parties involved.
- Destroy relationship within the family and leads to divorce.
- It destroys the dignity, self-respect and self-esteem of victims.
- Boys and girls who are abused may never establish a health relationship with members of the opposite sex.
- May lead to victims conducting STIs.
- May lead to separation and divorce of parents if father commits incest with his daughter.
- May lead to physical body touch.
- May lead to failure and death of victims.

2. Rape

- Form of sexual violence
- Act of foreign another person to have sexual intercourse without his/her consent.
- It’s a crime that is committed on women, girls, children, boys and even men,
- It’s an expression of hated towards the victims such as women more than expression of sexual drive.
- It dehumanizes the victim.
- It’s also weapon of destruction and humiliation of women especially when solders rape women in conflict situation,
- Some rapists are insane especially those who rape their children.
- In A.T.S rapists were punished by death.
- In Kenya, rape is recognized as crime in section 140 on the penal code. Punishment is maximum imprisonment of 20 years with hard labour, with or without corporal punishment.

Effects of Rape
• Leads to physical injuries due to use of physical violence
• May lead to contracting STIs, HIV/AIDS.
• Victims are embarrassed, humiliated and may suffer from guilt and shame and withdraw from society.
• They result to unwanted pregnancy and abortion.
• Leads to hatred between families of the perpetrator and that of the victim.
• May lead to death of the offender through vengeance.
• Leads to self-pity, depression and sometimes suicides.
• Leads to post-traumatic stress disorder such as nightmares and fear.

How the Church can help curb rape cases

• Promoting policies that provide adequate protection to women and girls
• Preaching about equality in the dignity of men and women.
• Providing counseling services to rapists with the aim of rehabilitating them,
• Advocating for laws which protect vulnerable members in society.
• Reporting rapists to lawful authority.
• Providing counseling services and medical support to victims of rape.
• Educating society on the precautions, to be taken to minimizes chances of rape.
  Note today organizations that promote integrity of women and girls e.g. Coalition on Violence against Women (COVAW) create awareness on the evil of rape and its effects on the victim in society.
  -They also provide counseling and medical services to the victims of rape and their families.
• The churches in Kenya have launched campaigns towards prevention of rape, crimes and help victims.

3. Fornication

• This is sexual intercourse between unmarried people
• Fornication is condemned in the Bible because it defiles the body of the Christian which is the temple of the Holy Spirit.
• The young people may engage in fornication for the following reasons;
  • Human weakness - Some people are morally weak and are not able to resist sexual temptations.
  • Sexual curiosity - To have an experience, to know what it is like.
  • Proving manhood - A boy may engage in sex to prove to himself or to his girlfriend that he is not impotent.
  • Testing fertility - A man may want to make sure that his future partner will be able to have children before he marries her.
  • Fear of being jilted - A girl may consent to pre-marital sex because her boyfriend threatens to have her if she does not.
  • Poverty - Lack of basic needs like food, clothing and cosmetics may lead to some girls turning to prostitution.
  • Availability of contraceptives – Some young people engage in pre-marital sex without any fear of pregnancy because of the easy access to contraceptives.
Peer pressure – bad company runs good morals. Some youth engage in pre-marital sex due to peer pressure in order to be accepted in a group.

Influence from both print and electronic media – There are plenty of pornographic literature, videos, film, internet and erotic music which promote promiscuity.

Frustration – Some youth who may be frustrated due to certain factor like poor performance in school, family problems, low self-esteem and poverty may seek consolation in sex among other things.

Unemployment – Many school leavers and college leavers may be lured into sex with promise of jobs and other favours from their prospective employers.

Decline in traditions – Decline in traditional African values has led to the creation of a permissive society.

Drug and alcohol – Alcohol and drugs weaken moral resistance and power of judgment. This may lead to being taken advantage of sexuality.

Effects of fornication

Births of children out of wedlock.
Such children may not be cared for sufficiently in terms of food, clothing, love, security of a father and mother.

Feeling of hurt.
Fornication leads to hurt feelings of the girl, boy, their parents and even the child.

Feeling of distrust
Own who has been involved in pre-marital sex may not be trusted by the failure partner-fear that a person may not be faithful in marriage.

Guilt feelings
Those who engage in pre-marital sex experience feelings of guilt and fear of being found out and getting pregnant. Some even commit suicide due to feeling of regret and rejection.

Contracting HIV/AIDS and STIs
This leads to damaging of the reproductive organs and possibly death.

Loss of Self-respect
A young person who habitually engages in fornication loses his/her self-respect, self-esteem and dignity.

Early and forced marriage
Some parents force their daughters who get pregnant while in school to marry those responsible for the pregnancy.

4. Adultery

Adultery is illicit intercourse between a man and a woman who is married with someone older than his/her marriage partner. Adultery is forbidden in the Bible and punishable by death.

Jesus taught that even a lustful look at someone is adultery.

The church condemns adultery as sin against God’s purpose for sex.

Adultery is a betrayal of the marriage laws.
In TAC different forms of punishments were administered to the offenders e.g.
- Whipped especially adulterous men
- Asked to pay compensation to the offended family
- Divorced especially the adulterous wife.
- Cursed and excommunicated from the community
- Lose of respect and leadership position in society e.g. if he was an elder.
- Have part of his/her body mutilated.
- Stoned to death
- Sent back to her parents for re-election on importance of faithfulness in marriage

**Effects of Adultery**

- It may lead to unplanned pregnancy and abortion
- Contracting of STIs and HIV/AIDS.
- Bitterness, aggression, violence and fights in the family
- Feelings of betrayal, suspicious mistrust and suffering to all members of the family.
- Separation and divorce
- Long legal tussles over children and property.
- Murder through vengeance
- Loss of respect and lowering of one’s dignity
- Loss of a job due to sex scandals

5. **Prostitution /Commercial sex with**

- Prostitution is the offering of one’s body for sexual purposes in return for money and other favours.
- The practice was unheard of in TAC but was started during colonial times.

**Causes of Prostitution**

- Poverty and unemployment
- Uncontrolled sexual desires
- Influence of bad company
- Pornography
- Poor family background
- Desire for pompous life and luxuries
- Poor role models
- When married men move to towns leaving their wives in the rural areas, they turn to prostitution as away of fulfilling their sexual desire.

**Effects of prostitution**

- The union with a prostitute has no lasting satisfaction and lacks the emotional, mental psychological and spiritual dimensions of a sexual union within marriage.
- It undermines the real purpose of sex which is for mutual love and companionship and procreation.
The woman prostitute has limited period of attraction. She becomes too old to continue with the acts or prostitution.

- It lowers ones dignity and social status.
- It encourages the spread of STIs and HIV/AIDs.
- Some young girls drop out of school in order to prostitute and earn a living.
- Prostitution is the main factor in the breaking up of family units.
- Prostitution leads to misuse of money and resources by married men.
- Large numbers of crimes are committed in areas where prostitution is rampant. Criminals make the houses of female prostitutes as their hideout and for stolen goods as well.
- It may lead to unplanned pregnancies and increase in number of street children.

**Why Christian Condemn Prostitution.**

- It’s immoral and sinful
- It is an act of idolatry (sex idolized)
- It defiles the body which is the Temple of the Holy Spirit
- Children born to prostitute lack identity
- May lead to the breakup of families

**How the Church Fights prostitution**

- Providing guidance and counseling to the youth on the sacredness of sex
- Creating alternative forms of employment
- Campaigning for the girl-child education
- Creating awareness of the dangers of prostitution
- Condemning the practice of prostitution as an immoral act.

**6. Homosexuality**

- This refers to sexual intercourse between members of their same sex.
- This relationship between men is called sodomy while the one between women is called lesbianism.

**Causes of homosexuality**

- Faulty parent/child relationship
- Genetic or hormonal factors
- Influence from bad company
- Drug and alcohol abuse
- Sexual starvation

**Note**

- Homosexuality is a rare practice in TAC and offenders are severely punished
- To other cultures have suppressed it by ignoring it e.g. Arabs
- While other cultures have institutionalized (legalized) it e.g. Americans
Why the Bible condemns homosexuality

- It’s a pagan practice that God abhors
- Law of Moses prescribed death penalty for the offenders Leviticus 20:13
- It’s an act that is contrary to natural order of things. Romans 1:26 -27, 1 Corinthians 6:9-10 1 Timothy 1:9-10
- Homosexuals will not enter the Kingdom of God.

Effects of Homosexuality

- There is no fulfillment of sexual intercourse as this is only possible with members of the opposite sex.
- It cannot lead to birth of children
- It cannot lead to the establishment of normal family relationship
- It’s unnatural act. Romans 1; 26-27.
- I can lead to contracting of STIs & HIV/AIDS. It is believed that he homosexuals were the 1st people to be infected with HIV/AIDS.
- Homosexuality is a taboo in all African Communities.
- It may lead to psychological problems such as stress, depression and suicide.
- It undermines the dignity of human beings.
- It may lead to strained family relationships and breaking down of marriages.

How the church in Kenya should provide teaching and guidance on moral issues related to homosexuality.

- Opposing nay attempt to change the constitution to legalize homosexuality in Kenya
- Advocating for full application of the law on homosexuality.
- Mobilizing the society to oppose any arguments and interpretation in support of homosexuality.
- Providing pastoral care, guidance and counseling in self-confessed homosexuals in order to rehabilitate them.
- Condemning all sorts of irresponsible sexual behavior
- Cautioning people in the society about foreign cultures
- Teaching the youth on the proper use of sex

7. Divorce

- One of the major causes is irresponsible sexual behavior
- It’s the legal dissolution of marriage
- It T.A.C divorce is rare or unknown amongst some people. Temporary separation may be allowed instead of divorce as it is hoped that the couple will reconcile later.
- In the contemporary society there are many cases of divorce amongst couples. It’s mainly caused by:
  - Unfaithfulness in marriage
  - Domestic violence
  - Extreme poverty/inability for husband to provide for the family
  - Misuse of family resources
  - Childlessness
- Interference from in-law and members of the extended family.
- Religious difference between the spouses
- Abuse of drugs and alcohol

- The church condemns divorce because marriage is ordained by God to be a lifelong partnership Jesus asserted that divorce is wrong and anybody who divorces his wife commits adultery Mark 10:1-12.
- St. Paul affirms that divorce is wrong except when either of the partners commits adultery

The Law of Kenya may accept divorce on the following grounds

- If either of the partners has committed adultery
- If the man deserts the wife for more than 3 years with no intention of returning
- If the man becomes insane and violent to his wife
- If the man causes physical and psychological torture to the wife.

The effects of divorce

- Divorce leaves a grave scar in the life of the partner, their children, relatives and friends.
- Makes all those involved feel like failures.
- Divorcees stand a great temptation of turning to prostitution, partly for economic reasons for the woman and partly to satisfy their sexual desires for the man.
- Divorce may lead to the abandonment of the church by the people.
- A refund of bride wealth to the family of the man not always be easy if the mistake lies with the man.
- If a divorced woman remarries. It is not always easy for her to be fully accepted in the new husband’s family and this may result in strained relationship.
- Children of divorced parents suffer psychologically as both parents are necessary in their growth. Such children may end up never adjusting to a married life in future. Some may become delinquents, criminals and social misfits.
- If the woman remarries, the children from the previous marriage may experience rejection in the new home.
- The in-laws in the previous marriage may hate one another leading to strained relations.
- It leads to single parents families.
- Family resources may be misused through legal tussles.
- Sometimes one of the partners may be denied by the law access to the children.
- Children of divorces lack true identity especially when their parents remarry.
- It may lead to the increase of street children.
- It may lead to negative attitude towards the marriage institution.

8. Abortion

Introduction

- Refers to the deliberate removal of fertilized ovum, embryo or unborn child (foetus) from the mother’s womb before it’s capable of living an independent life.
After conception human life begins to develop. Some countries e.g. USA and Britain have legalized abortions for reasons such as:
- If the life of the mother is in danger
- If the child to be born would be an economic burden to the mother

Kenyan law forbids abortions but allows it under certain circumstances e.g. if the mother’s life in danger,

In Kenya some teenage girls and adult women carry illegal abortions by using crude methods.

**Reasons why some practice abortion**

- If the pregnancy is as a result of rape or incest
- If the child to be born is to be an economic burden to the mother
- To save the life of the mother if it is danger
- In the child to be born has serious defects.
- To cover up the embarrassment and shame associated with pregnancy out of wedlock
- To enable the girl to continue with education or training
- To avoid strained relations if the pregnancy is out of unfaithfulness.

**The effects of abortions**

- **Stillbirth** – A woman who aborts may never give birth to living babies in future. Some reproductive organs may have been destroyed.
- **Infertility** – The mother may never get another baby after abortion because she may contract infections after abortion that may render her infertile.
- **Foetal malformation** – Future pregnancies may result in the malformation of the unborn baby.
- **Premature babies** – The mother who aborted may never be able to have full term pregnancies due to the destruction of the uterus or cervix at the time of abortion.
- **Risk of death** – Expectant mothers may die in the process of aborting due to excess bleeding.
- **Depression** – After an abortion, the woman may suffer serious psychological disturbances which may have long term effects because of guilt.
  - It may lead to infections in the reproductive system
  - It may lead to the arrest and imprisonment of the culprit
  - It may lead to marital conflicts
  - The culprit may suffer social stigma
  - It may promote sexual immorality in the society

**NB:** Christians believe that life is sacred and belongs to God and thus abortion is morally wrong and equals murder.
Sexually Transmitted Infections (S.T.Is) and Human Immuno-Deficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDs)

Most common diseases that are sexually transmitted are gonorrhea, syphilis, AIDs. These are dangerous diseases and their effects are adverse and may lead to death.

- **Gonorrhea**
  Caused by bacteria called Neisseria gonorrhea or gonococcus

  **Symptoms**
  - Feelings of discomfort inside the penis
  - Pain when passing urine
  - Smelly yellow discharge through the penis or the virginal
  - Headache
  - Severe pain in the lower abdomen for women
  - Frequent urination
  - Fever

  **Effects**
  - Sterility in both men and women. Germs may infect fallopian tubes blocking them totally.
  - Can cause blindness in a new born baby if the expectant mother is infected with the disease.
  - Arthritis i.e. affection of the bones.
  - Ectopic pregnancy due to narrowing of the fallopian tube as a result of the scars formed after infection.

- **Syphilis**
  Caused by bacteria germs which only survive in moist areas and in sores.
  - Sexual contact with or kissing an infected person can lead to infection.

  **Symptoms**
  - A painless sore or pimple appears on the man’s penis and at the woman’s vulva and also under the tongue two or six weeks after infections.
  - Swelling of the glands in the groin
  - A distinct feeling of being unwell

  - The sore may heal by itself making the victim think he/she is well only to appear month’s later showing rashes, sores, and spots on the face, armpits, under breasts, mouth and throat.

  **Effects**
  - Liver infection
  - Destruction of the testicles
  - Paralysis due to infection of the spinal cord
  - If an expectant mother has the disease, it attacks the placenta and foetus causing a miscarriage, still birth, abnormal child, premature birth or the baby being born with the disease.
  - Madness
  - Death of the victim
HIV/AIDS

- It’s a condition whereby the body is rendered defenseless to common diseases such as cold, cough and any other.
- It’s caused by Human Immune-deficiency Virus (HIV) which attacks the body’s defense cells (white blood cells) eventually killing them.
- It’s the most dangerous of the STIs.
- It’s terminal because it currently has no known cure.
- First case of AIDS was reported in 1981 (to homosexual) in USA and the virus responsible was identified in 1984.
- In Kenya the first of AIDS was diagnosed in 1984.
- The National Aids Control Council indicates that 7000 people die every day in Kenya due to AIDS related infections.

How HIV/AIDS is spread

- Sexual contact with a person infected with HIV.
- From an infected mother to child while in the womb during birth or while breast feeding.
- Blood transfusion from an infected person.
- HIV contaminated instruments e.g. needles, razor blades, knives, during circumcision

Symptoms

Most individuals infected with the AIDS virus have no symptoms and often feel well until the time when the condition is full blown. The symptoms include;

- Swelling of the glands in the neck, armpit and groin.
- A feeling of tiredness lasting for weeks without apparent cause.
- Loss of appetite and weight at an unusually fast rate e.g. 5 kg in 2 months.
- Fever lasting several weeks
- Night sweats
- Diarrhea which last for 2 or more weeks.
- Skin diseases, e.g. a type of cancer known as Kaposi Sarcoma.
- The growth of fungus in the mouth.
- Prolonged cough and shortness of breath.

**Impact of HIV/AIDS**

- As adult people die from AIDs, AIDS orphans are also increasing e.g. in Kenya by end of 2005 there were 1.6 Million AIDS orphans.
- The burden of caring for orphans is often shifted to grandparents. At other times such orphans are left on their own and the older child takes the role of the head of the household.
- It increase the medical expenses as the person is often sick.
- The economic contribution of the sick person is drastically reduced.
- The AIDS patient eventually dies and this brings sorrow to the family.
- AIDS affects the most sexually active and economy of the household and the nation.
- Most of those infected and affected by HIV/AIDS are women because they are care givers.
- The women’s workload in the family and community increases because they have to provide for the family needs and take care of the sick in the family.
- Deaths from AIDs in families increase poverty in the household if the breadwinner was the infected.
- The children are forced to work in order to provide for the family when their parents fall sick or die.
- Children may drop out of school to seek employment in order to support the family.
- People living with HIV/AIDS may be discriminated upon in their work places and may not be hired for jobs.
- People living with HIV/AIDS suffer from dissatisfaction.
- Friends and relatives may avoid them.
- People living with HIV/AIDS may be denied their basic human rights e.g. to travel, marry and have children, employment and further education.

**The role the Church should play in Responding to Challenges posed by the HIV/AIDS pandemic**

- Ministering to people living with AIDs through preaching and practicing Christian love thus offering hope.
- Christians have a duty to care for the disadvantaged and underprivileged by emulating Jesus’ example of caring for the lowly in society such as women, lepers, tax collectors and sinners.
- Training the clergy to acquire knowledge and skills on how to prepare and offer educational programs that educates all people about dangers of STIs and HIV/AIDS.
- Being actively involved in working with parents to educate children and adolescence on the need for responsible social behavior.
- Counseling those who are already HIV positive to change their sexual behavior in order to minimize re-infection and the spreading of the virus to other people.
- Providing pastoral counseling to those with full-blown AIDs in order to live with dignity avoid self-blame and to have hope in God’s love for them.
• Helping those who are at risk but not yet infected to see the need to avoid infection by refraining from promiscuous sexual relations, cultivating positive self-assertion, self-worth, self-image, self-esteem and true love.
• Providing material support in terms at food, clothing and medicine to people living with HIV/AIDs.
• Facilitating the infected and the affected with job opportunities or income generating projects that they can support themselves and feel affirmed.
• Advocating for the protection at the human right at people living with HIV/AIDs.
• The church is already involved in ministry to people living with HIV/AIDs the widows, the widowers and orphans. It’s in doing this through Christians, Non-Governmental Organizations, individual’s churches and persons. Examples include.

1) Kenya Christian AIDS Network (Kenya CAN)
2) Christian Health Association of Kenya (CHAK)
3) Kenya Catholic Secretariat (KCS)
4) The National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCCK)
5) All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC)
6) Medical Assistance Programme International (MAP)
7) Christian Organization Research and Training in African (CORTA)
8) Mission Essential Drug Supply (MEDS)

These organizations assist people living with AIDS by:

1) Offering home-based care programmes
2) Church based hospital care
3) Providing counseling services
4) Giving medical and financial support
5) Providing Orphans care.
6) Providing social and moral/spiritual education for youth, women and spouses.
7) The associations also share information, pool resources together and exchange ideas on how to have a common approach to HIV/AIDs.
8) The church should avoid over emphasizing the link between sin and HIV/AIDs because many innocent people are infected without having engage in immoral behavior.
9) For the infected the emphasis should be focused on helping them to come to terms with the condition and to experience God’s love without condemnation.
10) For those who are prone to infection, the church should continue teaching people to uphold Christian moral values to have social responsibilities and avoid risky behavior.
11) Young people should be trained to exercise the life skills of creative thinking decision making, critical thinking and learning to say “No” when confronted with choices that would lead to unpleasant consequences.
MARRIAGE

The meaning of marriage

- Marriage is an agreement between a man and a woman who decide to have a lasting relationship as a husband and wife.
- It’s a social affair and it involves member of the community
- People marry for the following reasons.
  - To express their mutual love and comfort
  - To procreate and bring up children
  - To enhance the unity of the couples and families involved
  - To provide happiness to husband and wife
  - To experience personal fulfillment through sexual union
  - Marriage is ordained or blessed by God
- Marriage receives public recognition and is usually accompanied by some form of ceremony
- Marriage should be formalized.
- Most government have fixed a lower age limit of 18 years for recognizing marriage, as contained in legal government documents like the constitution and the United National Bill on the rights of the child.
- The man and woman in marriage are complementary.
- All marriage begin with the intention of permanence although some communities accept the possibility of separation and divorce.
- Permanence in marriage is necessary for the security, especially, for children and for the husband and wife.

Forms of marriage in Kenya today include

1. Church marriage
2. Civil marriages
3. Customary marriages
4. Islamic marriages
5. Hindu marriages.

Traditional African understanding of marriage

This is commonly referred to as customary marriage
• It’s a communal affair which involves the economic, social and religious aspects of the people.
• It is the point where the members of the community meet i.e. the dead, the living, and those yet to be born.
• It’s ordained by God.
• It’s compulsory for everyone to marry.
• Marriage ensures the continuity of the community through procreation.
• Most marriage are polygamous
• It’s a communal and social affair hence when one was marrying all the community members participate.
• Dowry payment is mandatory in formalizing marriages.
• It promotes one’s social status and opens room for new responsibilities.
• Wife is subordinate to her husband and has own rights and responsibilities.
• Marriage between relatives is prohibited and punishable.
• Inheritance of a wife after the death of a husband was allowed.
• It is a covenant between a man and woman and their families.
• It’s permanent and divorce can only be approved under special circumstances
• Marriage without children is incomplete in the T.A.C

The importance of children in Traditional African Communities

1. They promote the social status of their parents. The more children a man has the more respect he is accorded e.g. men are given leadership positions.
2. Children are a bond of unity between husband and wife. They seal the marriage bond. It’s difficult for a marriage to break once children have been born to a couple.
3. Children are source of labour to the family e.g. herding, cultivating the land, babysitting, household chores.
4. Sons are heirs to the family wealth.
5. Children take care of their parents when they grow old and they have a duty to give them a decent burial in death.
6. They are a source of security to the family. The more children a family has the more secure it feels especially when it’s threatened by both internal and external threats.

The practice of polygamy in Traditional African Communities

It is a marriage arrangement in which there is one husband and more than one wife, Polygamy is practiced for the following reasons;

1. It raises the social status of the family. Traditional African believed that a big family earns its great respect in the eyes of the community.
2. If the first wife is barren the husband can get children from the others.
3. Polygamy ensures that every woman has an opportunity to get married for this reason prostitution is unheard of in T.A.C.
4. To ensure that there is always someone to help in time of need e.g. when one wife gives birth the other wives to nurse her.

5. It helps to prevent/reduce unfaithfulness especially on the part of the man e.g. if the wife is sick or nursing a baby, the man has another wife to fulfill his sexual needs.

6. Polygamy contributes to effective family planning. It is also a taboo for a nursing mother to have sexual intercourse with her husband. This provides room for the spacing between the one child and another.

**Marriage as a Covenant relationship**

- In T.A.C it’s regarded as a covenant because it fulfills all elements of a covenant
- Marriage fulfills these elements in the following ways;
  1. It binds the husband and wife together.
  2. During the marriage ceremony, the couple and members of their family and clan make vows promising to be loyal to each other.
  3. There are people who come to witness the marriage vows.
  4. There are obligations/conditions to be fulfilled by each party e.g. payment of bride wealth, bearing of children.
  5. Breaking of marriage had serious consequences on those that break the covenant.
  6. It is permanent. Divorce is not allowed.
  7. God and ancestors are involved to bless and protect the marriage.

**Divorce in Traditional African Communities**

- It is a very rare/even unknown among some communities.
- If there are problems in the marriage, temporary separation is granted.
- The following are the circumstances where divorce can be allowed in TAC;
  1. In case of continued cruelty form the husband which may be due to drunkenness.
  2. It one of the partners develops serious illness such as madness, epilepsy, and leprosy.
  3. If the marriage is contrary to the custom of the people e.g. if the two are closely related by blood and is discovered after they have married.
  4. If either the husband or the wife is proved to be greedy, selfish, lazy, a thief, or a wizard.
  5. If the wife is barren
  6. If the man fails to pay bride wealth to the family of the girl.
  7. If the wife commits adultery. If it’s the man he is asked to pay a certain fine to the husband of the adulterous woman.
  8. If either the man/woman had failed to undergo initiation ritual e.g. circumcision.
  9. If the girl is discovered not to be a virgin on the wedding day.

**Why divorce is rare in T.A.C**

1. In case of barreness/infertility an alternative is available e.g. polygamy
2. Marriage disputes were handled by the parents/elders
3. Marriage is permanent/highly valued
4. Proper investigation concerning the families to be involved in the marriage is done.
5. Many people are involved in the marriage negotiation i.e. It is a communal affair.
6. The wife brings to both the husband and the wider society.
7. Payment of dowry/getting of children sealed the marriage.
8. Elaborate marriage procedures/rituals make it difficult for one to divorce/oaths. Rules
9. Fear of paying of fines/returning bride wealth it difficult for one to divorce/loss of dignity.
10. Boys/girls/couples are taught about six/family life/guidance and counseling done.
11. Gender roles are clearly defined/observed.

The choice of a married partner in T.A.C

- Approved by senior members of the family
- The young man and the girl may have considerable freedom to choose the marriage partner.

Payment of bride wealth in T.A.C

It is a necessary requirement

Traditionally, bride wealth is not seen as a ‘buying price’ for a wife but has important aspects which promote stability in traditional marriages, these include;

- Acts as compensation to the girl’s family for the loss of her help and contribution in the homestead.
- Bride wealth seals the marriage covenant.
- It’s a public expression of appreciation for the coming of a new wife and mother in the man’s family.
- It’s the symbol of the girl’s presence in her home.
- It promotes friendship and cements relationship between the two families
- Payment of bride wealth shows that the man is serious with his intention to marry.

Christian teaching on marriage

1. Marriage is God ordained/marriage is God’s will. Genesis 2;24, i.e. initiated by God
2. God protects marriage
3. Marriage should be a lifelong relationship/permanent
4. Marriage means leaving father and mother to establish a new family
5. Marriage is for procreation.
6. Partners in marriage become one flesh
7. There should be fidelity/faithfulness/mutual trust in marriage.
8. Children are an additional blessing to a marriage/it is even complete without children.
9. Husband is the head of the family as Christ is the head of the church
10. There should be mutual respect and submission in marriage
11. Husband and wife should love and cherish one another/care for one another.
12. There should be mutual enjoyment of conjugal rights in marriage.
13. There should be mutual acceptance
14. There should be forgiveness/tolerance/communication/harmony.
15. There should be joy/fulfillment in marriage.
16. There should be equality in marriage/complementary
17. There should be mutual sharing.
18. Marriage is for companionship/husband and wife should be helpers to each other.
19. Marriage is a sacrament
20. Marriage should be monogamous

Reasons why Christians should adopt monogamy rather than polygamy

1. It’s only in a monogamous marriage that married partners can achieve intimate oneness of becoming one flesh. This is in contrast in polygamous union where the wives compete against each other to please the husband.
2. God’s original plan of marriage for companionship is only possible in a monogamous marriage. Polygamy subjects women to a subordinate position.
3. It’s easier to achieve complete faithfulness and trust in monogamous than polygamous marriage.
4. In a polygamous marriage the husband might not be able to fulfill conjugal obligations to all his wives. This may make some wives to be faithful.
5. In monogamous marriage its’ possible for a wife, husband and children to experience love and are which is not possible in polygamous marriage.
6. It upholds dignity/honour of the family members/children respect their father.
7. It eases wrangles on property ownership/inheritance.
8. Law and order prevails in the family/harmony/unity
9. Reduces the risk of being infect with STDs/AIDs
10. Providing for family needs is easier in a monogamous marriage.
11. Fosters/promotes mutual confidence/trust among family members.
12. Reduces delinquency among children
13. Women takes pride in the marriage/able to enjoy privileges.

Ways in which churches in Kenya help to strengthen marriage and relationships

1. Organizing seminars/workshops on marriage and family life
2. Provide guidance and counseling through marriage counselors.
3. Some churches take disciplinary action against members who are in marriage.
4. Hold prayer for families/observe family week.
5. They give instructions/teachings on Christian marriages.
6. They provide pastoral care to couples
7. They provide family life programs which aim at teaching parents and children on their duties and responsibilities in the family.
8. When a man and woman announce their intention to get married they are counseled on what to expect/how to behave in marriage.
9. Christians prepare study materials/books on family life in order to advise on matters of marriage and family.
10. Encourages families to worship together at home and church.
11. Play reconciliatory role when there are quarrels/disagreements/misunderstanding.
12. Has a firm stand against divorce. This helps the married couples to take their marriage vows seriously.
13. Members of the church give moral support to members who need support.
14. During the marriage ceremony, husband and wife take vows which they are expected to keep until death separates them.

**The steps that a married couple should take to make their marriage succeed**

1. Be faithful sexually, and in matters of finance and other plans of the family,
2. Consult each other before making decisions that affect the family.
3. Practice mutual forgiveness whenever one is offended.
4. See each other as equal partners and not treating each other as inferior
5. Openness in marriage.
6. Encourage each to grow in their faith by praying together, studying the Bible and participating in church activities.
7. Have a healthy sexual relationship
8. Take and keep vows until death separates them.
9. Practicing monogamy
10. Man to be the head of the family

**Problems resulting from polygamous marriages in Kenya today**

1. Rivalry between co-wives and their children’s causing bad bloods among them.
2. Problem of inheritance incase of man’s death e.g. who is the right their/ who inherits more than the other.
3. Can lead to contraction of STDs/HIV/AIDs.
4. It subjects women to subordinate positions in marriage.
5. Leads to jealous/suspicious/bitterness among the co-wives and their children.
6. It leads to quarrels /fighting/misunderstanding in the family.
7. The husband may show favour to one wife/children at the expense of the others. This leads to dejection/marginalization of the neglected wife/children.
8. The husband may be torn between his wives to the extent of being confused
9. May lead to separation/divorce of families
10. Cause poverty where a man has several wives, many children to support
11. My cause depression/hypertension/sickness and even death especially to the one who feels betrayed.
12. May lead to murder/suicide/drunkerdness/drug taking in the family.
13. Can be a cause of delinquency of children
14. In their attempt to possess the man the wives may administer love portion to him which might lead to sickness or death.

**Effects of divorce on children in Kenya today**

1. Loss of parental love/guidance
2. Can lead to abuse of drugs
3. Can suffer emotional imbalance/psychologically disturbed
4. Can lead to school drop-out/truancy
5. Can ran away from home/become street children
6. Can lead to child abuse/child labour.
7. They could engage in prostitution to get money to maintain themselves.
8. Lack of fees and basic needs.
9. They may suffer from Diseases/death due to inadequate care by the single parent.

**Secular approaches to marriage**

- Young people today choose to live together by following either Traditional African practice or the church teachings.
- Some of the views that have evolved in relation to traditional and Christian marriage practices are:
  1. In T.A.C marriage is a rhythm of life/a societal requirement whereas today some people decide not to marry, because of personal or social reasons.
  2. In T.A.C procreation was seen as a purpose of marriage but today some people decide to get children without getting marriage and others marry and don’t want children. In modern society, marriage is considered complete even without children.
  3. Polygamy is strongly emphasized in T.A.C marriage but it’s shunned today, instead monogamy has gained grounds for economic and religious reasons.
  4. In T.A.C marriage, the husband is the head of the family but in modern society husband and wife are equal partners in marriage.
  5. In T.A.C, choosing a marriage partner was a collective responsibility but today it has become an individual affair because of the breakdown of the extended family structure and development of individualism.
  6. In the T.A.C. the value attached to bride wealth is mainly social and religious but today too much economic emphasis is attached to bride wealth and it is based on factors such as educational level and the kind of career/job of the girl.
  7. In T.A.C the qualities considered in the prospective bride and groom such as industriousness, honesty, hospitality, kindness, strength, health do not feature prominently in the choice of a marriage partner today. Instead, the qualities that are considered are external beauty, financial status, and social status of the prospective groom.
  8. In T.A.C, once marriage has been formalized it’s extremely difficult to dissolve while today cases of separation and divorce have risen.
  9. In T.A.C the more children a marriage has the more blessed it is considered to be but today many people have few children because of economic reasons and social status.
  10. In T.A.C, inter-ethnic marriage are rare but it is common today because of migration, interaction in schools, colleges, workplace and churches.
  11. Churches encourage the Christian youth to marry in church but today some Christians shun church weddings and instead opt for civil marriages.
  12. Traditional African and Christian teachings do not consider living together without formalizing a
marriage but today some couples live together without going through a formal marriage referred to as cohabitation or come we stay.

**Why marriages are breaking so easily today than in TAC**

**Marriages break easily today than in the TAC because of the following reasons;**

1. Unfaithfulness by either or both of the couple
2. Religious differences of the couple
3. Financial constraints
4. Interferences from relatives and friends.
5. Disagreement about number of children to have
6. Rushing to marriage before knowing one another very well.
7. Violence by either of the spouses
8. infertility and barrenness

**Reasons that make some Christians not to marry in church**

1. Some youth fear expenses faced in church marriages.
2. Some Christians would want the marriage to be private
3. Some churches have stick rules relating to marriage
4. Church marriage is considered hard to divorce.

**Reasons why some people cohabit**

1. It is a trial marriage for people to decide whether they are suitable for one another.
2. Lack of commitment to a long life relationship
3. Some people fear the expenses, increase in bride wealth
4. They fear the required marriage negotiations and ceremonies
5. Others believe that as long as they love each other there is nothing wrong with such a relation

**Christian teaching on cohabiting**

1. It is considered to be morally wrong, i.e. living in sin
2. They are not allowed to participate fully in church activities.
3. It’s not recognized under the Kenyan law of marriage
4. It’s risky to enter into such a relationship because one has no legal status as spouse.
5. With the death of a spouse the remaining spouse has no legal right to the deceased’s estate and may lose his/her property and children.

**Celibacy as an alternative to marriage**

This is a state of remaining unmarried for religious reasons
Celibacy is a vocation to serve God in a specific capacity other than being involved in marriage responsibilities.

In both the Old and New Testaments, different personalities chose celibate lives so as to serve God effectively. These include Prophet Jeremiah, John the baptism, Jesus, Paul and Luke.

Some churches uphold this institution among the leaders for example the Roman Catholic, Coptic and Orthodox churches.

**Christians become celibate for the following reasons:**

1. In obedience to Jesus’ command to His disciples to denounce family responsibilities.
2. To emulate the example of Jesus and biblical personalities.
3. To have time to dedicate themselves to the work of charity and mercy.
4. To dedicate their entire life to prayer, for example, the Carmelite nuns is the Roman Catholic Church.
5. To fulfill church doctrines which make it a tradition for their leaders.
6. To carry out God’s work of preaching to many nations effectively.

Those who choose a celibate life ought to be guided by high moral standards in sexual life otherwise they should marry.

Celibacy is a covenant marked by vows before open is ordained to the vocation.

**Secular alternatives to marriages**

**Other reasons why some people do not marrying are:**

1. To pursue education. Some people choose to devote their life in research in order to make new discoveries.
2. Career demands. Some careers are too demanding e.g. pilots, captains and soldiers. This could keep them away from their families for long periods.
3. Lack of guidance and counseling on marriage and family. Some are ignorant of the fulfillment and joy that exists in marriage.
4. Discouragement from failing marriages. Children who grow up in a family where the husband and wife are always quarreling may lose interest in marriage.
5. Economic reasons. Bride wealth has been commercialized. This makes some young men decide against marriage because of exploitative bride wealth demanded by their parents. Salaried men may be expected to educate his/her brothers and sisters who may create a financial responsibility such that marriage has to wait.
6. Poor health. Sickness such as mental diseases, epilepsy and impotence. Some may have psychological and emotional problems and cannot settle in marriage e.g. if they were sexually abused when young and have not received counseling to get out of the trauma.
7. Economic independence. Some young people especially, those who are in high jobs may consider that they are capable of maintaining themselves.
8. Parental interference e.g. a girl refused to marry whomever they like.
9. Disappointing previous relationship e.g. girls cheated by men to get babies out of wedlock but the men responsible refuse to marry them. Such girls may develop a feeling of mistrust to a men.

**Preparation for marriage**

**Traditional African practice**

- Preparation for marriage in TAC is a long process.
- Due to the significance attached to marriage, careful preparations are carried out to ensure it is formalized.
- During initiation bys and girls are given education on sexual matters, duties and responsibilities in marital life.
- Choosing a marriage partner is carefully done based on;
  1. One’s moral conduct
  2. Physical characteristics
  3. Health status of those intending to marry each other
  4. Fertility of the prospective partner

**Methods used in choosing a marriage partner**

1. Parents make the decision and inform their children
2. The youth make the decision and inform their parents for approval.
3. A go-between such as an aunt is used to choose a marriage partner.
4. A girl is waylaid and this is later followed by formal arrangement.
5. The first wife chooses for the husband another wife.
6. Through inheritance of widows.
7. Leaders acquire wives as gifts e.g. kings and chiefs.
8. One is offered a bride to offset a debt.
9. Parents make the decision before the children are born/when still young
10. Bride price could be paid to a family well in advance
11. A young girl can be given as a gift to some hero.
12. Some exchange girls from the families.
13. One could inherit a brother’s wife.
14. A relative/mediator identifies a girl from a family and suggests to the family
15. A young girl could be given as a way of settling a dispute.

**Qualities of a good wife**

The qualities men would look for in a prospective wife include the following;

1. One who is hardworking
2. A fertile woman
3. One who is morally upright
4. A kind lady
5. An obedient woman
6. One who is humble
7. A faithful woman
8. A beautiful lady
9. A generous woman
10. One who is warm-hearted
11. One who is welcoming to guests
12. A clean lady

**Qualities of a good husband**

1. Able to provide good leadership for family
2. One who is aggressive
3. Has to be wise
4. Needs to be courageous/brave
5. Should be responsible
6. Should be a good manager of property

**Courtship in Traditional African Communities**

Courtship refers to the friendship period and dating between a man and a woman who are intending to get married. Traditionally, courtship involves both couple who are to get married as well as their families.

During the courtship period, they exchange gifts as a gesture of their serious intention to marry.

**Courtship is practiced for the following reasons:**

1. It helps in identifying a suitable marriage partner
2. The two families involved in the marriage negotiations establish a firm relationship
3. The boy and girl have an opportunity to learn one another’s character and their families.
4. It offers an opportunity to check and establish whether the boy and girl are related by blood or come from clans and families that are acceptable to the parents.
5. It cements and strengthens the relationship between the two families through the exchange of gifts, mutual visits and sharing of food and drink.
6. It gives enough time for the two families to negotiate and pay the bride-wealth
7. Boys and girls are instructed in family life education where they are taught their duties and responsibilities.
8. Payment of dowry is done during the courtship period. The families meet to negotiate for the payment of dowry.

- Dowry is paid because of the following reasons;
  a. It seals marriage contract
  b. It is a sign of appreciation to the girls’ parents
  c. It is compensation of the girl’s family for the loss of their daughter
  d. It serves as marriage insurance
  e. It shows the man’s ability to provide for his new family.
Wedding Ceremonies in Traditional African Societies

**Wedding ceremonies are performed to fully incorporate the bride into the new house. It’s marked by rituals and ceremonies like.**

1. Signing and dancing
2. Eating and drinking
3. Conferring of blessings by the elders to the couple
4. Giving of rewards to the bride’s parents
5. Saying prayers and offering of sacrifices
6. Breaking of virginity

**The Christians practice of marriage**

- The youth are taught by their parents and the church on the virtues that will help them during marriage and family life such as hardworking, chastity, honesty, and responsibility.
- In choosing a marriage partners, Christians pray to God to guide them to make a proper decision.
- The decision is based on factors such as;
  1. Commitment to one’s faith/having common religious beliefs. Churches advise Christians of marry fellow Christians (2 Corinthians 6:15b)
  2. Moral uprightness/The moral character of the prospective partner.

  - A young man/woman should study the character of a possible marriage partner e.g. does he./she possess the qualities of kindness, politeness, reliability, generosity and integrity.

3. **Common interest**

   These include hobbies, approaches to raising and disciplining children, matters of faith and how to spend money and invest.

4. Ability to provide for the family/sound economic base to be able to provide for the family.
   - For marriage to be stable, man and the woman ought to show commitment in providing for the family in terms of leadership, shelter, food, clothing, education, healthcare and security.

5. **Socio-economic status**

   - This refers to the cultural background, educational status, religious background and financial status of those intending to marry.
   - Those planning to marry from different cultural backgrounds (ethnicity or race) should take time to understand and appreciate those cultures and implications involved.
   - Sometimes tensions may arise from cultural differences e.g. rites of passage, cooking habits, attitude to visitors and relatives and issues of inheritance.

6. **Education/common level of education or thought.** Where the two have different levels of education, there may occur communication breakdown between the two people. In one partner is less educated than the other, it may lead to lack of self confidence, self-esteem and feelings of inability.

7. **Management of family finances**
• It’s important for prospective marriage partners to understand the importance of being open and accountable in earning money and making decisions together on how to spend it.
8. Health status of each of the partners.
9. The acute prevalence of HIV/AIDS today has made it necessary for prospective marriage partners to consider the health status of their partners.
10. Similar age brackets,

Betrothal and courtships
• Most churches do not give definite guidelines on how this should be done
• After betrothal, courtship starts and this period may last a few months or a few years.

Reasons for the Courtship period
1. Strengthening friendship between the two
2. Studying each other’s character
3. Finding out opinions and feelings of the other people about their marriage.
4. Seeking opinion of parents and friends
5. Introducing the prospective partner to their family members.
6. Informing the church officials about their intentions to marry.

Guidelines on how the prospective couple should behave during the period of courtship
1. To remain chaste until the time they are formally married in church
2. To avoid visiting each other frequently as doing this may interfere with one’s personal work
3. To be civil and friendly to those people they have known before. They should not disregard everyone else just because they are in love.
4. To avoid jealousy when one’s special friend mixes with the opposite sex. One should be able to cultivate trust in one’s relationship such that one can trust the other in the company of others.
5. To seek good and objective advice especially from those who are elder and more experienced than they themselves.
6. To commit themselves to prayer and the power of the Holy Spirit in their relationship.
7. Seek counseling on issues pertaining to number and spacing of children, use of contraceptives and how to manage family finances

Note
1. The prospective bride and groom agree on the date of the wedding
2. Three weeks before the wedding ceremony, public announcements are made to ensure no hindrance or obstacles to the marriage are taking place.
3. Anyone with an objection to the marriage is given an opportunity to voice his or her concern. This is a requirement by the state. The church provides a marriage counselor who engages the intending couple in a series of counseling sessions on marriage life.

The Christian wedding ceremony
1. A Christian wedding ceremony usually takes place in a church building
2. The occasion is presided over by an ordained minister either a priest/pastor.
3. On the wedding day the bride is escorted by her parents and relatives and is officially handed over to the groom and his relatives.
4. During the church ceremony hymns are sung, relevant Bible passages are read and the sermon delivered by the presiding priest/pastor.
5. The couple exchanges vows in which they promise to be loyal and faithful to each other even in sickness and health, in riches and poverty until death separates them.
6. In some churches the couple exchange rings while in others they light a candle as a sign of sealing a marriage covenant.
7. The couple also signs a marriage certificate as required by the state.
8. The best man and the best maid act as official witnesses. They also advise the new couple on marriage life.
9. Then prayers to bless the couple are made.
10. After the church ceremony, the couple may host a reception for invited guests and relatives. There is feasting and merry making.
11. The groom and the bride receive gifts from parents, friends and relatives.
12. Afterwards the couple may go on honeymoon or move to their home immediately to begin their married life.

QUESTION

1. Define human sexuality, marriage and family
2. Explain the traditional African understanding human sexuality
4. Explain tradition African practices related to male/female relationship
5. State the difference between the traditional African and Modern attitude towards marriage.
6. Give reasons why courtship was important aspect of traditional African marriage.
7. State five advantages of a monogamous marriage
8. Discuss reasons why members of Christians families in Kenya find it difficult to harmoniously live together.
9. Explain how church strengthens family relationship today.
10. Reasons why taboos were important traditional African communities.
11. State five reasons why marriage in traditional African communities is regarded as a covenant
12. Identify the steps the church is taking in assisting orphans
13. Explain the factors that prevent effective church co-operations in Kenya.
14. State the role of parents in traditional African family
15. How was the marriage formalized in Traditional African Communities
16. Why was polygamy common in traditional African communities?
17. Give reasons why Christians should maintain the family Unit
18. Identify give effects of irresponsible sexual behavior in Kenya today
19. State ways in which sex is abused in Kenya
20. Describe the problems faced by the family living with a member who is living with Acquired immune deficiency Syndrome (AIDS)
21. State five factors that may hinder the Traditional African practices of giving dowry
22. Give reasons why pre-marital pregnancies were rare in traditional African communities
23. Explain seven ways in which Christians can demonstrate responsible parenthood.
24. Explain seven similarities between traditional African and Christian teachings or marriage
25. Identify five ways through which the church prepares the youth for marriage.
26. Outline Christians teaching on marriage
27. How do Christians prepare for marriage?
28. Give reasons why some Christians break their marriage vows.
29. Identify four teachings of Jesus Saint Paul on the similarities between. The Church and husband-wife relationship.
30. Identify and explain some of the causes of fornication in modern society.
31. Discuss reasons why minors are sexually abused in Kenya today.
32. Give six ways in which the church has tried to improve the life of women in Kenya.
33. Identify ways in which sex is abused in Kenya
34. Explain ways in which women leadership is promoted in the church today.
35. What is the role of Christians inculcating virtues of responsible parenthood?
36. State the factors that lead to sexual immorality among the youth today.
37. Give guidelines that can help boys and girl to lead to responsible sexual lives.
38. Describe the social and moral effects of HIV/AIDs on the family.
39. Give the qualities a Christians would look for in a prospective marriage partner.
40. Give the characteristics of responsible parenthood.
41. How do you identify an individual infected with HIV/AIDs?
42. Explain the way the church in Kenya in handling the challenge posed by HIV/AIDs.
43. Family life today is faced with innumerable problems. List some of them.
44. Why is violence against women rampant in Kenya today?
45. Explain Christian teachings on human sexuality.
46. State ways in which the youth can be encouraged to practice chastity.
47. Explain the features of traditional African family.
48. Explain the effects of incest
49. Compare the Christian and traditional African understanding of human sexuality.
50. Why should Christian prefer to live a celibate life as alternative to marriage?
51. Explain social effect of HIV and AIDS on modern family.
52. Identify irresponsible sexual behavior condemned by Christians.
53. Reasons why Domestic violence is widespread in Kenya.
54. Explain the role of the church in controlling abortion in the society today
THE FAMILY

Definition of family

- It is a basic social unit of the human society
- It comprises a father, mother and children. It has foundation in marriage and the children born to them.
- The call/function of the family is for personal fulfillment of all its members.
- The functions of a family are:
  1. Provides a suitable environment for procreation of children
  2. For upbringing of children
  3. Provision of food, clothing and shelter
  4. An avenue to provide basic education to the young
  5. Provides an opportunity for the young to play.
  6. For the purposes of procreation and leisure
  7. Protection from danger
  8. For the provision of good health to the family members
  9. It’s a place to provide religious education to family members
  10. Provision of care of all the members in the family

Types of families

There are the following types of families in the society

1. Nuclear family
2. Extended family
3. Single parent family
4. Sibship family
5. Polygamous family
1. **Nuclear family**
   - It consists of a mother, father and children
   - They are monogamous. Polygamy is not accepted in a Christian marriage as it undermines the dignity of a woman.

**Why the nuclear family is preferred**

1. Man gives individual attention to his wife and children
2. Leads to mutual love, peace and harmony at home
3. A couple is able to satisfy each other sexually.
4. Easy to maintain economically and socially
5. Quarrels, tension, arguments are less compared to an extended family.
6. Fever problems are involved in terms of inheritance

**Disadvantages of the nuclear family**

1. Children lack care and attention in case one/both parents die
2. Children lack peers to interact with
3. Leads to lack of security beyond the family units

2. **Polygamy family**
   - It is a family in which a man marries more than one wife.
   - They are common in T.A.C

**Why some men marry more than one wife**

1. Many children born in a polygamous family provide labour, security and defense to the family and clan.
2. There is provision of mutual help and assistance among family members.
3. Husband continues to get sexual satisfaction as the wives give birth at different times. However there are disadvantages in polygamous families.

**Disadvantages**

1. There is tension and hostility in the home as many wives compete for attention from the husband.
2. The man may fail to support life family economically.
3. Husband may fail to satisfy his wives sexually.
4. He may fail as a father to provide love and attention to the children

3. **Single parent family**

   Only one parent lives with the children

**Reasons that brings about single parent family;**
1. Death of one of the parents
2. Separation of the parents due to misunderstanding or divorce
3. Imprisonment of one of the parents for a long time e.g. life imprisonment
4. Rejection of a girl by a man after she gets pregnant
5. Some women not being interested in marriage and thus deciding to have children out of wedlock.’

4. Extended Family
   - It has a wider membership consisting of father, mother, children, grandparents, cousins, uncles, aunts, nephews, nieces and other relatives.
   - In T.A.C. there is a lot of emphasis on the extended family.

T.A.C understanding of the family
   - They believe that the family is instituted by God
   - Believe that God taught Africans to get a family through marriage and procreation
   - Formation of a family is a sacred duty
     (a) Family also consist of parents, children, other blood relatives, in-laws, aunts cousins, nephews and nieces (living members of the family)
     (b) The family also consists of the living dead
     (c) It also includes the yet to be born
   - Several families form a clan
   - Family relationships extend to all members of the family both dead and the living.

Obligations of the family in T.A.C
1. Offering sacrifices to God
2. Communicating with ancestors by pouring libations and giving offerings.
3. Remembering the ancestors through naming of the children after them.
4. Giving the dead decent burials
5. Arranging marriages for the young people and those re-marrying
6. Paying of bride wealth
7. Participating in upbringing and caring for the children
8. Providing protection to the family and vulnerable members.
9. Providing economic needs of the family
10. Participating in production of goods and services
11. Proving leadership in the family and the community

Advantages of the African Families
1. It promotes a sense of belonging to all its members e.g. the mutual caring for members and provision for material and moral needs of an individual.
2. It fosters unity among all members. Since members of African families are bound by kinship ties, they corporate in economic, social and political acts which promote unity and solidarity in the community
3. Elders are respected by the young
4. Enhances stability of a marriage because members of the extended family are involved in choosing their spouses. This minimizes the changes of selecting wrong spouses. The extended family also participates in solving marital problems.

5. Promotes collective responsibility e.g. it’s the duty of every member of the extended family to discipline errant members of the family

**Disadvantages of the African Family**

1. It promotes exploitation of responsible individuals e.g. responsible members may be pressurized to shoulder many responsibilities in order support members of the family.
2. Encourages dependency and discourages initiative. Some members of the extended family may not work hard even when they are capable because they rely on hardworking members.
3. Problems of managing a large house e.g. a polygamous man may lack leadership qualities to manage a family and may lead to conflict in the family e.g. jealousy, quarrels, hatred, competition among the wives and children due to favoritisms practiced by the man among the children.
4. Inability to provide essential needs to all members of the family due to the large number of members leading to poverty.

**Christian understanding of the family**

- A Christian family is founded on a monogamous marriage. 1st Corinthians 7:2-5

Saint Paul teaches that each man should have his own wife and wife should have his own husband as a remedy against immorality.

- The family is composed of father, mother and children.
- Both husband and wife should fulfill conjugal rights towards each other. They should have mutual understanding and not deride one another. Both are masters of each other’s body Ephesians 5:21-23.
  - Husband is the head of the family as Christ is the head of the church
  - Husbands to love their wives as Christ loved the church.
  - Wives are to respect their husbands
  - Husbands should live considerably with their wives as they are the weaker sex.
- Parents should not provoke their children Colossians 3:21 or else they become discouraged
- Children to obey their parents.

**Responsibilities of children in Christian family**

1. Listen and obey parents
2. Provide for their parents
3. Take heed of their parents advice
4. Honour and respect their parents
5. Not to curse their parents
6. Not to be lazy
7. Bring joy to their parents
8. Not to mock or scorn their parents
**Duties of parents towards their children**

1. Discipline their children so that they can be upright and be happy
2. Train their children the right ways of living so that when they grow up they will not depart from it. (Proverbs 22:6)
3. Not to provoke their children to anger but should bring them up in discipline and instructions of the Lord.
4. Avoid provoking their children lest they become discouraged
5. Everybody in the family should be taken care of
6. Provide psychological and emotional growth of the family members.

**Causes of difficulties to harmonious living in Christian families today**

1. Lack of resources and misuse of what is available
2. Lack of communication
3. Child abuse
4. Separation of families due to, for example, employment, education and imprisonment.
5. Drug abuse among members of a family
6. Denial of conjugal rights between the couple
7. Child delinquency and misbehavior
8. Sickness e.g. HIV/AIDS, cancer, impotence, and barrenness
9. Cruelty and lack of tolerance
10. Greed for wealth
11. Denominational differences
12. Incompatible Traditional African practices
13. Permissiveness where husband does what he likes and wife also does what she likes
14. Peer-pressure and generation gap
15. Childlessness in marriage
16. Single parent family set ups
17. Jealousy in the family
18. Inappropriate leadership style e.g. autocratic or laissez faire.

**A. Responsible parenthood**

- Parents are expected to bring up their children in a responsible way
- Responsible parenthood is a process of parents bringing up children well
- It’s a situation where parents provide for their needs and show care and support in every aspect of their lives.
- It’s manifested in the following ways.

1. **Understanding parental roles and responsibilities**
   
   (a) Husband and wife should love and respect each other
   (b) Husbands are expected to play their role as fathers of their children
(c) Fathers should provide food, shelter, clothing, protection and security for their children and mothers.
(d) Fathers are heads of the families
(e) Mothers to care of their children at home and support their husbands in the provision and protection of their children.

2. Educating children in all aspects of life. The home is the first school of every child and the parents are the first educators as they lay a lasting foundation in all aspects of life.

3. **Teaching and training children on all matters.**
   - This helps in their spiritual development e.g. Christian parents should teacher their children Christian teachings. Proverbs 22:6
   - Parents should bring up their children in fear and knowledge of God, love their faith and grow in it, i.e. educating their children on matters of their religious traditions and faith.

4. **Helping their children grow physically, socially, emotionally, and psychologically.**
   - Parents should help their growing children to understand their changes taking place in their bodies at every stage of their development e.g. sexual development
   - Teach on how to relate with the opposite sex.
   - Provide correct answers to many questions raised by their children
   - Train their children on the virtues of self-control and keeping their bodies clean
   - Teach that sex is only allowed in marriage

5. **Help their children to develop intellectually by providing opportunities for them to learn.**
   - Parents should take their children to school to receive formal education which is a basic right to every child.
   - Providing books, magazines and other materials.
   - Allowing their children to go to social gatherings e.g. watching educational programs parties and camps.

6. **Teaching morals and right behavior**
   - A child should be trained on what is right and wrong, good and bad
   - They should be taught virtues like honesty, loving, cheerfulness, caring, loyalty, tolerance, and forgiveness.

7. Teaching children how to relate with one another as brothers and sisters among other relatives and kinsmen and among their peers.
• Parents should advise their children on the kind of friends to choose and how to avoid bad company.
• Children should be aware of strangers how may harm them and either abuse or teach them wrong things.

8. Teaching them social and civic responsibilities. Parents should teach their children to make a contribution to a just society by showing concern to others. Helping the needy and taking care of the environment.

9. **Being hard working so that they are able to provide for the need of the families.**
   • The Bible condemns laziness and commends hard work.
   • Being lazy will make you poor and a slave. Proverbs. 10:4, 12:24
   • Hard work will make you rich and give you power. Hard working parents will be able to provide the needs of their families.

10. Parents should not discriminate against their children. Parents are expected to:
   • Be fair in the provision of the needs of their children
   • Should not love some children more than others.
   • Get the number of children that they are able to provide for.
   • It’s the right of every child to be loved and accepted unconditionally by their parents.

11. Showing understanding and tolerance to their children
   • When children do wrong they should be corrected in love by parents.
   • Parents should explain to their children why they are punished. Proverbs 3:12

B. **Contraception**
   • It’s an important aspect of responsible parenthood.
   • It’s the intentional prevention of a pregnancy following sexual intercourse

**There are two types of contraception**

1. Natural
2. Artificial

1. **Natural contraception**
   • It does not require an artificial device
   • It involves the couples abstaining from sexual intercourse during a certain period of the month when the woman is fertile and is likely to conceive.
   • The couple will only have sex during a safe period.
   • This method is effective, however it requires precision and discipline.

   (a) Accurate calculation of infertile and fertile periods in a woman’s monthly circle.
   (b) High levels of self-discipline and o-operation between the husband and wife.
2. Artificial Contraception

Methods/devices are used to prevent the meeting of a male sperm and a female ovum after sexual intercourse.

(a) Some contraceptives prevent conception by ensuring that the sperm does not fertilize the ovum.
(b) Others prevent the sperm from traveling into the uterus by blocking the entrance of the uterus.
(c) Others prevent sperm from spreading into the vagina e.g. condoms.
(d) Others kill the sperm such as spermicide sprays and foaming tablets.

Others types of artificial contraception

(a) Hormonal contraceptive
   These are in the form of pills or injections. Hormones used are estrogens and progesterone. Estrogen components prevent ovulation. So that there will be no ovum available to be fertilized. Progesterone prevents fertilized eggs from implanting itself in the lining of the uterus thereby causing its death e.g. minipids & diprovera.

(b) Intra-uterine devices
   Slow the movement of sperm. They prevent or undo the implantation of the fertilized ovum. They bring about the death of the fertilized ovum.

(c) Sterilization
   Consists of minor surgical operations. Both men and women can be sterilized using different methods such as;
   - Vasectomy it is carried out in men. Surgical removal of vas deferens (these are ducts within the testes) that convey sperms to the ejaculatory ducts. Vasectomy does not interfere with normal sexual activities.

(d) Tubal-ligation
   - Carried out in women. It involves crying or cutting of the fallopian tubes by using surgical threads and a wire to prevent the ovum from getting to the uterus for fertilization.
   - The operation ensures that no ovum will ever travel to the uterus or will ever be fertilized.
   - It is done on women who do not want to get an more children in future.

Christian views on contraception

Christians don’t have unified views on the use of contraceptives

1. Some are convinced that the use of contraceptives is morally wrong because of the following reasons;
   (a) They encourage extra-marital sex
   (b) Could lead to increased demand for abortion
   (c) May lead to promiscuity
Could lead to divorce
(e) Spread of S.T.I’s and HIV/AIDS.
2. Interferes with the life giving process which is sacred.
3. Prevents further development of an already fertilized ovum which is part of creative act of God psalm 139:14-15.
4. They are an indication of inability to exercise self-control in regard to sexual activities.

Different views of churches on use of contraceptives
1. Most churches agreed that parents should be responsible and bring forth the number of children they are able to support in all aspects of life.
2. Most churches agree that children should be properly spaced so that the mother gains her health before bringing forth another baby. Proper spacing of children ensures that the health of babies is not compromised.
3. The Roman Catholic Church is opposed to the use of artificial contraception. For them it is wrong for married couples to plan deliberately not to have children unless there are serious reasons to justify such an act. The church recommends the use of safe periods.
4. Some protestant churches argue that if a married couple uses contraceptives to delay pregnancy for a good reason then it is not wrong.
5. On tubal ligation and vasectomy, some churches condemn the practice outright arguing that it amounts to mutilation of the body, in which the operations may also have psychological and emotional effect on men and women who may desire to have more children in future.
CHRISTIAN APPROACHES TO WORK

Meaning of work

- It’s any human activity whether manual/physical, intellectual or both
- When one reads a book or study she/he uses mental or intellectual energy
- While a person who uses his/her hands uses physical energy
- There are two types of work
  (i) Work is labour
  (ii) Work is one’s mind

(a) Work is labour
   - It involves toil, anguish and sweat to meet one’s biological necessities such as cultivating land, cooking and cleaning.

(b) Work of one’s mind
   - One uses his mind. It’s a creative kind of human activity.
   - It is more enduring and results into a product that lasts for a long time e.g. music, art and craft, and paintings.

Other dimensions of work are:

i) Physical. It has mechanical understanding and it can be destructive if too much force is applied.
ii) Spiritual dimension. It involves prayer and good relationship with God.
iii) Economic sense. Facilitates production of goods and services
iv) Cultural sense. Involves creativity e.g. music dance, literature and work of art.

v) Social activity. Done with others and for the good of others.

vi) Political activity. Involves government and administration in a society.

Reasons why people work

1. To acquire basic essentials for life e.g. food, clothing and shelter. It’s important for the survival of the human race. It should be seen as providing solutions to life problems.

2. To provide services to the community and fellow human beings and to develop and care for the environment.

3. For self-satisfaction and fulfillment. To be truly human, a person has to work. Work is a basic need and is ordained by God.

4. For personal development. Through work people identify their interest, abilities aptitudes and potentials. As a result, they are able to exploit the resources around them hence improve their standards of living.

5. To acquire wealth and status in society. People who adequately meet their basic needs continue working for material wealth, comfort, and luxuries.

6. Socialize and grow as a member of a community e.g. people participate in communal work and projects such as building schools, bridges, churches and cattle dips to provide or improve services in a given community. It improves the quality of people and creates peace and harmony.

7. To attain independence. Young people look forward to the time they will not depend on their parents and guardians for necessities of life.

Types of work

1. Salaried Employment

   People are employed to perform different types of jobs and are given salaries/wages at the end of the month e.g. managers, supervisors, doctors, and teachers.

2. Self-employment

   This is employment where individuals or groups of people have set up business that they run themselves e.g. shops, kiosks, and hotels, selling second-hand clothes, growing food and cash crops and rearing animals.

3. Casual work

   This is a temporary kind of employment. Persons are hired when a firm or business needs additional workers who are laid off as soon as their services are not in need. Casual work is insecure and should be taken as a stepping some to something more permanent.

NB: All work is important

Various types of work

(a) Professions
Different between the types of work

1. Professions
   - These are jobs that require advanced education and training. People in various professions are employed in full time basis and earn a salary e.g. law, medicine, architecture, aviation, engineering, banking, teaching among others.
   - Within a profession there are sets of standards/code of ethics that all members should follow.
   - Some professions are registered as associations e.g. Kenya National Union of Teachers (KNUT) Kenya Medical Association (KMA)

2. Trades
   - It’s a job/occupation that requires skilled labour
   - They are also referred to as handicrafts e.g. shoe making carpentry, dressmaking, printing and metal work.
   - To learn a trade one requires a certain level of education e.g. in youth polytechnics and institution of technology.
   - Members in various trades join together to form trade unions to promote their interests e.g. Kenya Food and Allied Workers Union, Dock Workers Union, Central Organization of Trade Union (COTU)

3. Crafts
   - Are jobs that require skills in the use of hands e.g. pottery, wood carving, weaving and hairdressing.
   - The skills are learnt in formal or informal situations, others are learnt from parents or relatives.

4. Careers
   - It’s an occupation a person chooses to pursue in his/her working life e.g. medicine, teaching, theology. It can be looked as a trade, craft and profession.
   - It’s determined by a person’s ability, interest and altitude

5. Guilds
   - Group of people who come together to form a society in which they help one another e.g. basket weavers.

6. Jobs
It is any task performed/occupation/responsibilities. Some are done as ordinary work.

The meaning of Vocation

- It is a ‘call’
- It’s the different types of work that people do.
- Christians believed that every person has been called by God to do different activities e.g. doctors, lawyers, bankers, and teachers.
- It seeking his/her vocation a Christian will:
  - Seek God’s guidance
  - Consult parents
  - Wise counselors
- Vocational education and training implies the specialized education and training that is given to people who require specific skills so as to perform certain task well. e.g. masonry, carpentry, tailoring and power mechanism.
- Vocation in the Bible refers to divine calling. In the Old Testament God called specific people to perform certain tasks e.g. Moses, Hosea, and Jeremiah.
- Israel was called to bring salvation to the rest of human race.
- In the New Testament Jesus called the 12 disciples to be his closet friends and companions to preach the gospel.
- Paul acknowledge that people are given different gifts to serve God e.g. wisdom, knowledge, faith-healing, prophecy, performing miracles, ability to distinguish spirits, interpretation of tongues and seeking in tongues.
- Paul said that all people are called by God to serve him.
- Whatsoever you do, work at it with all your heart as though you are working for the Lord and not man Colossians 3:23.
- Christians are called today to perform various responsibilities e.g. doctors, pastors missionaries, teachers.

Factors to consider in choosing a career

1. Available opportunities and openings for future development in a particular job
2. The need to serve others especially the church and the needy in society
3. Individual interest, strengths, talents and abilities
4. The career one chooses should give one joy
5. Inclination/attraction to a certain kind of work
6. Not to accept a job that is incompatible with the Christian ethics
7. The pay given should meet the basic needs of life

Traditional African Attitude to Work

1. Through work human beings are able to change, re-organize and restructure the whole society.
2. Through work, human beings build their houses, places of worship and produce work of art e.g. carvings.
3. Work is highly valued and is taught early in life.
4. Everybody is a worker and work is divided according to age, sex, gender
5. There is limited competitions as men, women and children have different responsibilities
6. Serious training on various types of work is given by parents, grandparents and other relatives.
   (a) Children helped in small tasks at home e.g. gathering firewood
   (b) Girls were taught by their mothers, aunties and grandmothers to keep home clean, cook food, look after babies, and fetch water.
   (c) Boys were taught by their fathers, uncles, and grandfathers on how to take care of their families, look after animals build houses and granaries, clear and prepare land for planting.
   (d) Men protected their families and communities from wild animals and attacks from other communities provided leadership roles. Elders formed council of elders, medicine person, priest, rain makers, prophets, blacksmith.
7. Work in TAC has a religious dimension. Traditional Africans believe that work is willed by God. They involve God’s name through prayers, sacrifices and offerings to bless their work. Elaborate religious rituals are performed before clearing land for cultivation, during the planting and harvesting seasons.
8. Work in TAC is taken seriously because they work to meet their basic needs e.g. food, clothing housing and protection their families from danger.
9. People enjoy working. They have great freedom on when to work, when not to work and rest. The concept of working for another for wages is unheard off.
10. It is a regarded as a noble activity. Praises are given to successful farmers, fishermen, hunters or cattle herders. Those who fail to perform their activities are punished. Laziness is highly discouraged.
11. The type of work done is determined by whether communities are pastoralists, hunters, fishermen, or food gatherers.

**Secular attitude to work**

It refers to work done by people that are not governed by any Christian principles be they Christians or traditionalists.

1. There consider the level of education. It determines levels of employment one gets and wages given. People working in the same organization will receive different salaries based on their level of education.
2. Availability of opportunities. People are offered employment depending on the opportunities in the job market.
3. Stiff competition in work. In the work scene, there is stiff competition as people try to protect their job or move up the ladder of success.
4. Work is impersonal. When people are employed in an organization they are given numbers of easy identification. Communication is in the form of memos, personal human touch is lacking in many organizations.
5. There exists negative attitude towards work. In the secular world, people choose to do the work they are interested in. As a result, some work is looked down upon and considered unimportant e.g. young people despise manual work offered in firms.

6. People work for personal gains and gratification. People work to earn good money so as to acquire prestigious property such as cars, houses and expensive household appliances. Individualism and materialism are major goals in secular world.

7. Division of labour is not rigid. Both men and women compete on equal basis for available jobs as long as they meet the necessary qualifications.

8. Work is a commodity to be sold to the highest bidder. This has led to dehumanization of work where human beings no longer get satisfaction from their work.

9. Most people are seeking white colour jobs.

10. Most people are seeking white colour jobs.

11. Most people see work as a necessary evil which cannot be avoided hence usually look forward to holidays.

12. Work is seen as a means of survival.

**Christian teaching on work**

1. Work was instituted by God during creation
2. Work is a way of continuing the creation activity of God
3. Work is an important aspect of life/without work a person is less human/incomplete
4. God is presented as a worker in the Old Testament e.g. during creation.
5. Jess was a worker. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, restored the sight to the blind, drove demons and raised the dead.
6. Man must work to care/preserve God’s creation.
7. Through work man provides for his life requirements, e.g. food, clothing, shelter/thus work is a source of his existence.
8. Through work human beings become self-reliant
9. Work keeps one away from being idle which may lead to engaging in evil
10. From hard work one can help/support people in hardship.
11. Through work one can live out of their talents/skills
12. Work justifies our existence e.g. in 2nd Thessalonians. 3:10, Paul said that those who do not work should not eat.
13. Through work, people can make worth while contributions to the society/serve the community/contribute to nation building.
14. Hard work is praised while laziness is condemned.
15. Christians work spiritually by spreading the gospel.
16. There should be good working relations between employers and employee.
17. There should be honesty, responsibility, solidarity, joy and truthfulness in work
18. Peoples should stop being social parasites.
19. Work should be balanced with rest.

Virtues related to various types of work

Different types of work require certain virtues to ensure efficiency, achievement of desirable quality and quantity of work.

1. Diligence
   - This about working hard and carefully
   - Requires application of the mind, use of energy and talent to produce quality work.

2. Honesty/integrity
   While working, one should apply honesty/integrity by being reliable, avoiding bad deals, being time conscious, and treating employer’s resources carefully.

3. Faithfulness/loyalty
   - Being truthful, committed and able to keep promise
   - It helps a worker to preserve professional secrets and avoid disclosing confidential information
   - It also helps workers to avoid wasting time and resources and speaking ill of the employer.

4. Responsibility
   It means adopting a caring attitude towards ethers in whatever one does. It involves having control and authority in whatever somebody is expected to do.

5. Tolerance
   It is the ability to bear with different situations and not giving up when problems arise. Tolerance leads to sound decisions.

Other virtues related to work

1. Hard work
2. Cooperation
3. Unity
4. Humility
5. Sharing
6. Obedience
7. Respect
8. Loyalty

The role of professional ethics, ethos and codes in society

1. Professional ethos
- It refers to character or the moral nature of a profession
- It distinguishes guises on profession from another
- Ethos refers to attitude that members of a profession should have so that they can live to the highest ideals.

**Role of Ethos**

1. It enables members of the public to trust a particular member of a profession
2. It regulates the conduct of a professional
3. It enables professionals to give valuable services to the public
4. Promotes good relationship between professionals and their clients

**2. Professional ethics**

These are the standards of conduct and competence expected of those in a particular profession

**Role of Professionals Ethics**

1) Define the behavior of members in their profession
2) State how professionals should relate with the clients
3) Help to uphold the public image of the profession
4) Enhance efficiency in the provision of services
5) Ensure the provision of essential services.
6) Promote good relationship between the professionals and their licenses.
7) Guide alone to work without supervision.
8) Safeguard the profession against unqualified persons.
9) Guide social relationships among members of the same profession

**3. Professional Codes**

- Refers to a set of principles/laid down rules which ensure that professional ethics/ethos is adhered to by the professional.
- Examples of professionals with professions codes include the legal, Medical teaching professions.

**Role of Professional Codes**

1. They contain rules relating to employment, promotion, payment and termination of service and other matters pertaining to the profession.
2. They give guidance on how professionals should relate to one another and those they serve e.g. a teacher is not supposed to fight with other teachers or students or being intimate to a student.
3. They safeguard the professionals i.e. enables them to maintain their jobs and personal integrity.
4. They determine the expected level of performance of a particular job e.g. a judge is expected to give fair and correct judgment and not to accept bribes. In so doing they build people’s confidence in them and their work.
5. They serve as a measure of competence e.g. the long period and the vigorous training doctors undergo is meant to polish their skills so that by the time they are entrusted with people’s lives they are fully competent to handle them.

6. They act as a measure of quality of service e.g. if a lawyer is asked to represent a client. He/she is expected to do so as honestly as possible and not to give sub-standard representation. He/she is not supposed to extort money from/ he to their clients.

7. They serve as a protection to individual professionals so that they are not forced to do what is ethically wrong e.g. a doctor is expected to save lives e.g. if some one requests him to kill someone through euthanasia he/she is supposed to refuse because doctors are governed by the Hippocratic Oath.

Moral duties and responsibilities of employers and employees

Employers are individuals/organizations that give people jobs while employees are workers who enter into a labour contract with an employer.

Rights and duties of employer

Rights of employers

1. Carry out their business without unfair taxation from the government and competition from other organization.
2. Get profit from their business.
3. To form an association with other employers
4. Enjoy loyalty and co-operation from their employers
5. Receive from employees a fair day’s work for a fair day’s wage according to their contracts/terms of services.
6. To conduct business without being subject to unjust competition from large enterprises or multinational corporations.

Duties of employers to employees

1. Conduct business efficiently/ensure stability of their organization so as to avoid closing down.
2. Provide good working conditions e.g. wages, health, safety and social welfare, fair hours of work, fair workloads, and holidays.
3. To pay a just wage to the employees. Employers must avoid underpaying those who work for them.
4. Take care of the welfare of their employees e.g. giving medical cover, pension, scheme and leave.
5. Motivate their employees by providing equal opportunities for provision and being fair to those employed.
6. Reward their employees by sharing with them the profits they get in the form of bonuses since the employees’ efforts and that of the management contribute to the success of the organization.
7. To ensure that their employees who are made redundant are compensated completely and their benefits paid to them without undue delay.
8. Give their employees leisure time so as to allow them a chance to relax and regain lost energy.
9. Treat those they employ with the respect and dignity they deserve.
10. To be just, practice charity and being good towards employees e.g. being supportive during illness.
11. Must never over-work workers beyond their strength or employ them in the work they are unfit for due to their sex or age.

**Right’s and duties of employees**

**Rights of employees**

1. to receive a just wage for a fair day’s work as agreed upon on employment
2. Have favourable working conditions, i.e. to work in a place that doesn’t pose health risks and if working in a high risk area, all necessary precautions should be put in place for purpose of safety.
3. Fair treatment and respect
4. Fair opportunity for promotion
5. Right to rest/enjoy leisure time e.g. holiday with pay.
6. Keep the workload within reasonable limit and work in tolerable working conditions
7. Freedom to join a workers’ union for collective bargaining.
8. Seek personal fulfillment at work

**Duties of employees**

1. To carry out their activities to the best of their ability without supervision/efficiently e.g. shouldn’t fail to report to their places of work without a good reason, neither should they be present and fail to do their work.
2. To respect and protect the property of the employer i.e. employer’s assets shouldn’t be misused e.g. vehicle, houses and telephone.
3. To encourage and resort to peaceful solutions to any problems they may encounter in their work place e.g. an employee should not be too upset as to destroy property in order to make a point.
4. To work diligently for self fulfillment and development.
5. To respect their employer and fellow employees i.e. Respect the job contract that they signed.
6. Do a fair days’ work for a fair day’s wage. This can be done by”
   (a) Avoiding lateness
   (b) Avoiding absenteeism
   (c) Avoiding waste of time
   (d) Not leaving early
7. Pray for the success of the institution/employer/employees
8. To do his best while working, apply his skills and produce good quality work.
9. To promote the success of the enterprise
10. Never resort to violence in defendant oneself but apply dialogue in case of solving misunderstandings/unreasonable demand.

**Christian approaches to issues related to employment**

Christian views on issues related to employment are guided by the teachings of the Bible and church.

**These issues include:**
1. Employment
2. Wages
3. Conditions of workers
4. Working environment
5. Industrial strike actions
6. Child labour
7. Unemployment
8. Self employment

**Employment**

It refers to the act of hiring someone to do a certain task with pay.

**Christian principles on Employment**

Employment is a human right and workers should be treated justly

1. Abilities and talents are given to us by God for his service. Luke 19:21-27
2. Work should provide opportunities for self-development
3. Work should be in accordance to the needs of the society
4. Work should be in line with Christian doctrines e.g. doing everything to the glory of God.
5. There should be adequate preparation for work i.e. training so as to have competence.
6. Workers should follow the code of professional’s ethics.
7. Appreciating work as the will of God professional ethics.
8. There should be a balance between work and leisure
9. Wages should be paid in time. Leviticus 19:13
10. Wages should be fair. 1st Timothy 5:18
11. No engaging in slavery
12. The principles of love ought to guide the relationship of the employer and employees
13. Christians have a responsibility to work for a just world.
14. Every person should have access to suitable employment relative to his/her abilities.
15. Young skilled people should be given priority in employment.
16. Workers should be provided with good working conditions according to their age and sex e.g. sufficient recreation, reasonable, working hours and fitting accommodation.

**Wage Labour Contracts**

- Wages are payments made when a person is employed
- Workers and employers sign a labour contract which gives them terms and conditions of service.
- These contracts are legally binding and cannot be altered by the employer at will.
- A labour contract provides protection for the employees and prevents the employers from mistreating the employees.
- A just wage should be calculated so as to be commensurate with the work done and the profits made i.e. equal pay for equal work done.
• Wages should also be periodically reviewed so that employees can feel appreciated.
• Christian employers should be guided by biblical principles governing relationships between employers and employees.

**Industrial action/Strikes**

• These are efforts by workers to stop work or protest in order to pressurize for higher wages or better working conditions.
• Strikes may take several forms e.g. go slow or sit in, downing tools, violent or peaceful demonstrations.
• Workers may be justified to participate in a strike under the following circumstances:
  i) If there is a just and serious cause
  ii) If the advantages of the strike outweigh the consequences
  iii) If the strike is not used to further selfish political interests
  iv) If there is a reasonable hope of success.
  v) If it is the last resort of settling disputes after exhausting amicable means
  vi) If it does not lead to violence and destruction of property
  vii) It is does not lead to human suffering and loss of life.

**Reasons why Christians should not resort to strike action**

1. It is a waste of time and resources
2. It leads to idleness which may lead to crime in the society
3. It leads to bitterness and frustration by both the employer and the employee
4. It is disobedience to lawfully instituted authority
5. It disrupts peaceful working environment
6. It may lead to destruction of property
7. It could lead to loss of employment
8. It could lead to suffering of individuals and their families due to withdrawal of the essential services.
9. It could lead to loss of life

**Factors that determine a just wage**

1. The ability of the employer to pay
2. The profits or returns of the enterprise
3. The academic qualifications of the employee
4. The work experience of the employee
5. The amount of work done
6. The number of working hours
7. The efficiency of the worker
8. The need of the employee
9. The risks involved in the job to be done.

**Child labour**

• It is the employment of children below the age of 18 years
• It includes paid and unpaid labour  
• Areas where children are misused as labourers may include:
  - Harvesting of crops  
  - Domestic workers  
  - Hawking  
  - Parking boys and girls  
  - Drug trafficking  
  - Mining and quarrying  
  - Fishing  
  - At beaches as sex workers

Reasons why Children are hired for their services

• To alleviate the poverty status of their families  
• Due to the helpless state of orphans  
• They provide cheap labour  
• They can easily be hired and fired due to their inability to bargain for their rights and terms of service.  
• Irresponsible parenting  
• To supplement their parents’ income

Reasons why child labour is unethical

• It affects the health of the child  
• It is exploitation of the weak and innocent  
• It enhances the vicious cycle of poverty  
• It may lead to physical abuse  
• Children may engage in deviant behaviour  
• It may lead to dropping out of school  
• It is a sign of irresponsible parenthood  
• It is against biblical teaching on the treatment of children.

How the society could curb child labour

• Ensuring that every child has access to education  
• Enforcing child labour laws that protect the rights of the child  
• Highlighting the dangers of child labour
• Implementing poverty eradication programmes such as increasing means of food production.
• Establishing institutions for orphans
• Reporting employers who employ children

Children rights

1. Right to live and be loved
2. Right to education and training
3. Right to expression
4. Right to citizenship
5. Right to protection and guidance
6. Right to health

Christian attitude towards children

1. Children are a blessing from God and should be loved and cared for.
2. Parents are to teach their children how they should live
3. Bible condemns all forms of oppression and exploitation of children.
4. Children are a sure sign of God’s favour
5. Children are expected to grow strong and full of wisdom
6. Parents and guardians have a duty to teach children the ways of God
7. Parents should protect their children from any form of harm.
8. The church should counsel parents and children to have a healthy relationship guided by the Gospel values of love, respect, justice and responsibility.

Unemployment

It is a situation where jobs are lacking both in the salaried sector and less chances of self-employment.

Causes of unemployment

1. Limited job opportunities
2. Lack of skills and capital for self-employment
3. Negative attitude towards manual work
4. Alcohol and drug trafficking which causes irresponsibility and poor output hence one would be laid off.
5. Effects of capitalism
6. Poor economic policies
7. Under-performing national economies
8. Retrenchment of workers
9. Increase of poverty levels
10. High population growth rate
11. Slow economic development hence few job opportunities
Nepotism/tribalism. i.e. people being employed by relatives and tribesmen rendering others jobless

**Christian view on unemployment**

1. It is an economic and moral problem because it makes qualified people idle and may result into social evils.
2. It denies people chances to utilize their talents.
3. Work is willed by God and when some people lack it God’s plan for people remain unfulfilled.
4. Christians should guide and counsel young people on the dignity of work and should understand that there is no work that is more important than the other but accept any job available as they wait to get high status job.
5. Churches should start income generating activities to offer employment e.g. hospitals and school.
6. Christians should condemn bribery and nepotism. Employment should be based on merit.

**Evils of unemployment**

1. High crime rate so as to meet basic needs.
2. It’s an insult to man’s dignity. Man was created to work. Human beings are created in the image of God who worked. Genesis 1:27.
3. It turns good morals to bad morals e.g. unemployed women could turn to prostitution so as to meet their basic needs.
4. Leads to high dependency ratio. Small percentage of those working supporting a high percentage of unemployed.
5. Leads to poor standards of living.
6. Leads to low per capita income.

**Steps taken by Kenyan government to solve unemployment**

1. Creating Jua Kali sector to provide for job opportunities through creating self-employment.
2. Promoting educating to all gender and extending the budget on education.
3. Creation of industries which help in employing individuals.
4. Promotion of further studies to enable people to acquire the required skills.
5. Encouraging foreign investors to invest in Kenya so that they can create industries and firms which can employ.
6. Putting optional and compulsory retirement age to create opportunities for those that are jobless.
7. Control of population growth through family planning programs.
8. The government has opened up corporations/parastatals e.g. Kenya Ports Authority (K.P.A) which offer training and employment.
9. Provision of loans to help farmers, businessmen and individuals to open up their own sectors to offer employment.
Self-employment

It’s an initiative taken by individuals to create work for themselves in order to earn a living.

Advantages

1. Generate income that can be re-invested
2. Facilitates employment for other people
3. It enhances use of individual talents and creativity
4. It provides opportunities such as manufacturing managerial technical and problem-solving skills.
5. It helps reduce unemployment
6. It leads to self-reliance
7. It provides goods and services to the community

Factors to consider before venturing into self-employment;

The following are some of the areas that provide opportunities for self-employment Agriculture, real estate, matatu ownership, jua kali work, shop-keeping, shoe-making, hotel and restaurant ownership.

The factors to consider before getting into self-employment include:

1. Coming up with original ideas that will bring about forms of business
2. Seeking information about requirements and procedures needed to start a business
3. Looking for financial assistance either from the government or financial institutions

How the Church promotes self-employment among the youth today

1. Sponsoring them in education and training
2. Giving them initial capital to start their business.
3. Organizing in-service courses for the self-employed on managerial skills.
4. Initiating communal self-help projects
5. Providing premises for their business
6. Providing guidance and counseling services in the dignity of work
7. Assisting them to market their products

Problems of self-employment

1. Lack of sufficient funds to initiate business
2. Lack of proper market or customers to purchase goods.
3. Lack of necessary skills to manage the business
4. Competition from larger firms which produce better and quality goods.
5. Dependency ratio is high so that the profit is consumed and this may lead to bankruptcy and subsequently leading to the collapse of the business.
6. Sometimes businessmen face risk of their property being stolen by robbers
7. Payment of income tax or sales tax may ruin the small scale traders.
8. Other may fail to meet their bills e.g. water, electricity and shop rent especially if the business does not make enough profit hence leading to the collapse of the business.
9. Mis-advice from friends may lead to mismanagement of business hence leading to it collapsing.
10. Insufficient/unavailable soft loans, high charges on interest rate and the repayment period may make it difficult for the small scale traders to repay in time.

QUESTIONS (WORK)

1. Explain the relationship between work and leisure in the Christian context
2. Give five reasons why a Christian should not resort to strike action as a way of presenting grievances.
3. With reference to the life and ministry of Jesus identify activities which show that he was a worker.
4. Give reasons why people work in traditional African communities
5. Explain the factors that a Christian should consider when choosing a career
6. Give five ways in which forced reduction (redundancy/retrenchment) of employees may affect the Christians family in Kenya today.
7. State five ways in which church can promote self employment in modern society.
9. Explain factors that have led to unemployment in Kenya today.
10. Outline the steps the church in Kenya has taken to solve the problem of unemployment
11. What factors have contribute to misuse of leisure in Kenya today?
13. Give factors that a Christian employer should consider when making decision on salary for an employer
14. Write down five consequences of denying employee rest.
15. Explain the factor’s that contributes to unemployment in Kenya today.
16. Give eight causes of conflicts between the employer and employee in Kenya.
17. Discuss the role of a Christian during a strike
18. Outline eight Christian teachings on work.
19. Explain the role of professional ethos, ethics and codes in any profession.
20. Identify ways of creating employment in Kenya
21. Give difficulties experienced by modern missionaries
22. Outline reasons why employees deserve reasonable salaries.
23. What is the Biblical teaching on Child Labour?
24. Give reasons why people work
25. Explain some of the factors that bring about unemployment in Kenya today.
26. Show ways in which Jesus upheld the dignity of work during his life and ministry
27. Under what circumstances is strike action justified.
28. Identify five ways in which churches should assist in the development of Kenya Education.
29. How has modern Technology and economy changed the traditional African attitude to work?
30. Explain in detail why a Christian should work.
31. Write five factors which Christians should consider in order to recognize their vocation.
32. What five important virtues Christian should exercise in whatever work they do?
33. In the light of frequent strikes and boycotts among workers in the Kenyan society today. What five recommendations would you give to the employers regarding the relationship with employees?
34. What is a justified wage?

CHRISTIAN APPROACHES TO LEISURE

Meaning of leisure

1. This is the time that one has at his/her disposal to do as he/she pleases.
2. It is time for personal refreshment to replace used energy during work
3. It is time for complete relaxation.

Forms of leisure and their uses

Types of leisure

Two main types
i. Active leisure

ii. Passive leisure

i) Active leisure
In this form of leisure the whole body is involved in an activity.
Examples of active leisure include:
- Dancing
- Swimming
- Writing an article
- Debating
- Playing football, netball, basketball
- Wrestling
- Participating in athletics
- Boat rowing and cycling

ii) Passive Leisure
Minimum energy is used or no energy used
Example include:
- Sleeping
- Watching football, TV, Video
- Reading novels, magazines, and newspapers
- Watching games, e.g. athletics, swimming
- Worshipping in church/fellowship

The importance of leisure

1. It gives people time to rest after working for a period of time. When people work without rest they may suffer from certain diseases e.g. high blood pressure, heart failure and nervous breakdown. Work may become monotonous and one would lose concentration.
2. Leisure provides people with time for recreation e.g. listening to much, watching video, reading and playing computer games.
3. Leisure allows people time to attend social occasion such as weddings, birthdays and other get-together gatherings. Such occasions provide time for friends and relatives to be together and enjoy each other’s company.
4. Leisure time can be used to enhance and acquire new skills and knowledge e.g. to attend evening and weekend classes to improve their level of education or learn new skills like computer or usage of a new language.
5. One could use leisure time to develop their talents and hobbies e.g. cooking, flower gardening, bird-watching, sight-seeing, reading and writing. Some discover that they have talents through engaging in
hobbies. Others have invested new knowledge and made discoveries in science and technology by engaging in hobbies during leisure.

6. Use leisure time to engage in income generating activities e.g. hawking, shop-keeping, catering and teaching through which they earn extra income to support themselves and their families.

7. Leisure time can also be used for worshipping God e.g. in prayer, reading and Bible, going for retreats, attending fellowships and preaching the word of God. Through such activities many Christians have matured in their faith and have come to know God in a personal way.

8. It is used for refreshment i.e. people involve in leisure to refresh.

9. Leisure is used to discuss family affairs.

10. It can be used for entertainment i.e. people entertain themselves and enjoy e.g. dancing, watching films and videos.

11. Leisure provides one with time to socialize with others.

12. Other people use leisure time to visits people and places e.g. visiting family friends, and visiting and such in the hospital.

13. Some people use leisure time to support the needy, e.g. raising money for the sick, the handicapped, poor and the neglected old people.

14. Leisure time can be used to develop one’s personality especially during entertainment like drama, choir among others.

**Traditional African understanding of leisure**

- Leisure plays an important role in the lives of the people
- The most common leisure activities include wrestling, bull-fighting, story-telling, dancing, singing, beer drinking, visiting neighbours and friends, and holding family meetings.

**Occasions for leisure**

**Some occasions that provide opportunities for leisure activities in T.A.C include;**

i) **Initiation Ceremonies**
   - People come together to witness and celebrate the occasion. People sing, dance and rejoice.
   - It is a leisure activity for the whole community
   - During the rituals and ceremonies the initiates learn social, cultural and moral values of the community.
   - They also learn gender roles
   - After the initiation ceremonies the initiates are acknowledged as full members of the community

ii) **Marriage Ceremony**
   - These are happy occasions when families and friends of both partners come together
   - The whole community joins in celebrating the couple’s marriage by singing, dancing, eating and drinking.

iii) **Naming Ceremony**

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When naming children, family members, relatives, friends and neighbours gather together. The eldest within the family holds the child, gives him/her a name and pronounces blessings on behalf of the family both living and the dead. There are celebrations which include eating, drinking, singing and dancing. Sacrifices and prayers are offered to God. Naming of the child gives the child identity and is incorporated into the family and clan.

iv) Thanksgiving ceremonies

Members of T.A.C usually gather to thank God for a good harvest, for blessing them with large herds of livestock and for helping them win battles against other communities. During such occasions, they offer prayers, feasts, sing and dance.

Activities for young children

- Participates in traditional dances
  These dances also train young people on how to excel
  In traditional dances young people start courting. If a boy/girl is a good dancer. He/she receives many admirers.
- Other activities include storytelling, riddles, tongue twisters and simple genres.

Activities for the elderly

- The elderly meet and drink beer, share tobacco, and do wood carving
- Elderly men discuss important issues such as community security, proper use of community land and reprimand errant members.
- They prepare young boys for initiation
- They participate in singing and dancing
- Younger men of the warrior class dance.
- Elderly women sit at home making baskets or mending calabashes.
- The elderly women teach their daughters how to prepare beads, make baskets, and adorn themselves, how to care for the children and how to behave in the company of leader.
- The elderly women also sing and dance.

Use of leisure in T.A.C

1. Leisure is time to enjoy and celebrate important events in the community e.g. initiation, marriage, naming, and thanksgiving.
2. It is used for relaxation e.g. during beer drinking.
3. It is used for refreshment after hard work e.g. through songs and riddles.
4. Used for entertainment e.g. songs and dances.
5. It is used to pass knowledge to the young generation by elders e.g. riddles, proverbs, and storytelling.
6. It is used for physical fitness e.g. wrestling, swimming and dancing.
7. It is used to socialize the members of the society and to promote the interaction levels e.g. during wrestling.
8. It provided time for celebrations and ceremonies e.g. initiation, death, marriage and naming ceremonies.
9. It is used to discuss family, community and society problems by the elders.
10. It is used to make work easier as leisure was encompassed with working activities e.g. songs during harvesting.
11. Leisure activities are organized according to the age, gender and social status.
12. Leisure is undertaken after work.
13. It is time used to identify future leaders from among those who demonstrated leadership qualities such as courage, patience and organization skills.
14. The youth use leisure to identify future marriage partners.
15. Leisure has a religious dimension through which God and ancestors are remembered.
16. There are strict rules and regulations that govern participants during leisure time.

**Christina teaching on leisure**

Christian view of leisure is derived from the story of creation n which God created the each and everything in it in six days and rested on the seventh day. He blessed the 7th day as a day of rest and worship. Genesis 2:2-3.

**Importance of leisure in a Christian life**

1. It is divine/ordained because God rested after creation
2. It is time used to worship God
3. It is time to celebrate important religious occasions such as Easter and Christmas.
4. A Christian relaxes and refreshes his/her mind so as to regain the lost energy.
5. It helps the Christian to improve socially, spiritually and economically
6. It is used to bring joy and new hope to those who are suffering as Jesus did during the Sabbath e.g. healing the sick.
7. Leisure is used to strengthen relationships through visiting and meeting friends and relatives.
8. Some Christians dedicate their leisure time to prayer

**Biblical teaching on leisure**

**Old Testament**

1. God has leisure time e.g. created the word for 6 days and rested on the 7th day. He blessed the 7th day and made it holy. Gen 2:2-3
2. Leisure was for complete rest. Exodus 31:15
3. Act as time for remembering God’s saving power from Egypt e.g. the feast of Passover
4. Sacrifices/oferings given to God are part of leisure
New Testament

1. Jesus had leisure time e.g. visit people and attending weddings.
2. Jesus observed the Sabbath
4. He attended weddings
5. He attended feasts in the house of Levi.
6. Jesus had a meal in the house of Simeon the Pharisee
7. He enjoyed leisure time/hospitality in the house of Zacharias
8. He enjoyed visiting friends e.g. Mary and Martha

How Christians use Leisure

1. Participating in drama and music group activities towards worshipping God e.g. singing, praying, receiving the Holy Communion and Offering prayers for healing the sick.
2. Visiting the sick. Visiting and fellowshipping with HIV/AIDS and buying food and medicine for the sick.
3. Caring for the needy. Christians visit the needy in the community e.g. orphans and refugees. They share with them their time, the word of God, assist them with food and clothing e.g. orphans, displaced, the aged, disabled, victims of disasters like fire, flood, drought and accidents.
4. Taking time to rest. To regain lost energy and prepare themselves for the next working time. They may relax either along or with family members or friends.
5. Going for a retreat. This is time Christians spend away from other people to be alone with God. During this time they meditate on the word of God, praying and fellowshipping with one another.
6. Spending time with family and friends. They are able to share their joys and sorrows. Jesus afforded time to be with his ‘family’ and friends. By being together families are able to appreciate each other.
7. Reading Christian literature
8. Listening to Christian music
9. Watching Christian films and videos
10. Cleaning the church and its compound
11. Participating in men, women, youth fellowship
12. Playing a game such as soccer, rugby, basketball, and netball
13. Taking care of the environment
14. Participating in church seminars according to age groups
15. Joining intercessory prayers

Misuse of leisure today

1. Spending family resources on luxurious activities at the expense of family needs.
2. Overindulging in leisure activities at the expense of work which may affect one’s productivity.
3. Idling which leads to boredom
4. Drinking alcohol and smoking which are detrimental to one’s health.
5. Engaging in sexual immorality e.g. fornication and prostitution.
6. Involving oneself in dangerous leisure activities e.g. using a lot of money in drinking and tourism.
7. Being involved in activities which are expensive e.g. using a lot of money in drinking and tourism.
8. Being involved in activities which lead to addiction, e.g. smoking and alcoholism.
9. Getting involved in activities which degrade human dignity, e.g. wrestling and boxing
10. Spending too much time in passive activities e.g. watching, videos, film and playing computer games.
    These are destructive to the morality of the youth.
11. Engaging in gambling. In this, a lot of money is used in hope that they will make a lot more. The rich gamble in casinos, others put their bets on horses and playing pool. Such activities are addictive and have less to ruining many lives.
12. Disco and night dances. Some people engage in these activities at the expense of their education and career progression. They are introduced to alcohol, drugs and pre-marital sex.

**Christian criteria of evaluating the use of leisure**

1. Engage in activities which provide service to others
2. One should use leisure time wisely
3. Christians need to avoid leisure activities that lead to addiction.
4. We need to avoid risky activities during leisure e.g. wrestling, bull fighting, boxing ad sky diving.
5. Use of leisure time should not affect others negatively e.g. immoral parents’ activities may affect their children.
6. Any leisure activity which makes one insensitive to necessities to life is bad e.g. one neglecting his family.
7. Need to have a balance between leisure and meeting family needs.
8. Christians should avoid leisure that leads to sin
9. Should engage in leisure activities that please God
10. Should engage in activities that promote their respect and dignity.

**Problems of leisure**

1. May lead to boredom.
2. Idleness during leisure may lead to all sorts of crime e.g. immorality.
3. It can lead to misuse of money
4. Some may use their leisure time to hurt others e.g. gossip.
5. Parents can lose the control of their children in the name of leisure because they get wrong friends.
6. It can lead to the neglect of family needs.
7. Can lead to family breakdown in case of immorality or alcoholism

**Ways in which Christians community in Kenya is trying to solve issues resulting from misuse of leisure**

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1. Running rehabilitation programs
2. Providing guidance and counseling
3. Teaching/preaching on the proper use of leisure
4. Administration of sacraments where people receive spiritual nourishment
5. Providing vocational training where people learn useful skills.
6. Running family life programs for teachers, parents, and leaders
7. Providing old people with homes where they are looked after.
8. Organizing programs for the youth/men/women in which members involve themselves in recreational facilities
9. Holding social functions e.g. parties, excursions, discussions, and retreats in which members meet for celebrations/refreshment.
10. Praying for guidance from God for those who misuse leisure so that God can change them.
11. Encouraging members to develop their hobbies/talents.
12. Providing social facilities e.g. sports grounds, equipment, social halls, and swimming pool

QUESTIONS (LEISURE)

1. Identify five reasons why the taking of alcohol as a way of spending Leisure is condemned.
2. Write down five ways in which modern Christian use their leisure time.
3. Give five ways ion which drug abuse could affect a Christian family.
4. Identify ways in which Christians can overcome temptations to drug abuse.
5. Why is leisure important in the life of a Christian youth?
6. What factors have contributed to the misuse of leisure in Kenya today?
7. State the factors that have led to the misuse of leisure of drugs in Kenya today?
8. Outline the importance of leisure.
9. Explain the Christian criteria for evaluating the use of leisure.
10. Give reason why leisure is important to a Christians.
11. What are problems associated with leisure in modern society?
12. Explain the Christian criteria for evaluating the use of leisure.
13. State ways in which alcoholism can deter one’s career.
14. Give factors that may lead to misuse of leisure in modern society.
15. Identify the Christian criteria for spending leisure time.
16. How has over involvement in alcohol affected the growth of our country.
17. Suggest factors that can hinder Christians from taking part in leisure.
18. What are the effects of alcoholism?
19. What effects do illegal brews have on the society?
USE AND ABUSE OF ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS

Definitions

Abuse – Wrong use of something

Alcohol- It is a liquid that makes people drunk

Reasons why people use alcohol

1. For socialization
2. To forget problems/frustration
3. To pass time
4. During celebrations/feasts/ceremonies e.g. wedding, and appeasing ancestors
5. After childbearing’ it is hereditary from parents to children
6. It is hereditary from parents to children
7. For discovery
8. It has medicinal purposes e.g. Chang’aa is believed to heal typhoid.
9. When one has excess money
10. For refreshment

**Biblical teaching on the use of alcohol**

**Position aspects of alcohol use**

1. It is a gifts from God. Deuteronomy 7:13, Hosea 14:7, and Psalms 104:15
2. Jesus changed water into wine at Cana.
3. During last supper Jesus used wine to symbolize his blood.
4. Jesus seems to have been using wine. Mathew 11:17-19
5. He is against excessive use of alcohol. Mathew 24:49
6. For medical purposes e.g. Paul advices Timothy to have a little wine for the good of his health 1st Timothy 4:5-23.
7. Paul talked against excessive alcohol. Ephesians 5:18
8. Some churches allow moderate use of alcohol while others don’t

**Biblical teachings on drunkenness**

1. Too much wine is an obstacle to prosperity. Proverbs 21:17
2. Wine makes one reckless or quarrelsome. Proverbs 20:1
3. Makes one to make wrong judgement. Isaiah 28:7
4. It affects one’s brains
5. It may lead to shameful acts e.g. it uncovered the nakedness of Noah. Genesis 9:20-24
6. Rebellious drunkard is punished by death.
   Jesus condemned a drunkard steward for poor work done Mathew 24:49
   Paul also condemned drunkenness

**Effects of Alcohol**

1. Leads to temporary loss of reasoning/judgment causing accidents, immorality and fights.
2. May lead to permanent damage of the brain
3. Damage to good health. It affects the liver and the digestive system.
4. Lessens senses of responsibility either in the family or place of work causing unemployment.
5. Leads to quarrels and miseries in homes and places of work.
6. People are likely to squander family earnings to satisfy their desires for alcohol.
7. A person who drinks excessively is likely to be careless at their place of work making losses.
8. Alcoholism can lead to family break-up because of the pain and frustration it causes.
9. In case of an expectant mother, the life of the unborn child will be in danger e.g. dead after delivery, underweight, deformities etc.
10. It makes people to have bad behavior e.g. being drunk and robbing and violence.

**How alcohol has contributed to breaking down of families**

1. Results to spending family finances/resources which lead to loss of material support to the family.
2. It may lead to quarrels, fights, and battering of children/wife.
3. Causes misunderstandings/mistrust/lack of respect in the family.
4. It leads to loss of paternal and maternal care for children e.g. mother/father is always away for long periods drinking.
5. It may lead to unfaithfulness in marriage.
6. Alcoholism may cause diseases/accidents which may lead to death or deformation of a member of the family.
7. It may lead to loss of a job therefore affecting the provision of needs to the family.
8. It could lead to strained family relationships which may result in divorce.
9. Retards individual development making one irresponsible in the family.
10. It may result in the failure of the alcoholic partner to give the spouse conjugal rights causing frustration and bitterness.

**Use and abuse drugs and their effect**

**Drug**

- It is any substance which when taken into any living organism may alter some of their functions.
- It can be taken through
  - Injection into the body
  - Inhalation
  - Used externally as liquid, lotions, ointment, powder

**Uses of drugs**

1. Preventions, diagnosis, and treatment of diseases
2. Restore and promote health e.g. vaccines
3. Some are taken to relive pain e.g. paracetamol
4. Used as stimulants i.e. they stimulate the brain e.g. tea and coffee
5. To relive tension
6. Promote work efficiency
7. For leisure/passing time
8. To satisfy one’s curiosity
9. Because they are available

**Categories of drugs (Types)**

**Drugs are categorized according to:**

1. Its purpose
2. Chemical characteristics
3. Effect on the user

**The drugs are categorized as below**

1. Medical drugs
2. Soft drugs
3. Hard drugs

**1. Medical drugs**

These are drugs prescribed to patients by doctors for medical purposes e.g. palliatives, tranquilizers, and sedatives.

(a) **Tranquilizers**

   Relieve tension and induce sleep e.g. piriton

(b) **Sedatives**

   Drugs that reduce pain and induce sleep e.g. aspirin, panadol, and codeine

(c) **Palliative**

   Use to treat chronic diseases like cancer, asthma, diabetes and high blood pressure. They help in reducing pain and prolong life.

(d) **Curative**

   These drugs fights germs and bacteria e.g. antibiotics e.g.

**2. Soft drugs**

   Are stimulants and volatile drugs. These include the following types of drugs.

**Stimulants**
These are substances that increase activity of the central nervous system (brain) e.g. caffeine found in coke, tea, and miraa.

**Tobacco**

- Taken in form of cigarette or snuff
- Contains substances which are harmful to the body
- Some of the substances found in tobacco are;
  - Nicotine makes a person to be addicted to smoking
  - Carbon monoxide, damages the arteries, heart and lungs
  - Tar: black substance left in the lungs after smoking. This promotes cancer of the throat, heart or lungs.

**Effects of cigarettes**

1. Pregnant women may experience miscarriages or give birth to underweight or unhealthy babies
2. Chest and respiratory diseases
3. Poor blood circulation
4. Social economic problems. A smoker will spend substantial amount of money to buy cigarettes.
   - It irritates people around because they will inhale smoke which is dangerous to their lives.
   - Careless smokers may start destructive fires.

**Khat/Miraa**

- Chewed to induce excitement
- The juice from miraa when ingested/causes temporary excitement to the user
- It is dangerous because:
  - Makes one lose appetite
  - Interferes with the digestion
  - Cause sleeplessness
  - User may become irritable

**Volatile drugs**

Such drugs make the consumer intoxicated, dizzy, and have distorted speech. These include petroleum products, paint thinners, and dry cleaning fluids. Their fumes are sniffed to get the desired effect for example glue sniffing.

**Effects of volatile drugs**

1. Chemicals element of glue has intoxicating effect which gives some form of excitement to the user.
2. Loss of appetite and becoming disillusioned.
3. May cause early death

**Why some people use volatile drugs**
1. To cope with their dangerous and hopeless living situation
2. To waste time as a form of rebellion against their family and society

3. **Hard drugs**

- These are also referred to as narcotic drugs.
- They are hallucinogens because they are substances that produce dreams and illusions
- They distort visual, hearing and touch perceptions e.g. heroin, cocaine and bhang

**Cocaine**

- It is narcotic drug derived from coca leaves
- It is a very expensive and addictive drug
- People make money out of it by being pushers, users or dealers
- Throughout the world the dealers get billings of shillings,

**Effects**

1. It leads to dependency, addiction, mental problems and death
2. Causes confusion, vomiting, convulsion, circulatory and rapid pulse in sensitive individuals.

**Morphine**

- It is derived from cocaine and can be used medically to suppress pain as a local anesthetic.
- Constant use cases addiction and the consequences are like those of cocaine.

**Bhang**

- Comes from a plant known as Indian hemp
- Also called marijuana or Cannabis saliva
- All the parts of the plant are addictive

**Effects**

Causes aggression in people that they have extra powers handing their perceptions of reality, space and time.

**Heroin**

- Also extracted from morphine
- Highly addictive narcotic drug
- Looks like white crystallized powder
- Injected through the veins into a person’s body

**Effects**

1. Loss of appetite for food
2. Loss of weight
3. Could lead to heart and liver diseases
4. Spread of diseases like HIV/AIDS since they may share shape apparatus
5. Respiratory problems
6. May lead to stealing of money to buy drugs
7. Leads to occurrence of withdrawal symptoms when heroin is not available e.g. nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and severe anxiety.
8. High doses may cause death.

**Reasons why people abuse alcohol and other drugs**

1. **Frustrations.** People indulge in alcohol and drugs in order to cope with frustrating situations e.g. unemployment, inability to perform well in school, poverty, and social problems in the family.
2. **Idleness.** When young people have too much time to themselves, or nothing constructive do, they tend to experiment on drugs and alcohol.
3. Giving too much money to young people as pocket money without regulating its use.
4. **Financial stress.** Leads people to become peddlers and users, pushers of drugs in an attempt to get money.
5. **Bad examples from adults.** In homes where parents use drugs children copy their parent’s habits.
6. Availability of drugs in the Kenyan market. Some drugs are cheap and within the reach of most users. They are sold in kiosks. Market places and a homes, and in the neighborhood.
7. **Negative peer pressure.** Most young people abuse drugs to be accepted by age mates.
8. **Media influence.** Commercial advertisements and movies promote abuse of alcohol and drug by linking success and power to their consumption.
9. **Parental neglect of children.** They indulge in alcohol and drugs to get their parents attention.
10. **Permissiveness ad breakdown of Traditional African values.** Western culture has eroded T.A. values, it has promoted individuality and lack of concern for others. Today people believe that they right to indulge in alcohol and drugs because it makes them happy.
11. **Weakening faith.** Those who have less faith in God tend to have fewer morals and become careless in their body hence become drunk.

**Effects of drug abuse**

1. Health problems either immediate or delayed e.g. bhang causes mental disorder, lung cancer.
2. Negative impact on pregnant women causing foetal-alcohol syndrome which destroys the brain of children.
3. Malnutrition. One would spend much money in drugs at the expense of food hence causes negative food eating habits e.g. loss of appetite.
4. Leads to unemployment as one would be irresponsible at work and this could result in being a poor producer at work hence they are laid off.
5. Road accidents due to too much drugs and alcohol taking drivers lose their perception hence leads to road accident.
6. It leads to delinquency and untruly behavior e.g. rape, murder and strikes.
7. It leads to family conflicts e.g. between parents and children, and couples
8. One could become a social misfit in society as people run away from one and no one wants to be associated with one.
9. Separation/Divorce may also occur due to family conflict.
10. It leads to wife battering which sometimes leads to killing of the wife.

**Ways and means of preventing and correcting drug abuse**

1. Need to enforce and establish laws to stop the transportation of illegal drugs.
2. Offering public education to pregnant women, youth, refugees and street children who are vulnerable.
3. Varieties of leisure activities should be offered to the youth so as to avoid idleness. This will help keep them busy and not to abuse drugs.
4. Treatment through medical services. Addicts can be given medicine to withdraw from drug taking e.g. methadone which makes have the same feeling with different effect in the body.
5. Use of drug free outpatient program where drug addicts visits counseling centre for advice.
6. Creation of self-self-support where former drug addicts and family members develop confidence in the former drug addicts.

CHRISTIANS APPROACHES OT WEALTH, MONEY AND POVERTY

Wealth
It is the large amount of money and other valuable possessions.

A wealth person is one who possesses large tracts of land, vehicles, commercial and residential buildings, livestock and other business enterprises.

**How wealth is acquired**

1. Inheritance
2. Industrial investment
3. Exploitation of natural resources
4. Provision of commercial services
5. Successful business career
6. Commercial farming
7. Investment of money in financial institutions
8. Better paying jobs

**Money**

- It is a medium of exchange that functions as a legal tender
- It exists in form of coins and bank notes
- It is a convenient medium of exchange
- It is the symbol of wealth

**Monetary qualities**

1. Generally acceptable. People must have confidence in its purchasing power
2. Must be durable i.e. not subject to deterioration
3. Easy to divide into small units
4. Easy to carry
5. Its value must be maintained through proper control of its circulation.
- Money is used to determine prices of goods, to pay debts, to pay for goods and services and to make savings and investments.
- Different regions of the world use different currencies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Currency</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>Kshs</td>
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<tr>
<td>S. Africa</td>
<td>Rand</td>
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<tr>
<td>U.S.A.</td>
<td>Dollar (US$)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Britain</td>
<td>Sterling pound</td>
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<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>Dollar (Canadian $)</td>
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<td>Japan</td>
<td>Yen ¥</td>
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<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>Rupee (Indian Rupee)</td>
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Poverty

- It is the state of being without adequate necessities of life e.g. food, shelter and clothing.
- It is the economic helplessness of individuals due to inadequate sources of income.

Causes of poverty

1. Unemployment
2. Laziness
3. Historical and social factors e.g. poor family background
4. Poor governance or corruption
5. Low level of technology
6. Geographical factors e.g. harsh climatic conditions
7. Political instability that may lead to civil war.
8. Regional imbalance of natural resources
9. Overdependence on foreign aid
10. Natural disasters e.g. floods, earthquakes and epidemics
11. Defective education

Traditional African Understanding of Wealth and Poverty

Introduction

- The idea of wealth and poverty has existed from time immemorial
- The rich and the poor have always co-existed in all human societies
- In African communities both poverty and wealth are viewed as part of human existence.

Teachings on wealth

- In Traditional African Communities wealth is measured in terms of land, livestock, grains, wives and children.
- The more wives and children the wealthier a man is considered
- Wealth can be owned individually or communally, e.g. land for communal grazing and cultivation
- Women and children were not allowed to own any property
- Those with wealth, big herds of cattle, sheep and goats are honoured and given respect in society
- Those with wealth had a social responsibility of sharing with the poor kinsmen.
- There are clear guidelines on the ownership and issue of wealth.

Ways in which wealth is acquired in T.A.C
1. **As a gift from God**
   - Most African communities believe that wealth is a blessing from God
   - God provides human beings with food, rain, cattle and other basic needs

2. **Inheritance**
   - A man who has grown up children may share wealth among them.

3. **Bride wealth**
   - When a girl gets married, bride-wealth is paid by the bridegroom to the parents of the bride.
   - The bride wealth is in the form of livestock, grains, farm tools, beds and honey
   - There the more daughters am an has the more bride wealth he will fetch.

4. **Farming**
   - In T.A.C, farming is the main economic activity
   - Some communities practice pastoralism, while others mixed farming
   - Those who work hard reap enough to feed their families
   - Pastoralists work hard to ensure that they have large herds of animals which provide food, bride wealth and also used in exchange for other goods.

5. **Exploitation of natural resources**
   - This includes natural vegetation that provides people with food (fruits), money, medicinal herbs, building materials and wood for carving.
   - Wildlife provides people with meat for food and skin for clothing.
   - Rivers lakes and seas are sources of water for both livestock, human beings and also used for fishing.

6. **Trade**
   - This is the exchange of goods and services e.g. goats and sheep which can be used for exchange i.e. Barter trade.

7. **Raids**
   - Wealth can also be acquired through raiding other communities of goats, sheep and cattle. This practice is still prevalent today among the Pokot and Turkana communities of Kenya and the Karamajong of Uganda.
8. Use of skill and knowledge i.e. Art
9. Marrying many wives and having many children
10. Hard work.

**Poverty**

- In T.A.C, poverty is understood as lack of basic needs required to live a decent life, lack of food, shelter, clothing and other resources and lack of family.
- Poverty causes hopelessness, despair, misery, lack of sense of belonging
- In T.A.S especially in patriarchal (ruled or controlled by men)’ community’s wealth is owned and controlled by men.
- Women do not property. Usually women experience poverty after they are widowed and left with children.

**Causes of poverty in T.A.C**

1. **Laziness**
   - Lazy people are despised and songs of ridicule are composed to castigate them.
   - They are not given responsibilities in the community
   - Their families and homes are characterized by hunger, poorly constructed houses,
     Lack of livestock and poorly cultivated farms.

2. **Lack of inheritance**
   - People born and brought up in poor families usually inherit very little property or nothing at all.
   - Nevertheless, young people manage to get out of property if they are hardworking or participate in cattle raids.
   - T.A.Cs have proverbs and folk narratives which praise the hardworking young people and condemns the lazy one.
   - T.A.Cs believe that God hears the cry of the poor and delivers them out of their difficulties.

3. **Raids**
   - Families that are victims of raiding are rendered poor overnight. Raiders usually take off with livestock, girls and women
   - Some communities continue the practice raiding for the purpose of acquiring cattle for dowry or to increase their wealth e.g. Turkana, Pokot, and the Karamojong.
   - Communities that have suffered under cattle rustling lack basic facilities like schools, health centres, commercial centres and even churches. Raiding therefore makes individual families and communities poor.
- There is need for these communities to change their attitudes of acquiring wealth through raiding and embrace new and better methods like trading, formal employment and farming.

4. **Sickness**

- Prolonged illness contributes to poverty
- Diseases such as epilepsy, leprosy, paralysis and mental illness render the victims unproductive.
- Poor people cannot afford to eat health or have access to health care because of lack of resources
- In fact poverty aggravates ill health.
- Today many Kenyans are dying of curable diseases because they cannot afford to go to hospital or to buy medicine.

5. **Natural Calamities**

- Poverty may also be as a result of natural calamities such as drought, floods, earthquakes and invasion of army worms and locusts.
- These calamities leave human life and property destroyed
- People loss animals, crops and even their lives.
- Economic recovery after such a calamity may take a long time

**Traditional African attitude to wealth and poverty**

**Traditional African attitudes to wealth and poverty are guided by the following principles:**

1. **Value of human life**
   - Since everyone belongs to the community, they should be helped with food, shelter and other necessities of life.
   - Those who are ready for marriage are assisted to acquire bride-wealth
   - Others are given cows or a piece of land with which to sustain their livelihood.

2. **Mutual responsibility**
   - It is the duty of everyone to be concerned about the welfare of others.
   - Where the parents are unable to care for their children, other relatives may take the responsibility.
   - Helping the needy is regarded as an act that God rewards.
   - Selfishness is condemned.

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   - It is the duty of everyone to be concerned about the welfare of others.
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- Helping the needy is regarded as an act that God rewards.

- Selfishness is condemned

4. Communal ownership of resources

- In T.A.S, resources like land, watering places, rivers and salt licks belong to the whole community and everyone has access to them.

- Ancestral land can never be sold. It is held custody for future generations.

- For those without land, portion are given to them to cultivate and graze their animals of tenants.

- The concept of buying and selling land was non-existing in the post in TAS.

Note

In TAC during the pre-colonial times there were;

i) Wealthy people

ii) No destitute people

iii) No great disparities between the rich and poor

iv) People lived in similar houses, ate the same type of food and participated in similar activities.

v) People were bound by similar moral values and fear of God, spirits and ancestors

The impact of the introduction of money economy in traditional African society

- The word economy refers to the careful management of resources, finances, income and expenditure of a family, a business enterprises, community or county.

- A country’s level of development is measured by the wealth of its economy in terms of health, education, housing, sanitation, employment, longevity of life and decrease of maternal and child mortality.

- Money economy refers to the use of money as a means of exchange in economic activities such as banking, investment, insurance and payment for goods and services.

- Before the coming of western missionaries and colonialist in the 19th Century the use of money in Africa was limited to the Arabs along the East African Coast. The African communities carried out barter trade.

- The use of money was introduced in T.A.S by missionaries, European settlers and the colonial administration.

- The colonial government created a need of money in the tradition African mind by:

  i) Introducing different taxes to be paid

  ii) Importing goods such as clothes, soap, matches and books.

  iii) Introducing the payment of school fees for their children’s education

  iv) Demanding for medical fees in hospitals
v) Teaching on payments of tithe in church

To meet these demand, Traditional African Communities raised money by;

i) Working for the missionaries/colonial government as clerks, teachers of domestic workers.
ii) Growing cash crops such as coffee and tea
iii) Being self-employed in masonry, carpentry and shop keeping.

The radical changes brought about by the colonial administration in African Societies

1. African land was alienated and given to European settlers and Africans pushed to native reserves.
2. European settlers started farming cash crops on big firms. Monetary taxation was introduced to force Africans to work. Africans had to look for jobs in European farms or in towns as domestic servants in order to earn money to pay taxes.
3. Africans who attended the mission schools were equipped with certain skills which enabled them to be employed by local government and mission stations.
4. With the introduction of formal education, many parents required money to pay fees for their children to attend school.
5. People had to receive media services and had to pay for them using money.
6. Money was needed to buy imported goods such as soap, cloths, and ornaments.
7. During World War 1 & 2 some Africans were employed as porters and solders. They were exposed to new ideas about self-governance and economic activities.
8. With the growth of towns, business begun and Africans began to sell some of their goods, crops and animals for money.
9. After the completion of the Kenya – Uganda railway (1901) more Asians settled in towns and started targeting Africans as the main customers.
10. With the growing need for formal education more teachers are needed to teach in mission schools and intermediate schools.
11. Many Africans engaged themselves in the growing of cash crops as small scale farmers.

Positive effect of money economy on the African Society

1. As need to use money to purchase goods and services many people left their homes to look for wage employment in towns and farms.
2. Other Africans got employed as clerks in mission hospitals, schools and government offices.
3. Cash crops were introduced e.g. coffee, tea, pyrethrum and cotton. Some Africans started growing these crops as small-scale farmers.
4. The development of towns made people to move from the rural areas to the urban areas in search of employment.
5. Lead to higher standards of living for the Africans who were employed.
6. Africans were able to interact with the outside world through trade
7. Open more opportunities for wage employment
8. Money was a convenient symbol of exchange for goods and services
Negative effects of money economy on the African society

1. Closed knit traditional social structures were destroyed through rural-urban migration in search of employment. Kinship ties were weakened. Migration of men to urban centres made women to become household heads.
2. Production to traditional subsistence crops declined and was replaced by the growing of cash-crops. This led to lack of food security and starvation.
3. Labour became a commodity to be sold to the highest bidder and it ceased to be done for self-fulfillment and for the common welfare.
4. Arable land was alienated from African who were initially reduced to squatters then wage labourers in their own land.
5. Individual ownership of land was emphasized which could be sold at will. In T.A.S land was communally owned and held in trust for future generations.
6. Individualism among Africans was created. Communal way of life amongst people was eroded people who are not economically active.
7. Rural-urban migration increased with rural areas being left with less educated and weaker people who are not economically active.
8. The gap between the rich and poor widened. This is because the available jobs and investments opportunities are for those with education and money.
9. Bride wealth became commercialized
10. It lead to the exploitation of the poor by the rich e.g. brought poor wages and overcharging prices on goods.
11. Social evils such as prostitution, theft, bribery, corruption and other crimes increased because of demand for money.
12. An economy motivated by profit and without regard for the poor was created.
13. Destruction of natural environment to create room for building projects, roads and urban centres became rampant.
14. The live hoods of the indigenous people who live in forests were thrown out.
15. Cost of living increased because everything is determined by money.
16. Led to stiff competition of prices of goods and services between local and multination enterprises. This had led to collapse of many industries.

The Christian teaching on wealth

Introduction

Wealth is determined by possessions on has e.g. money, land, expensive vehicles, household goods, luxurious living, sending children to expensive schools, getting the most expensive health care, and owning business.
For one to be wealthy, they;

1. Work hard
2. Have wisdom and knowledge
3. Manage their time properly
4. Don’t waste their resources in drinking or smoking

Teaching on wealth

1. Wealth is a blessing from God
2. Wealth is good and gives people economic independence.
3. Wealth should be acquired through lawful means such as hard work and inheritance
4. Wealth should be used to help the needy
5. Wealth should not be squandered
6. The rich should share their wealth with the poor
7. Christians should be good stewards of God’s wealth
8. Christians should not allow wealth to be a stumbling block to eternal life.

Why Christians should not put all their trust in wealth

1. It is not permanent and ends when one dies.
2. It creases a false sense of independence from God
3. It is not the supreme good and cannot bring true happiness, friendship and spiritual gifts.
4. Church leaders should avoid greed for wealth
5. Christians should not seek spiritual wealth more than material wealth.

Ways in which Christians may use their wealth

1. Financing the spread of Gospel
3. Contributing towards construction of schools, churches, hospitals, paying lawful taxes to the government, providing formal educational and training, giving offering and paying tithes.
4. Providing for the family needs e.g. food, shelter
5. Contributing towards the support of church leaders/ministers
6. Paying lawful taxes to the government
7. Providing formal education and training

The Christian teaching on poverty

Effects of poverty in the society

1. Insecurity in which people may be tempted to steal from others to survive
2. Immorality such as prostitution in order to earn a living
3. Political instability in which the poor masses may revolt against the rich in the society
4. Under-development since the poor people cannot do much to develop themselves or the society
5. Envy and hatred towards the rich therefore disrupting harmony in the society.

**Causes of poverty according to the Old and New Testaments**

1. Laziness
2. Too much pleasure and love for wine/alcohol
3. Displacement of families due to war and natural calamities
4. Oppression of the poor by the rich
5. Widowhood
6. Disobedience to the covenant law

**Measures taken by Christians towards reducing poverty levels in the society**

1. Christians in the business and trade should avoid cheating and overcharging for goods and service
2. They should pay just wages to workers
3. They should provide basic needs to the poor and the needy in the society
4. They should establish homes for the aged, orphans and street children
5. They should provide special education and training for the physically and mentally impaired
6. They should advocate the implementation of just laws in society
7. They should initiate poverty eradication programmes.

**Christian’s response to issues related to wealth and money**

**Fair distribution of wealth**

(Affluence and poverty

**Introduction**

- Fair distribution of wealth means sharing the nation’s resource equitably among its members
- Unfair distribution of wealth refers to a situation where there are two social classes of people; the rich (affluent) and the poor who cannot afford event and basic needs.
- The gap between the rich and the poor has kept widening.

**Reasons which Christians condemn unfair distribution of wealth**

i) All human beings were created by God and so they are sisters and brothers
ii) All the resources are meant for the common good. They should be shared out fairly.
iii) Christians have a moral responsibility to share their resources with the needy
iv) It is wrong to debase people by evaluating them on the basis of wealth.

**Role of the church and the government in narrowing the gap between the rich and the poor**

1. Develop training programmes for the poor in special vocational skills such as carpentry, masonry, computer literacy and knitting.
2. Establish micro-finance societies to give soft loans to the poor.
4. Introduce proverbs reduction programmes
5. Ensure equitable distribution of the nation resources through policies like the constituency Development fund.
6. Support the Jua Kali sector thorough giving loans, licenses and land for small scale enterprises
7. Enforce implementation of tax policies for the collection of government revenue for development.
8. Encourage creation of co-operative movements in the rural areas.
9. Offer and support free primary education
10. Engage cost sharing in the provision of medical services.

**Bribery and Corruptions**

i) **Bribery**

-Bribery is the giving of money, goods or privileges in return for some favour

-A bribe may be offered freely or extorted by pressure.

ii) **Corruption**

-It is the persuasion of a person in a position of responsibility to neglect his/her duty or perform it wrongly or to use his/her influence wrongly in return for some undue advantage to his/her.

-The reward may be in the form of goods, money and promotion or in any other kind.

-Bribery and corruption go together.

**Factors that may cause bribery and corruption**

1. Greed for money or material possession
2. One’s desire of unmerited promotion
3. Desire for instant wealth
4. Low payment of salaries
5. A perverted conscience
6. Poverty and unemployment
7. To escape legal action
8. Ignorance of the law / rules and regulation
9. Lack of moral guidance
10. As a cover-up for scandals

**Reasons why Christians condemn bribery and corruption**

1. They are immoral and sinful acts.
2. They obstruct the cause of justice
3. They demean human dignity and destroy the public images of leaders
4. They impoverish individuals, families and nations
5. They discourage foreign investment in the country.
6. They may lead to the collapse of public corporations and mass unemployment
7. They are illegal practices and can lead to loss of job and imprisonment
8. Feeling of discontent among the citizens and they may rise against the corrupt leaders for being cheated of their rights.

The role of Christians should play in curbing bribery and corruption

1. They should condemn all forms of corruption at all lives in our society through preaching and sensitizing the public against it evils.
2. They should organize seminars, crusades, debates and commissions to deal with cause and possible solutions to corruption.
3. They should lead exemplary lives by obeying the laws of the country.
4. They should report the offenders to lawful authority for prosecution and punishment.
5. They should declare their wealth and let others do so for the purpose of transparency o how they may have acquired wealth.
6. They should vote out corrupt systems
7. They should advocate for proper enforcement of the laws on corruption

Life skills

These are abilities that make individuals to make sound decisions on the challenges of daily lives.
These are skills that guide a Christian to acquire wealth and use wealth and also ho to make right living.

1. Critical Thinking
   - It is the ability to analyze information or experiences objectively
   - The critical thinker gives a second thought to everything he does to have a deeper understanding and interpretation.

2. Creative Thinking
   - This is the ability to focus and come up with new ideas to add value to existing ones.
   - It is a problem solving skills through which one is able to know how to invest the acquired wealth, create self-employment or how to increase profits.
   Christians use creative thinking on the strength that they have been given various gifts by God to use for the benefits of creation.

3. Decision making
   - It is the process of focusing one’s mind to make a choice from several alternatives.
   - One needs to have knowledge, accurate information and the will in order to take a decision.
-Christians should use decision-making skill to arrive at the right means of acquiring and spending money,

4. **Self-esteem**

-It is the ability to regard oneself highly

-It gives one confidence. Therefore, he/she is able to accept weakness and strength.

-It helps a Christian to strengthen the areas of weakness positively

-It helps a Christian know what is required in life, set goals and work to achieve them

-It helps a Christian to accept poverty state, get focus and discover the potential to be exploited to alleviate the situation.

5. **Assertiveness**

-This is the ability to make decisions and hold on to them independently

-One is confident in what he/she believes to be true

-The skills of assertiveness helps Christians to stand firm on Christian principles that are against all forms of corruption in society.

**Christian values that enhance creation of a just society**

1. **Love**
   - Strong feeling towards someone
   - Enables Christians to have a deep feeling for those suffering
   - Christians love should be demonstrated through sharing of resources and helping the needy in the society

2. **Honesty**
   - Enables one to tell the truth and stand by it.
   - It helps one to be trustworthy in matters concerning materials wealth
   - Dishonesty makes one lose respect in society and also leads to God’s punishment.
   - Christians should acquire and use wealth honestly, not like the Ananias and Saphira in the early church.

3. **Reliability**
   - Ability to be trusted and relied upon
   - It ensures one’s behavior can be predicted in any situation consistently.
   - The virtue helps a Christian in the field of fixing prices in business and paying employees promptly.
4. **Justice/fairness**
   - Enables a Christian to offer what they rightly deserve
   - It involves giving others equal treatment without discrimination.
   - Christens act justly in matters of wealth by advocating for equitable distribution of wealth and avoiding act of corruption in handling public property

5. **Respect**
   - State of being meek and lack of pride
   - A humble person accepts points of weakness and strengths and accepts correction
   - It ensures that a Christian in authority offers humble service to others.

6. **Humility**
   - State of being meek and lack of pride
   - A humble person accepts points of weakness and strengths and accepts correction

7. **Persistence**
   - It is the determination to accomplish a task regardless of the shortcomings or challenges
   - It requires a lot of endurance and perseverance to acquire what one wants
   - It encourages Christians to be hard working and not give up in pursuit of their goal.

8. **Chastity**
   - Purity in sexual matters
   - One respects his/her body and doesn’t engage in risky sexual behavior

**QUESTIONS (WEALTH, MONEY AND POVERTY)**

1. Describe how wealth was acquired in traditional African communities.
2. Explain how money economy has undermined the principles of Christian living.
3. With references to the proper use of wealth in the Bible state various ways in which Christians in Kenya utilized their wealth.
4. Explain how unfair distribution of wealth can lead to social disorder in Kenya today.
5. Explain four negative effects of the introduction of money economy on traditional African communities.
6. Outline six teachings of Jesus on wealth.
7. Give six reasons why Christians should not involve themselves in gambling.
8. Outline Jesus teaching on wealth.
9. Discuss the impact of introduction of money economy in traditional African society.
10. Give reasons why bribery and corruption are on an increase in society today.
11. Give five acceptable ways in which a Christian can acquire wealth.
12. Explain four ways in which money economy has undermined the principles of Christian living.
13. Outline the factors that hinder the Christians from helping the needy
14. State four forms of corruption in our society today.
15. How young Christian can use life skills to cope up with various challenges.
16. Discuss the Old Testament teachings on wealth
17. Discuss ways in which people misuse their wealth.

CHRISTIANS APPROACHES TO LAW, ORDER AND JUSTICE

Definition

Laws

- Rules which a particular country recognizes and follows
- It protects people, property, health, security
- Stipulated in a document known as the constitution
- The law enforces are the police and courts of law.

Types of laws

1. Non-legal laws
   - Laws which operate in schools, clubs, organizations
   - Those that break that laws may be punished or expelled from the organization

2. Customary / traditional laws
   - Developed around a particular culture and social traditions of different groups
   - Regulate relationship between the in-laws, young people and elders, and matters of marriages

3. Statutory laws / legal laws
   - Made by counties/national government and the citizens are required to obey them.
   - The law breakers are arrested and face legal actions.
   - They are made in parliament and passed by special procedures e.g.

   i) Civil laws
      - By parliament to guide citizen in their activities in relation to one another.
      - Deal with issues of property, paying taxes, labour, management and divorce.

   ii) Constitutional Law
      - Deal with matters of state governance
      - Constitution is the ultimate law of the land and supersedes all other laws.
iii) Criminal law

- Deals with crime and punishment e.g. murder, rape, robbery with violence and assault.

iv) Religious laws

Made by different religious to govern their members e.g. Islamic law as contained in the sharia, which is derived from the Koran.

Christian law as derived from the Bible and Christian traditions e.g. the Roman Catholic Church has the Canon laws.

Order

- A state of harmony and stability in the society
- A well-organized system
- Peaceful condition of a society
- Lack of order is characterized by insecurity

Justice

- Refers to fair treatment of citizens in accordance to the law of the land
- In a just society one may be punished or rewarded according to their action.
- Where there is justice there is peace in that society
- Injustice brings chaos and mistrust

Traditional African practices that promotes law, order and justice

Introduction

- Law is inherited from their ancestors. Passed orally from one generation to the next
- Law exist in taboos, customs and norms
- Everyone knows what is right and wrong
- Everyone understands virtues to be upheld e.g. friendship, love, honesty, courage bravery and compassion.
- People are discouraged from developing vices such as cheating, theft, greed, dishonest and selfishness.
- Elders and ancestors and specialist are custodians of the law on behalf of the community.
- All members observed rules and regulations that cover all aspects to their life e.g. marriage, work, initiation, trade, sacrifice.

Practices that promotes law, order and justice in T.A.C

1. Punishment of offenders
When people commit offences such as stealing, murder, rape and witchcraft they are punished. They are punished through death, paying fines, expulsion from the society and caning.

2. **Installation of rulers, kings, chiefs and elders**

   - Maintain law, order and justice in their areas of jurisdiction
   - Whatever they say is binding

3. **Administration of oaths**

   - Administered by specialists and used as a method of maintaining law and order, e.g. drinking blood or mixing their blood.

4. **Making of covenants**

   - When there arises conflict between two communities, they call a meeting led by elders and make a covenant and take vows as a sign of commitment

5. **Observing taboos**

   - All members observe taboos and those who break are punished

6. **Inter-marriages are encouraged as a way of encouraging law and order between two warrying communities**

7. **Initiating dialogue**

   - Warrying groups come together and discuss their issues and come out with solutions

8. **Sending emissaries**

   - Emissaries and mediators are sent to solve issues and unite warrying communities

9. **Sharing meals or drinks from the same pot as a sign of peace**

10. **Returning the spoils from the raids**

11. **Disciplining children**

    - This is the responsibility of the older members of the society

12. **Young people expected to respect the old**

13. **Acquisition and ownership of property is organized according to the regulations on inheritance and ownership of property. This reduces conflict.**

14. **Family heads share wealth fairly to his children before death.**

15. **Religion permeates all aspects of life in Traditional African Society.**

**Biblical teaching on the law, order and justice**

**The law in the Old Testament**
• Referred to as the Torah and contained in the first five books
• Were to regulate people’s relationship between God and people
  1. God gave Adam and Eve the law (instructions) God is interested in human behavior
  2. Abraham was given the 10 commandments by God through Moses were supposed to guide their relationship with God.
  3. Israelites given the 10 commandments by God through Moses were supposed to guide their relationship with God.
  4. The Israelites were given several laws regulating several aspects of their lives, for example,
     • They were given the law regarding the prohibition of disposal of ancestral land Leviticus 25:23-28
     • They were give laws regarding the prohibition of eating of blood. Leviticus 17:10
     • They were also given laws on treatment of slaves and foreigners. Leviticus 25:39-55
  5. The Israelites nation was governed according to the law of God i.e. it was a theocratic state under the leadership of kings like Moses, Joshua, David and Solomon.
  6. When the Israelites demanded for a Kind and God allowed them and were supposed to maintain law and order.
  7. The Kings of Israel were custodians of God’s law and were to rule justly and were to ensure that the weak and poor were treated with fairness.
  8. The Prophets in the Old Testament preached justice that God expected justice to be practiced in Israel.

**Law in the New Testament**

1. Jesus observed the Mosaic Law as outlined below;
   • He was circumcised in accordance with it.
   • He observed the Sabbath by attending the synagogue every Sabbath by attending the synagogue every Sabbath day and attended the Passover feast in Jerusalem
   • Jesus stated clearly that he did not come to abolish the Law of Moses but to fulfill it. (Matt. 5 17-48)
   • In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus gave a new interpretation of the Mosaic Law.
2. He spoke with authority as he responded to various aspects of the law in the following manner;
   • The Law of Moses forbade adultery, Jesus prohibited men from looking at women with lustful eyes as this was likely to lead them to the actual act of sex abuse.
   • The Mosaic Law allowed the use of oath (Numbers 30:3, Deuteronomy. 23:22) but Jesus asserted that it was wrong to swear by heaven or on earth.
The Mosaic Law called for love of one’s friends and hate for one’s enemy (Leviticus 19:18) but Jesus taught that we should love our enemies and be good to those who hate use.

The Law of Moses emphasized the strict observance of the Law but Jesus called for absolute trust in God.

3. Throughout his ministry, Jesus ignored the traditions that hindered him in his work of salvation e.g. he ate and mixed with tax collectors and sinners.

4. Jesus condemned traditions that went against God’s commandments.


Order in Old Testament

- In creation story God is seen as a God of order because he created the universe in stages.
- God is seen as a God of order during the events of the exodus e.g. he chose Moses to lead the Israelites in the wilderness. Joshua to succeed Moses. He later appointed judges e.g. Deborah and Samuel. Ensured order and maintained by having large armies.

Order in New Testament

- God is also portrayed as a God of order in the life and ministry of Jesus Christ e.g. His holy birth and settling in Nazareth was God’s plan.
- Jesus Ministry was orderly. He started in his home area and went to all parts of Palestine and concluded in Jerusalem where he was crucified and died for sins of human beings.
- Performed miracles to restore peoples’ health because sickness and suffering bring disorder to the body and the mind.
- There was order in his preaching
- He chose the twelve disciples who later became apostles to spread the Gospel
- St. Paul gave instructions on orderliness in churches he had started on some issues, for example
  - How to celebrate the Lords Supper 1st Corinthians 11:17-33
  - Leadership in the church. 1st Corinthians 12:27-31
  - How the spiritual gifts were to be used. 1 Corn. 14:26-40

Justice in the Old Testament

1. In Deuteronomy 1:17, Israelites leaders and judges were required to execute justice fairly without being biased.
2. God gave the Israelites the laws to guide them and help them live in peace and harmony in a just society.
3. God is described as just, righteous and loving, that he rewards obedience and punishes evils.
5. God’s judgment was pronounced by Prophet Elijah to the house of Ahab because as a King, he didn’t protect his subjects.
6. Prophets of Micah, Amos, and Jeremiah condemned social injustices in Israel and Judah, e.g. oppression of the poor and weak, corruption, bribery and violence.
7. In Luke 3:10-14, John the Baptist preached about the importance of upholding justice by, for example,
   • Asking the tax collector not to collect more tax than they were supposed to and
   • Asking the rich to share their property with the needy.

Justice in the New Testament

1. James condemned the injustice of the refusing to pay wages to their workers. James 5:4-6
2. Jesus told his listeners to seek the Kingdom of God and justice/righteousness.
3. Jesus fulfills the prophecy of Jeremiah that Jesus would rule wisely and with justice.

The need for law, order and justice in the society

Law, order and justice is needed in the society for the following reasons;

• To safeguard the rights of people
• To ensure the protection of people and their property
• To promote peace and harmony
• To promote political stability and economic development
• To attract both local and foreign investment in the country
• To promote peaceful relationships between countries
• To safeguard freedom of the citizens
• To control and check the powers of those in authority
• To enable the government implemented its policies effectively for overall development of the country.

Rights and duties of citizens

Definitions

Citizen: This person who has full rights as a member of a nation either by birth, registration or naturalization.

Right: This is what is legally due to a citizen on account of being a member of a state.

Duty: It is a moral obligation towards a state. It is what is required of a citizens of deliver to the state by being a citizen of that country.

Rights of citizens

These include the following
The right to life
The right to education, both informal and formal
The right to employment
The right to own property
The right to marry and raise a family
The right to enjoy one’s freedom, for example, the freedom of speech and association.
The right of children for protection against all forms of neglect, cruelty and exploitation
The right of children not to be employed before an appropriate age.
The right to fair trial.

Duties of citizens

The following are the duties of citizens;

- To respect and obey state authority so as to enhance harmony in the country
- To register as a voter and vote in national elections.
- To work for the welfare and development of the community economically, socially and politically.
- To care for the sick and the needy.
- To conserve and protect the national resources for the country
- To prevent criminal acts by reporting errant members to law enforcement agents
- To pay taxes to the state
- To respect other people’s rights
- To promote peace and harmony through preaching

Causes of social disorder and remedies

Social disorder is a situation in which confusion, fear, disharmony and violence exists in a society.

This situation is caused by some of the following factors;

(a) Discrimination

This refers to biased treatment by showing favours or disfavours to some people in a society.
This is caused by the following factors;
- Gender
- Race
- Disability
- Economic status
- Neo-colonialism
- Biased constitutions

Christians condemn all forms of discrimination for all humans are equal in dignity and destiny

(b) Racism
This is the believe that one’s race is more superior to others. This is manifested though, for example, provision of different education, medical services and social clubs based on race.

**Christians are against racism because it brings about social disorder through:**

- Developing feelings of hatred toward racists
- Feeling of being demoralized and desperate by the inferior group
- Suspension and tension between the two races
- General insecurity in the society through mass revolts against the racist regime.

(c) Tribalism

These are attitudes that are based on one’s loyalty to one’s tribe or ethnic group
It’s about treating people on the basis of their own ethnic community
Tribalism may be cause by the following factors
- Prejudice against one tribes ‘ethnic groups
- Fear of losing one’s power
- Fear of being extinct
- Language barrier
- Administrative boundaries based on ethnicity
- Employment of people based on tribal or local basis
- Diverse cultural practices
- Tribal clubs and social occasions
- Tribal political parties
- Imbalanced distribution of the nation’s wealth and resources

**The following are one of the ways in which tribalism can be curbed:**

- Promotion of the national language
- Encouraging inter-ethnic marriages
- Establishment of national schools and organizing national games, drama and music festivals
- Promoting national electronic media services
- Encouraging domestic tourism
- Holding dialogue between different ethnic communities to resolve conflicts
- Discouraging formation of political parties based on ethnicity
(d) Sexism

It is discrimination based on sex. This arises from the belief that members of one sex are more intelligent, capable or skillful than members of the other sex.

Sexism is manifested in the following ways:

- Favouring boys’ education against girls’
- Favoritism in job opportunities
- Early marriages of girls
- Denial of women to access property or credit facilities
- Overburdening women with domestic work
- Political marginalization of women
- Religious misconception about women

Sexism can be remedied through:

- Educating communities on the dangers of sexism
- Encouraging women to venture into male dominated careers
- Educating the rural communities on basic rights through civic education.
- Formation of lobby groups to provide support for men and women
- Condemning gender-based discrimination
- Lobbying for laws, which are not gender discriminative
- Appointment women to positions of leadership in church and community
- Giving equal opportunities to men and women

(e) Inadequate distribution of wealth and resources

This is a situation in which the wealth and resources of a country are not fairly distributed among the people.

This situation may be caused by;

- Traditional and cultural differences
- Historical circumstances like colonization
- Tribalism and nepotism by those in positions of power
- Inaccessibility and nature of landscape
- Climatic and weather patterns
- Low level of technology
- Unavailability of capital
- Unproductive land
- Lack of good governance and political instability

The following are some of the remedies to inequitable distribution of wealth and resources:

- Even distribution of the country’s wealth and resources by the government
- Development of infrastructure and social amenities in all areas of the country
- Fair and just payment of taxes.
- Offering employment on the basis of merit
- Encouraging sharing of resources with the needy.
- Discouraging exploitation of the poor by the rich through law enforcement
- Appealing for assistance from the rich nations
- Installing the virtue of hard work
- Promoting locally produced goods
- Conservation and management of natural resources

(f) Crime

It is an offence, which damages the rights of other people and is punishable by law

It may be caused by some of the following factors:

- Greed for power and wealth
- Unemployment and under-employment
- Extreme poverty
- Abuse of drugs and alcohol
- Lack of family security
- Breakdown of the traditional structures
- Negative influence of the media

Criminal activities lead to the following negative impacts

- Insecurity and fear
- Hatred and bitterness
- Immorality
- Injuries and death
- Destruction of property
- Discouraging investment which leads to under-development

The remedies of crime
(a) **Punishment**

This is the deliberate denial of human rights inflicted by those in authority because of refusal to obey a law to respect the rights of others.

**Forms of punishment**

- Payment of fines
- Corporal punishment
- Imprisonment
- Death penalty
- Detention without trial
- Deportation and exile
- Denial of certain privileges
- Dismissal from work

**Purposes of punishment**

- Retribution i.e. something given as compensation
- Discouraging the criminal from repeating the offence
- As a warning against criminals
- To reform the criminal into a useful citizen

b) **Rehabilitation**

This is the process of helping a person to have a normal, useful life after being a criminal and in prison for sometime.

**How criminals can be rehabilitated by the church**

- Providing guidance and counseling
- Providing education and training to prisoners
- Helping ex-prisoners start business
- Education the public to accept reformed criminals
- Preaching and offering prayers to criminals to change their lives
- Providing psychological treatment to mentally sick criminals
- Establishing juvenile center for the under-age criminals
- Bridging the gap between the rich and the poor
- Creating employment opportunities for the youth
- Lobbying for the provision of security in all rears
- Engaging the youth in constructive activities
- Reporting criminals to the relevant authorities

**The role of Christians in transforming the social, economic and political life of the society**
Christians could transform the society in the following ways;

1) Social transforming

The church is transforming people’s social lives by;

- Establishing homes for the needy
- Providing health and medical services
- Providing education and training
- Establishing social amenities that include housing units and recreational facilities
- Establishing family life education programmes on reproduction health.
- Providing guidance and counseling services.

2) Economic transforming

Christians can transform the economic life of the society by;

- Establishing income generating projects for its members
- Improving the infrastructure
- Promoting self-employment in the society
- Creating employment opportunities for the youth
- Offering vocational training to the youth
- Catering for the basic needs of the poor
- Paying taxes to the government

3) Political transforming

The church could transform the political life of a community by;

- Participating in civic and parliamentary elections
- Offering civic education
- Participating in law-reform processes
- Condemning evils in public institutions
- Participating in state functions and public holidays
- Reconciling warring groups
- Preaching peace, love and unity
- Obeying the laws of the land

Church-state relationships

- Politics and religion cannot be separated because they both deal with the welfare of the people.
- They both co-operate in the tackling of social issues that affect the people.
- The church nurtures the spiritual growth of its members while the state is concerned with the social-economic affairs of its citizens.
- When the state fails to fulfill its duties to the citizens, the church acts as its conscience.
Both work towards providing social amenities and creating job opportunities.

The church and state co-operate in offering civic education to enlighten the masses on their rights and duties.

The church supports the state in its fight against corruption and other social evils.

The government sometimes allocates land to the church to construct premises for worship.

Politicians, who are state officials, at times make monetary contributions in support of the church activities.

Both have the same goal of ensuring that people live in peace and harmony.

QUESTIONS LAW, ORDER AND JUSTICE

1. State any five ways in which Christians in Kenya show respect to the government.
2. State five ways in which Christians practice social justice.
4. Give reasons why Christians should obey the law of their country.
5. What role can Christians play in the national elections?
6. Identify five ways through which a Christian can help reduce the corruption in Kenya.
7. Outline steps the church is taking to reduce lawlessness in Kenya today.
8. State four ways in which Christians in Kenya show respect for the state.
10. Give reasons why Christians should vote during general elections.
11. Identify ways through which Christians promote justice in Kenya today.
12. Give reasons why Christians in Kenya are against the death sentence (capital punishment).
13. Give six reasons why it is important to have laws in a country.
15. Identify ways in which churches in Kenya help those who have been released from Prison.
16. State how corruption has affected Kenya today.
18. What are the duties of a Kenya citizen towards the state?
19. State the remedies that can be put in place to minimize discrimination in Kenya.
20. How do political leaders today disobey God?
21. State five ways in which the church can promote social equality.
22. Give reasons why Church translate must co-operate.
23. What are the negative results brought about by a strike in a school situation?
24. Explain the factors that cause disaster in society?
25. How do Christians contribute to the maintenance of law and order in Kenya?
26. How does the state punish those who break the law?
27. Explain the Christians view on industries action.
28. What are the obstacles to maintenance of law and order in modern society?
29. Why do you think there should be co-operation between the church and the state?
30. Give reasons why Christians view politics ‘a dirty game’
31. What five things can a Christian do to ensure peaceful election period?
32. In what five ways can modern leaders in Kenya promote peace?
33. What measures has the government taken to encourage the spread of Christianity.
34. Explain five ways in which the churches contribute to the social and economic development in Kenya.

CHRISTIAN APPROACH TO SELECTED ISSUES RELATED TO MODERN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT

Christian view on Euthanasia

This is a Greek work meaning mercy killing, or an easier painless death of person who is suffer an incurable disease. It is competent, systematic help which is being given to a dying person to experience love and care in death.

Types of Euthanasia

1. Indirect Euthanasia

It’s the giving or drugs or performing an operation with the aim at removing/relieving/alleviating the pain of a patient e.g. giving of quinine to cure a pregnant woman from malaria such that drugs can cause an abortion.

2. Direct Euthanasia

Mercy killing of a human being so as to eliminate all suffering e.g. one in deep coma, or one who suffers extreme economic burden or one who is of embarrassment in the society.

3. Negative Euthanasia

Deliberate way of performing mercy killing e.g. removal of life saving techniques so that the person dies.

4. Positive Euthanasia

Application of some death causing procedure, e.g. giving an overdose of drugs to somebody so that the patient could dies.

5. Voluntary Euthanasia

Killing with one’s consent/will
6. Involuntary Euthanasia

Killing given without one’s consent/will e.g. extermination of mental defectives in NAZI Germany (Hitler’s regime)

Reasons for/in favour of direct Euthanasia

1. A person has a right to choose a dignified death, instead of suffering for too long through persistent pain.
2. Compassionate / sympathetic way of giving a way to a helpless dying person suffering from unbearable /incurable pain or diseases.
3. Life is a matter of survival for the fittest.
4. The elderly and disable is very hard to support economically hence euthanasia can be applied.
5. For the society to have quality life/productive life/persons, hence the removal for burdensome members through Euthanasia.
6. Reduces the expenditure which could be incurred by those suffering from incurable diseases or one who is under a machine for many years.
7. Euthanasia may aid in the fair distribution of scarce medical resources.
8. There is no point in keeping alive a person who will definitely die sooner than later.

Reasons against Euthanasia

1. The Bible/Dialogue forbids the killing of innocent human beings (Exodus 20:13)
2. Voluntary Euthanasia is a form of committing suicide or helping one commit suicide
3. Involuntary euthanasia is plain murder
4. The means of an easy death does not justify the end.
5. Medical ethos demands that doctors and nurses should work to save / maintain / support life but not cause death.
6. The practice of euthanasia destroys the confidence the sick have with doctors
7. It opens room for people to act irresponsibly
8. God is the sole giver and taker of life
9. Accepting euthanasia implies that human life is ultimately, meaningless.
10. People should endure hardship / suffering, pains as exemplified by Christ on the cross
11. Accepting euthanasia is lacking faith in God.
12. It is a materialistic view of life
13. It is very hard ascertain when one is going to die. There have been remarkable cases of recovery after many years of coma.
14. Accepting euthanasia weakens the society’s respect for life
15. Euthanasia sends a negative message about disability
16. Euthanasia may infringe on other people’s rights

Blood transfusion

Blood transfusion is the process of injecting blood into the blood stream of a patient through his/her veins.
Blood transfusion is done to;

- Restore blood lost during fatal accidents, wars and child birth
- To give blood to terminally ill people who could be suffering from diseases like sickle cell anemia and cancer to replenish the blood patients.
- To maintain blood levels for patients undergoing major operations.
- To correct the low hemoglobin levels of some patients

Before the blood is transfused from one person to another the following ought to be done

- It is screened for various diseases and grouped to determine whether it is compatible to the one of the patient.
- The equipment used must be sterile
- The age of the donor is considered not below 16 years and not above 65 years.

Blood transfusion raises ethical issues for Christians as discussed below

Arguments for blood transfusion

- It is acceptable because it saves lives
- The Christians have a duty to preserve and not destroy life
- Blood transfusion can help a person feel better and is, therefore, not wrong
- Blood transfusion gives the recipient a new leas of life, allowing them to live longer
- God has given humans beings a choice on what is good and bad, and since blood transfusion saves life it can be considered good.
- A long life is valued and is a blessing and blood transfusion prolongs life.
- Blood transfusion alleviates the suffering of young families whose members are involved in road accidents.
- The befits of blood transfusion outweigh the risks involved.

Arguments against blood transfusion

- Blood is sacred and should not be shed Leviticus 17:11-12
- Blood transfusion is equated with giving up one’s life for another person. This is interpreted a taking the place of Jesus.
- Blood transfusion can transmit dangerous diseases like HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis B, syphilis and gonorrhea.
- Alternative methods to boost blood supply and improvement of its quality are preferable instead of transfusion. Vegetables, synthetic blood and iron-laden fluids have been proposed.
- Blood transfused into another person may cause allergies like swelling and itching of the body

Organ transparent

Organ transplant is the removal of a defective organ and replacing it with a health one.
The main organs transplanted are Kidneys, the Heart and Eyes.

The organs transplanted can be from a human donor who is living a recently deceased donor or from an animal.

The most common organ transplants today are the heart and kidney transplants.

The first heart surgery was carried out in 1967 in South Africa by Dr. Christian Bernard.

At first survival rates were low but great improvements in medical field have enabled majority of heart transplant patients to survive for more than five years.

Heart transplant however are hampered by lack of donors.

Attempts do develop artificial hearts have not been quite successful.

Kidney transplants were first performed in United Kingdom in the 1960s and has since become the most common and successful form of organ transplant.

Due to advanced medical research and knowledge, survival rates for Kidney transplant patients are high.

It gives the patient a healthier life.

The most compatible Kidney for transplant is that of a close relative.

Donors of Kidney transplant can live normal lives with just one kidney.

Today national and international systems have been set up towards locating suitable donors for kidneys.

**Reasons for organ transplant**

- It is necessary because it saves life
- It prolongs life
- The person, who donates an organ e.g. Kidney, can still live a normal life, do all their normal activities and survive into old age.
- It helps breadwinners who were sick to continue supporting their families.
- It alleviates suffering in families because it saves life to that person, just like Jesus gave his life for humankind.
- It is an ultimate demonstration of love and concern for our neighbours.
- The benefits outweigh the risks.
- It’s a moral responsibility to transplant an organ to someone
- God removed Adam’s rib to form another human being thus providing the way forward for organ transplants.

**Reasons against organ transplants**

- It is an expensive procedure especially in developing countries or in families who are poor.
• The immunity of the recipient is suppressed so that they do not reject the new organ, however, the organ can be rejected.
• This is like transferring one’s life into another person which may not be accepted by God.
• In some people’s opinions, the risks outweigh the benefits on both the donor and the recipient.
• Since the immunity is reduced one can become prone to other diseases and die as a result, not achieving the main purpose of saving a life.

Genetic engineering

Genetics is the science dealing with the process of trait inheritance from parents to offspring.

Genetic engineering is the change made to hereditary features by deliberately altering the structure or position of individual genes / involves inserting a new gene into an organism.

Genetic engineering is direct manipulation of an organism’s genome using biotechnology. It is the changes made to hereditary features by deliberately the structure or position of individual genes. The procedures involves inserting a new gene into a organism.

Geneting engineering techniques have been applied in numerous fields including research, agriculture, industrial biotechnology and medicine. An organism that is generated through genetic engineering, is considered to be a genetically modified organism (GMO).

Benefits of Genetic Engineering

1. Production of drugs e.g. Insulin – regulates blood sugar level in diabetic patients.
2. To manufacture human growth hormone this is used in the treatment of dwarfism and restoring near-normal heights in children suffering from growth hormone deficiency.
3. The production of high quality plants and animals which are also disease resistant.
4. To produce genetically engineered bacteria this is used for cleaning up oil-spills and polluted surfaces.
5. To determine the biological parent in cases of disputes of babies, through DNA determination.
6. To classify blood during screening before it is transfused to another person.
7. To make a blood clotting agent which is usually lacking in patients with hemophilia.
8. Cloning, an animal can be produced non-sexually. Cloning can be used to save species that are with extinction.
9. Invitro-fertilization, this is the fusion of the reproductive cells outside the womb.
10. Through artificial insemination, the sperm is implanted artificially into the female.

Christian view on genetic engineering

Reasons for genetic engineering

1. It leads to production of high quality breeds
2. It aids in the production of drugs that fight resistant disease
3. Produces blood clotting agents
4. Solves the problem of infertility through artificial insemination
5. It can be used to plan the size of a family
6. Cloning may assist in saving the species that are faced with extinction.
7. May be used to determine the sex of the child before birth.

**Reasons against genetic engineering**

1. It denies God the sole duty of creating human kind in his own image.
2. It dehumanizes the whole purpose of human reproduction.
3. Cloning may lead to undesirable characteristics being inherited.
4. It weakens the immune system of the organism making it susceptible to diseases.
5. Human beings may be denied their rights to reproduced children through the normal sexual relationship.

**Plastic surgery**

It involves the surgical operation to repair or improve damaged, diseases or unsatisfactorily shaped parts of the body with pieces of skin and bone taken from other parts of the body.

**Reasons for plastic surgery /Advantages**

1. Some people are classified with their appearance so they seek cosmetic surgery to effect a desired change i.e. remodeling parts of the body such as the nose, ears, hips and breast and the removal of wrinkles from an aging face.
2. For those who participate in strenuous sports to experience full freedom of movement and to lessen fatigue e.g. reducing excessively large breasts.
3. To remain in certain jobs in film industry when old age may be considered undesirable.
4. Treatment for major burns.
5. To improve one’s voice or tone mostly carried out to singers and film-stars.
6. It shows the ability of human beings to work as co-creators with God.
7. It shows concern for others.
8. Jesus healed those with deformities so a Christians should emulate him.

**Reason against plastic surgery / Disadvantages**

1. Tissues may be rejected. The body recognizes the transplanted tissues as foreign and mounts an immune response against it which gradually destroys it.
2. Sometimes the operation fails and may lead to death or permanent damage on the patient.
3. Some of the operations are very expensive and many people may be unable to meet the costs and have to endure the defects.
4. Although plastic surgery may make someone look young for a few years, this will however not stop he aging process.
5. Emphasis on beauty and pleasing appearance may be seen as idolatry. Some people will strive for beauty in order to please and to be adored by others.
6. Certain diseases may be transmitted especially where issues are detached from a ‘donor’ with a diseases such as HIV/AIDS.
7. It interferes with God’s image given at creation because each person is fearfully and wonderfully made.

**The Christian response to the impact of science and technology on the environment**

- Humanity began to affect the environment through hunting, gathering fruits, roots and other seeds as food.
- In modern times, human beings entirely depend on the environment for raw materials for industries, food, leisure, water and fresh air.
- Attempts have been made through science and technology to increase production from the land and water by using improved breeds fertilizers, irrigation, herbicides and land reclamation techniques.
- Some activities of applied modern science have resulted in the destruction of the environment such as through:

  1. **Pollution**
  2. **Desertification**

**1. Pollution**

This is the introduction into the environment of substances or energy that is liable to cause hazards to human death, living resources and ecological systems.

- **Substances that cause pollution are known as pollutants e.g.**
  1. Industrial affluent / waste materials
  2. Pesticides and insecticides
  3. Fertilizers
  4. Ultra-violet from nuclear plants
  5. Dust
  6. Smoke
  7. Noise
  8. Waste heat
  9. Exhaust gases from automobiles

- **Major types of pollution includes;**
  - Land
  - Air
  - Water
  - Noise
i. Land pollution

- Any physical or chemical alteration of land
- Land is polluted when solid and semi-solid waste from industries, commercial, medical and domestic buildings is left on the land surface making it unproductive.
- Garbage heaps in urban areas spoils the beauty of the environment and are breeding grounds for diseases transmitting insects.
- Rotting garbage produce foul smell and act as hiding places for muggers and thieves.
- Chemicals such as fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides make the land acidic and eventually infertile.

ii. Air pollution

- Presence of contaminants in the atmosphere
- Air pollutants may be transported for long distances causing adverse effects in environments far removed from the sources of emission.
- Major atmospheric pollutants include gases such as Chlorofluorocarbons (CFC). Sulphur dioxide (SO2) Hydrocarbons (HCs) and Nitrogen Oxide (NO)

Effects of air pollution

- Depletion of the ozone layer which protects life from ultra-violet and infra-red rays from the sun. the side effects include eye problems like cataracts, reduction in immunity in people, skin cancers and low plant yields.
- Rusting of roofs and other iron and steel surfaces.
- Formation of acid rains which damages buildings, destruction of tress and cause leaching of magnesium and calcium from soils.
- Build-up carbon dioxide in the atmosphere which has led to global warming and green house effect.
- Formation of smog (thick fog) especially in temperate countries which reduces visibility in cities and urban centers thus increasing chances of accidents by motorists.
- Production of foul smell which is associated with products in the atmosphere like sulphur dioxide.
- Loss of eye sights as a result of gas leakages from industrial plants.
- Formation of “coloured” rain as a result of concentration of large amount of dust in the atmosphere.

iii. Water pollution

- Is the increase of substances in water in excess of its rightful chemical components thus making is unsuitable for human and animal and plant use.
Cause of water pollution

- Inland waters and rivers are polluted with Nitrogen and Phosphorous run-off from fertilizers used in extensive agriculture and sewage affluent which contain phosphate.
- Also oil spills and leakages is a major hazard for marine environment.
- Water pollution is rampant in urban industries
- Water pollution occurs when water is used as a coolant in industries like H.E.P plants, such water is warm and contains lower levels of dissolved oxygen.
- Water is unfit when animals and people excrete into the rivers. People may also damp dead animals and plants, wash others and bathe in rivers, lakes and oceans etc.

Effects of water pollution

- Water becomes unfit for human consumption
- Untreated sewage contains pathogenic bacteria such as those causing typhoid and cholera hence killing aquatic animals and causing epidemics in human beings.
- Water corrodes metal appliances in industries and homes.
- Poisonous heavy metal such as mercury, lead and silver discharge into water bodies kill organisms in water and other food chains.
- Hot water affluent from water stations expel dissolved oxygen which causes suffocation of aquatic animals causing death.
- Oil spilled from tankers in seas and oceans kill aquatic animals such as fish and sea birds.
- Radio-active waster from nuclear reactors can cause mutation, death and deformation in plants and animals.
- Water pollution generates direct health hazards for swimmers and other users.
- There is contamination of drainage system with heavy metals or hydrocarbons.
- Soil erosion due to poor farming methods reduced depth of water bodies thus making them prone to adverse biotic factors such as thigh temperatures which are destructive to marine life.

iv. Noise pollution

Experienced near roads, running water, factories, mining areas quarrels, aerodromes (airports), music shop, matatu terminus, bars and night clubs and public / open air crusades.

People living near these areas may experience

- Shock due to sudden loud noise
- Hearing problems
- Lack of sleep especially for children and patients
Public nuisance leading to frustration and irritation
• Poor communication leading to misunderstanding where instructions fail to be received correctly.
• Cracking and weakening of walls.

How noise pollution can be minimized
• Construction of sound proof buildings
• Location of residential areas away from industries, airports, main roads and roads
• Banning of unnecessary hooting and playing of loud music in public vehicles.
• Installing generators underground or installing silencers in them.
• Giving warning to residents before using explosives to blast rocks.
• Educating people on effects of noise pollution

Christians view on pollution
• It is the Christian duty to protect land, air and water.
• People should avoid dumping wastes in water, land and air
• Christians should oppose all forms of pollution like those that cause depletion of ozone layer.
• They should help preserve God’s creation like good stewards who are responsible for it.
• They should champion for waste collection in urban areas especially in residential areas.

2. Desertification
• This is the encroachment of deserts into arable making it desolate, un-cultivatable and uninhabitable.
• Deserts may form naturally e.g. when rains persistently fail in semi-arid areas.
• The creation of deserts may be accelerated by human activity.

Human Activities which contribute to desertification
• Overgrazing – the animals trample on the soil and eat up all the vegetable thus exposing soil to agents of erosion, eventually turning into a desert.
• **Over cultivation** – soil may be rendered infertile
• **Destruction of forest** by fire from smokers or lightning
• **Shifting cultivation** / slash and burn.
• **Poor method of irrigation practices**
• **Continuous** use of chemicals which may make the soil infertile
• **Cultivation on steep slopes** and water catchment areas.
• **Cutting down trees** thus leaving the land bare, causing soil erosion which eventually lead to desertification.

**Ways of restoring land being encroached by desert**

• The removal of people and their livestock from an area to allow surface vegetation to recover
• The installation of good drainage systems
• The reduction of water logging or salivation

**Ways in which Christians can help to control desertification**

• Christians need to practice afforestation / re-forestation programmes
• By practicing agro-forestry
• Using alternative sources of energy as opposed to charcoal. Firewood
• Providing education to the public on how to preserve the environment
• Participating in environmental conservation programmes.
• Donating/giving financial assistance to bodies that control desertification
• Protecting all water catchment areas.
• Carrying/practicing better methods of farming.
• Reporting cases of forest destruction to relevant authorities.
• By participating in the enactment of laws of environmental conservation.
• Providing guidance and counseling/advice to those involved in activities related to environmental degradation.
• Using alternative sources of material as opposed to natural vegetation.

**Deforestation**

It is the cutting down of trees and other types of vegetation without replacing them.
Reasons for cutting down trees

- Provision of fuel for industrial and domestic use
- Provision of materials for building and construction
- Provision for herbal and modern medicine
- Provision for raw materials for industries such as paper manufacturing, wood curving and furniture.
- Creation of land for cultivation and settlement
- Provision for infrastructure such as roads, railways and airports.
- Provision for mining areas.

Negative effects of cutting down forests

- There is loss of locally available products such as fruits, honey and herbs.
- There is a threat to a long term supply of wood products.
- Water catchment areas which are protected by forest are destroyed and no longer attract rain. Hence rivers dry up.
- Soil erosion causes by rapid run-off of rainwater which accelerates deforestation.
- Increase in carbon dioxide build-up in the atmosphere causes global warming and green house effects.
- There is the extinction of certain species of flora and fauna.
- There is the destruction of natural beauty
- There is desertification

Christian view on deforestation

- Christians have helped in the preservation of forests by joining organization like the Green Belt Movement and Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI) to preserve and conserve forest.
- Christians have been commanded by God to take care of God given environment including forest (Genesis 1, 2) thus it is a Christian duty to preserve and conserve forests.
- Christians in Kenya should follow the policy trees whereby they plant two trees for every one cut down.
- Hey should participate in the annual tree plant day which is held on the month of May every year.
- They should educate members of their community on the importance of preserving and conserving forests.
- Christian’s farmers can plant trees alongside crops grown i.e. engaging in agro-forestry.
- A forestation and re-a forestation.
- Practicing of Zero-grazing
- Using renewable sources of energy
- Obeying rules and laws that govern protection of the environment

How science and technology has improved human life

- Modern means of transport enables human beings to travel faster
• Use of electronic media/print media human beings are able to access/pass information to large audience.
• Use of industrial machines enables work to be done faster/efficiently
• Use of fertilizers/agricultural machinery has lead to increased production/yields/preservation of food.
• Use of medicine/medical equipment has prolonged human life/reduces suffering
• Use of equipment related to wealthier forecast assist human beings in understanding their environment.
• New sources of energy have enhanced human life.
• Use of scientific devices has enhanced human security.

QUESTIONS (SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT)

1. Describe ways in which Christians make use of science and Technology to spread the Gospel.
2. Explain the religious significance of the environment in traditional African communities.
3. Give five ways in which Christians spread the Gospel using the print Media.
4. Identify ways in which a Christa can show respect for life today
5. State five reasons why Christians are opposed to deforestation.
6. Why is the Church opposed to genetic engineering?
7. State five way modern science and technology undermine Christian teaching on respect for human life.
8. Give sixe reasons why Christians are against Euthanasia.
9. How has society benefited from genetic engineering?
10. Explain how modern science and technology can enhance Christian understanding of God’s creation.
11. How can modern Christian evaluate scientific and technological discoveries?
12. Why is Church opposed to plastic surgery?
13. Explain the consequences of science and technology in our society today.
14. Explain four ways through which science and technology has improved human.
15. Give reasons why Christians are against Euthanasia
16. How modern media technology has enhance evangelization.
17. How has science and technology helped to improve human life?
18. Identify ways in which Christians can help to control desertification
19. What are the advantages of genetic engineering to mankind?

20. Describe ways in which science and technology challenge is the Christians understanding of human dignity.

21. Give reasons that make Christians oppose the use of contraceptives

22. Explain the Christian understanding of the use of Science and Technology

**Question 6 FORM 4**

1. Give reasons why it is important to have laws in a Country (2008)
2. Outline problems that relates to the maintenance of law and order in Kenya today (2008)
3. Identify ways in which Christians in Kenya help those who have been released from prison. (2008)
4. State the negative effects of the introduction of money economy on traditional African Communities (2009)
5. State Jesus’ teaching on wealth (2009)
6. Give reasons why Christians should not involve themselves in gambling (2009)
8. Explain ways through which science and Technology has negatively affected the environment created by God. (2010)
9. Explain ways in which the youth in the Church can carry out environmental restoration in Kenya today (2010)
10. State ways in which Christians can contribute towards maintenance of law and order in society (2011)
11. Outline methods of disciplining errant members in traditional African Communities (2011)
12. Mention obstacles to effective maintenance of law and order in Kenya today (2011)
15. Explain ways the church is using to eradicate poverty in Kenya (2012)
17. Give reasons why Christians are opposed to Euthanasia (2013)
18. State ways in which Christians can help to control desertification (2013)