

The Harvest

"Like cold water to a weary soul is good news from a distant land." (Proverbs 25:25 NIV)



National Leadership Summit (NLS) 2021

The EvaSUE National Leadership Summit (NLS) was held in Bishoftu during the last week of September 2021. Four hundred and fifty student leaders representing the many Christian students' fellowships from the public universities and private colleges from all over the country came to participate.

The theme of the summit was "Remnants of the Kingdom" and focused on the values of being consecrated, devoted, and disciplined as Christians. In the morning plenary sessions, speakers gave expositions from the Book of Daniel on the annual theme, "Remnants of the Kingdom." In the afternoon sessions, 18 seminars on different topics were conducted.



On the first day, EvaSUE's general secretary Robel Chemedha challenged the student leaders to live as remnants with a life consecrated to following the word of God. Using the story of Daniel and his friends, Robel talked about what it means to be consecrated in a society where Christian values are challenged and sexual immorality and corruption have become the norm. Pastor Zenaneh Mamo continued the exposition on the second day talking about devotion to the one true God.

Devoted remnants stand for God, even when no one is standing with them. They willingly bow down but only to worship God and Him alone. Messay Imru shared the last part of the exposition from the Book of Daniel focusing on the need to be disciplined as Christians. What carried Daniel through all the ups and downs of his life was his intimate relationship with God and his daily prayers and times of worship. In our decision to stick with our Christian disciplines of prayer and Bible study we glorify God and testify to God's faithfulness.

On the last day of the Summit, we gathered for fasting and prayer. It was good to come together in prayer, reflecting on all that God had spoken to us during the week.

As a concluding message, Pastor Gosa Eshetu and Pastor Zenaneh Mamo gave an exposition from the Book of Lamentations. From start to finish, the NLS was a rich, challenging experience in the Scriptures.

Iyasu Belachew, a leader from the main campus of Sodo University, participated in the NLS and really appreciated the teaching and preaching.

The theme about being 'Remnants of the Kingdom' especially spoke to him. The teaching had clearly described for him the will of God for all Christians and our calling to live a life that is defined by an intimate relationship with God.



The story about the life of Daniel and his friends in Babylon is an example for us to follow even today, especially as it relates to Daniel's prayer life. Iyasu participated in three different afternoon seminars: stage handling, scripture engagement, and resource stewardship. All three gave him new insights into his ministry as a fellowship leader and they supplied him with tools to handle some of the many challenges he faces leadership. And beyond that, the NLS renewed and strengthened his commitment to serve as a leader.

After the NLS, Iyasu and helped to arrange a two-day retreat for the 33 team leaders in his fellowship. Here they had shared what they had learned at NLS, using the same theme, "Remnants of the Kingdom.' Together they discussed that being a remnant means to be a true disciple of Christ and a true servant in the fellowship. Their next plan was to share the same teaching will all members of the fellowship at Sodo University-Main Campus.

World Christian - National Mission Summit (NMS) 2021



"As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." (John 20:21 NIV) – this clear call to engage in the Great Commission was the theme for EvaSUE's first National Mission Summit (NMS).

The NMS, like the NLS, took place in Bishoftu at the Meserete Kristos College from October 4th – 9th, 2021. A lot of last-minute rearrangements had to be done for everything to be ready for the summit due to holiday celebrations. For example, roads closed in Addis as we were to depart, and the main preacher canceled days before the event began.

As we look back, we give praise and thanks to God for providing for us and for working through our flexible and committed staff in the midst of all these uncertainties.



Hawi Alemayehu, the mission team leader for the Debre Tabor University fellowship, was one of the participants at the Summit. She is responsible for mobilizing her fellow students for evangelism and mission. When asked about the NMS and what she had gained from participating, her face lit up with a big smile, and her voice filled with excitement as she shared. She really enjoyed participating in the Summit and gained so many new perspectives on mission and calling. First, she mentioned that her understanding of God as the One who calls and sends had deepened.

The call to mission is not something to take lightly or something that Christians made up to travel the world; rather, it is the heartfelt desire of God to see all His creation come to the knowledge and understanding of Jesus Christ as the Son of God and Savior of the world. Our calling to share the gospel with our friends and neighbors is therefore something that we must purposefully commit to do. Hawi mentioned Rekik Hailu's exposition on the book of Jonah, given on the last day of prayer and fasting, as being impactful. The message helped her understand how much God cares for all people, not only those that we know and care for. As Christians we are called to a worldwide mission to reach out to all and share with them the good news of reconciliation with God through Jesus Christ. Hawi was also inspired by the testimony of Abera Ayele from the Ethiopian Kale Hiwot Church. The story of Abera's call to missions was a clear example for Hawi that God can call any kind of Christian to be part of God's Kingdom work and that no one is too small or too insignificant. When she returned to her campus after the NMS, her heart was filled with an earnest desire to reach out to non-Christian students on her campus. The NMS seminars that taught the Prayer, Care, Share concept were particularly helpful at giving her tools for evangelism. The importance of praying and reaching out to one's neighbor is on her list of things she will purposefully practice among the students on campus. And, as a concluding remark she mentioned that this EvaSUE National Mission Summit was for many of the students an eye-opening experience. Many of the students experienced God touching their heart through the teachings causing them to receive the call to mission in a fresh, new way.

Bruk Aragaye from the Otona Health Campus in Sodo Wolaiyta also participated in the NMS as a representative of his fellowship's Action Team. The team is responsible for the evangelism and mission work on campus and for arranging evangelism outreach in the local area. After returning from the NMS, Bruk talked with the leaders of the fellowship and had a discussion with those who participated in the NMS. They decided to arrange a training for all the members in their fellowship and to share what they learned at the NLS and NMS.





When Bruk was asked what he was going to share with the others he mentioned Richard Coleman's teaching of God being a missionary God and the Bible being a missionary book. For Biruk it gave him the new insight to listen to Richard and gain understanding about the God of Mission as found in both the Old Testament and the New Testament. Also impactful was the story of Abraham and his calling and God's covenant with him as the starting point that led to the coming of Jesus and the Great Commission given to the disciples and passed on to us.

In Jesus, we are part of God's mission and called to continue the work of bringing God's blessings to all nations. The other thing that Bruk wanted to share with his fellowship was what he learned from one of the seminars that he participated in. The Mission in Business class taught him how we can use our profession to reach out to people and how professionals can live as missionaries. Often it is common to have the understanding that we need to give up our profession and become full-time ministers to serve as missionaries; but, this seminar taught him that it does not have to be like that. Bruk, therefore, wants to encourage his Christian brothers and sisters in the fellowship to think about how they can use their health professionals to also serve in the mission.

The students as well as the staff in EvaSUE all enjoyed the NMS and praise God for speaking clearly to their teachings and preaching and also for giving them practical tools for engagement in evangelism and mission.



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