

# The GoOD Times

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Foundations for Farming / Plot 254 / Muldersdrift  
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## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

1. New face, New Name
2. Disciple and Develop
3. Raising Boys to be Good Men
4. Before and After the Pandemic
5. Who is Maqhawe Mthembu?
6. Siyabuswa - We Are Governed
7. Radio / Huiskerk / FFI
8. Gebdsversoeke / Kalendar



## New Face, New Name

By Francois le Roux

This is our first newsletter since we moved here from KZN. I scanned through the *Winter 2019* newsletter and thought, “Sjo, you brought us a long way Lord.” I hope you will enjoy this newsletter with us and get to live through all the special moments with us.

I changed the name to *The GoOD Times* for four reasons:

1. This is a new season so a new name is appropriate
2. We want to focus on the GOOD things that GOD did
3. We want to inspire you to GO!

In Zulu the word “Yenzokuhle” means *to do good*. There are so many verses in the Bible with that exact phrase and we forget that God expect us to do good to others - not out of our own flesh but from the very heart of God. We basically allow Jesus to use us as his donkey to reach Jerusalem and minister to people. When we do good we ought to remember that there is no goodness in us and that it is still Him working through us but even the desire to do good is from Him. The donkey that Jesus rode on into Jerusalem never thought that the palm leaves and praises was for him and neither should we...

*But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return. And your reward shall be great, and you shall be the sons of the Highest. For He is kind to the unthankful and to the evil. (Luk 6:35)*

[Also read: Mat 5:44; Jas 4:17; Heb 13:16; Isa1:16, 17](#)

## Disciple and Develop

By Francois le Roux

So what do you do? That is the question that people ask you sometimes and then you need an appropriate answer according to the amount of time and the situation. People don't always want a long answer, just something short like Doctor, Lawyer, Broker, Farmer, or Engineer. **Oom Boet Pretorius** taught us this: According to God's word in Gen 1:28 our task is to Disciple people while we Develop them and Develop them while we Disciple. That is currently my short answer to people and I think it perfectly sums it up.

The last few months we trained people in the FreeState (Vrededorp/Ladybrand), Gauteng (Munsieville, Zandspruit, B'sorah and Hammanskraal), Limpopo and Mpumalanga. We have them all on *WhatsApp* groups and we visit them regularly. Here are some pictures of the trainings we did. Thank you for contributing and supporting us so that we can do what we love and obey God's purpose in our lives at the same time.



## Raising Boys to be Good Men

By Francois le Roux

For the past 10 years I have learned that the biggest need in the world today is... No I don't think you will guess it - It's fathers!

There are so many organizations today who try to remedy the effect of absent fathers where we should actually focus on the root problem itself. 80% of prisoners in prisons say that they either grew up without a father or he was just never there. **Cassie Carstens** from the organization *The world needs a Father* says the following: *"If the family unit is a fundamental building block of society, the nucleus of that unit is the father, and when he causes damage, the ripples affect everyone."*

The following statistics comes from "The Fatherless Generation" website about fatherless youth in the USA:

70% of youths in state-operated institutions come from fatherless homes - 9 times the average. (U.S. Dept. of Justice, Sept. 1988)

85% of all youths in prison come from fatherless homes - 20 times the average. (Fulton Co. Georgia, Texas Dept. of Correction)

63% of youth suicides are from fatherless homes- 5 times the average. (US Dept. Of Health/Census)

90% of all homeless and runaway children are from fatherless homes - 32 times the average.

For this reason and also, just because I've always had a passion to work with men and boys and the relationships between fathers and sons, am getting involved with [The Character Company](http://www.thecharactercompany.co.za/). We did our first camp with some of the senior boys and it was an amazing event. Please visit their website to learn more.

Other websites to visit on the topic:

<https://www.fatherhood.org/father-absence-statistic>

<https://thefatherlessgeneration.wordpress.com/statistics/>

<https://www.all4kids.org/news/blog/a-fathers-impact-on-child-development/>

<https://www.thecharactercompany.co.za/>

<https://www.theworldneedsafather.com/our-story/>

**"Virtually every major social pathology has been linked to fatherlessness."**

**Stephen Baskerville**

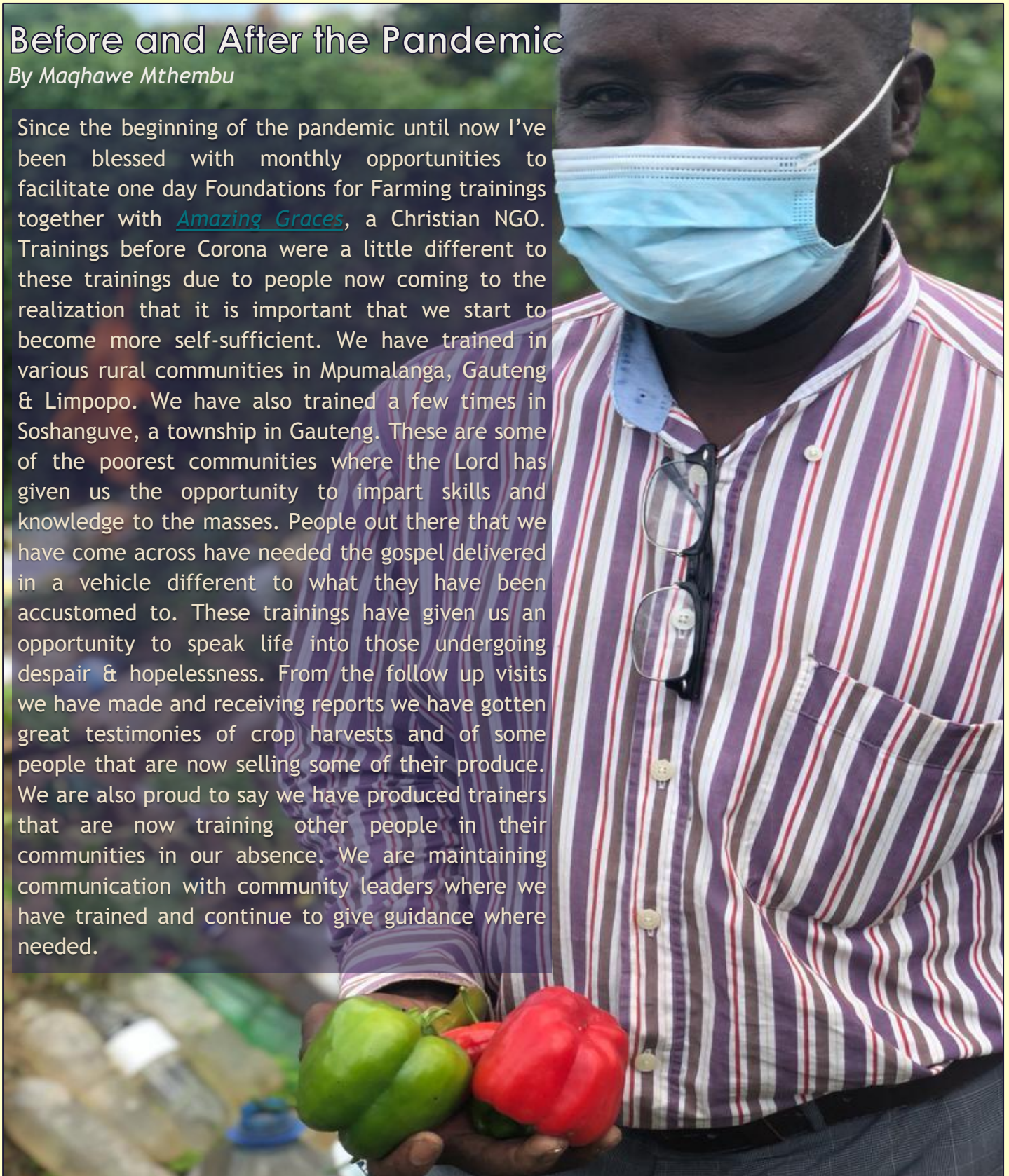


***The stark reality is that our neglect of the South African "boy child" has led to a crisis in our country. We have created a culture of anxiety and anger in our youth and we need to replace that with a culture of MENTorship. Our boys cannot be expected to walk life's road without role models and then blame them when they lose their way. We need to talk less and do more. We invite you to join the Character Company team and see what an important role you can play in raising boys to be good men. - [The Character Company](http://www.thecharactercompany.co.za/)***

## Before and After the Pandemic

By Maqhawe Mthembu

Since the beginning of the pandemic until now I've been blessed with monthly opportunities to facilitate one day Foundations for Farming trainings together with [Amazing Graces](#), a Christian NGO. Trainings before Corona were a little different to these trainings due to people now coming to the realization that it is important that we start to become more self-sufficient. We have trained in various rural communities in Mpumalanga, Gauteng & Limpopo. We have also trained a few times in Soshanguve, a township in Gauteng. These are some of the poorest communities where the Lord has given us the opportunity to impart skills and knowledge to the masses. People out there that we have come across have needed the gospel delivered in a vehicle different to what they have been accustomed to. These trainings have given us an opportunity to speak life into those undergoing despair & hopelessness. From the follow up visits we have made and receiving reports we have gotten great testimonies of crop harvests and of some people that are now selling some of their produce. We are also proud to say we have produced trainers that are now training other people in their communities in our absence. We are maintaining communication with community leaders where we have trained and continue to give guidance where needed.



## Who is Maqhawe Mthembu?



**1. Please introduce yourself. Who are you?** My name is Maqhawe Mthembu, also known as Maq. I'm originally from Newcastle, KZN. When we moved to Malmesbury, Western Cape as a family I was 12 years old. I matriculated at Swartland High School in Malmesbury.

**2. Where does your interest in Agriculture come from?** I developed an interest in Agriculture as a subject in high school. In 2009 I studied Agriculture at Cape Peninsula University of Technology and graduated end of 2011. I have a National Diploma in Agriculture. After graduating I took on the role of managing our family business, a super market selling various products. My father has always been an entrepreneur and raised us to do the same. I moved to Gauteng in the year 2013 to pursue the music industry as it has always been my dream since a very young age. I have free-lanced in doing marketing and management of musicians. In between that I have also been in the vehicle sales business. In the year 2018 I got exposed to the ministry of Foundations for Farming.

**3. How did you get to know Jesus?** I came to know Christ at a very early age that I can hardly recall. I remember responding to an altar call vividly.

**4. Who are your mentors?** I have various mentors and role models within Foundations for Farming when it comes to ministry. With regards to business I have people I aspire to be like and learn from everyday such as my father *Charles Mthembu* and a close friend of mine, Mr. *Lionel Jamela*. These are all God-fearing men with outstanding values.

**5. Why do you do what you do?** I am passionate about Foundations for Farming as it is a constant opportunity for us to bring the Gospel to the people as well as to help them live a better life not by just giving them practical skills & knowledge but also by being a vehicle to their mindset transformation. This is due to us, always giving much attention to encouraging a change of spiritual inclination to everything that we do.



Here are some pictures of places where Maq trained recently. From top to Bottom: *Soshanguve; Masakeng near Groblersdal and Zebediela.*

## Siyabuswa - We are Governed

Ek het die naweek van die 2de Mei die voorreg gehad om by 'n kerk in Siyabuswa, Mpumalanga te gaan bedien. Siyabuswa is net voor Marble Hall en die naam beteken "We are Governed". Dit was vir my baie besonder. Die vraag wat by my opgekom het was, deur wie word ons regeer? Of, deur wie LAAT ek my regeer? Deur die regering? Deur my eie vlees, my emosies of deur God se Gees en Sy Woord? Doen hierdie eenvoudige toets eerlik en vul in elke blokkie die presentasie wat jy dink jy daardeur beheer word.



### Wie of Wat regeer die meeste my lewe?

God se Gees	God se Woord	Gedagtes	Emosies	Media	Mense	Vleeslike Begeertes
Totaal: 100						

Paulus sê in **1Kor 6:12** die volgende: *Alles is my geoorloof, maar nie alles is nuttig nie; alles is my geoorloof, maar ek sal my nie deur iets laat oorheers nie.* As ons eerlik wil wees, dan is die toestand van ons lewens direk gekoppel aan dit waaraan ons die meeste beheer oorgee in ons lewens...

Die aand se boodskap aan die gemeentes by Siyabuswa het gehandel oor hoe ons as bruid van Christus ons moet voorberei vir die koms van ons Bruidegom wat op hande is. Dit was 'n baie spesiale byeenkoms. Iets wat ek aanvanklik gedink het 'n harde woord is, het die Heilige Gees omgedraai in iets so bemoedigends! Ek het die diens afgesluit met 'n getuigenis van Richard Wurmbrand van hoe hy in sy swakste en moeilikste tyd onder kommunistiese aanhouding net kon prewel: "Jesus, ek bemin jou"... Mag ons begeerte na Jesus altyd groter wees ons stryd teen sonde en die wêreld. Laat die liefde wat ons vir ons Bruidegom het, dit wees wat regeer in ons harte totdat Hy ons kom haal! (Eff 3:17-19; Fil 3:7-10)



## Radio Namakwaland Praatjies

Ek en Michelle het elkeen die voorreg om ook dmv Radio die evangelie en God se Koninkryk uit te dra. Hierdie geleentheid het gekom deur 'n baie ou vriend van ons, Albert van de Merwe wat nou betrokke is by [Radio Namakwaland](#). Radio Namakwaland is 'n Christelike radiostasie wat uitsaai vanuit Vredendal aan die Weskus.

Michelle se tydsgleuf is Maandae om 14:05 en myne Woensdae 14:05. "Stap Saam" is die naam van die Program wat Michelle aanbied en sy praat oor dinge soos die huwelik en verskillende kwessies van die lewe. Ek gesels oor *Foundations for Farming* onderwerpe soos grondgesondheid, groentetuine, bemesting ens. Skakel gerus in deur op die skakels te klik en stoor die skakel sommer op jou foon of rekenaar. Jy kan ook die toepassings gaan aflaai by Google Play se [Apps Store](#).

## Huiskerk

Ons as gesin is so bevoorreg om op 'n lieflike plot in Muldersdrift te bly en ook deel te wees van Michelle se ouers se Huis-gemeente. Ons het nou die geleentheid om van die byeenkomste hier by ons op die plot aan te bied en dit is 'n groot seën om ook so dit waarmee die Here ons bederf het met ander te deel.



## Family Foundations International

Ons het vir die eerste keer sedert Rebekkah se geboorte weer die geleentheid gehad om 'n [Ancient Path](#) seminaar van [FFI](#) te fasiliteer. Dit was baie interressant want alles het oor "ZOOM" gebeur..!



Ek moet erken ek was verbaas oor hoe goed dit gewerk het ten spyte daarvan dat mens oor 'n skerm moet kommunikeer. Ek wil tog mense aanmoedig om so 'n seminaar by te woon. Jy kan dit nou doen in die gerief van jou eie huis en as gevolg van dit is die kostes baie laer. Gaan klik op die skakels en gaan registreer of kontak die FFI kantoor by:

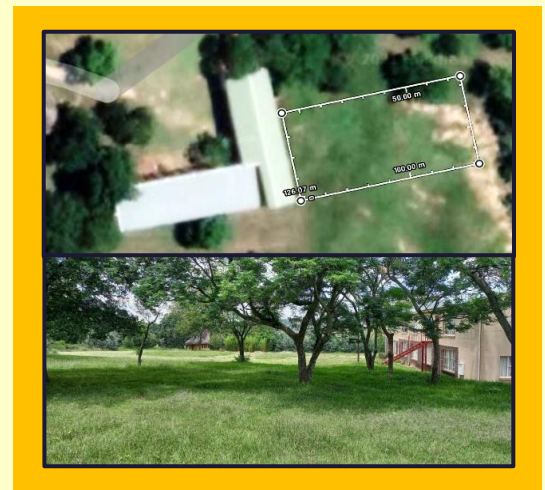
- [ffiadmin.sa@gmail.com](mailto:ffiadmin.sa@gmail.com)
- 081 728 3842 / 061 448 8274

## Bid Asseblief Saam Met Ons:

Die volgende punte is goedjies waarmee ons nou besig is wat ons regtig gebed voor nodig het:

- **Voertuig** - Ons het op die oomblik net ons een privaat voertuig waarmee ons die werk moet doen en persoonlik goed soos inkopies en Rebkkah skool toe vat. Ons ry regtig baie en die plekke is ver so `n kleiner bakkie soos `n NP200 Nissan waarmee ek en Maq kan rondry sal baie help.
- **Opleidings Terrein** - Die feit dat ons die terrein op B`sorah verloor het was vir ons `n groot terugslag en ons vertrou die Here vir `n nuwe plek. Ons is op die oomblik besig om na `n stuk grond hier naby te kyk wat deel is van `n Teologiese College (Sien foto`s op regs). Bid asb vir oop deure daar en vir voorsiening om dit te kan bekostig.
- **Wysheid en Eenheid** - Dit is so belangrik om die HG se leiding te volg en nie toe te laat dat ambisie, skuldgevoel of die nood van mense ons dryf nie. Ons wil mooi hoor watter take, projekte en idees van die Vader af is vir ons en watter nie, in ons unieke situasie.
- **Genesing** - Bid asb vir Michelle se gesondheid. Die vyand steel baie by ons deur haar siekte. Bid vir haar vir vrede en krag en wysheid.
- **Nuwe Rigting** - *Yenzokuhle* is ook iets nuuts wat op ons harte is en ons het regtig wysheid nodig oor praktiese besluite, die rigting wat ons gaan inslaan en die mense wat ons saam vat op hierdie reis. Bid asb dat God vir ons die volle prentjie sal wys en duidelik sal lei.

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## Kalender:

FfF Opleiding - KZN	24 - 28 Mei
<i>Ancient Path</i> Seminare	07-08 Mei / 08-10 July 14-16 Oktober
FfF Opl. Hammanskraal	1-3 Junie / 29-30 Junie 3-5 Aug / 31 Aug
IWH Opleiding Zimbabwe	21-26 Junie
Voete van Jesus Opleiding	3-5 Sept