Note: These C.R.E 223/1 notes are for all S.3 Streams AS you just have to pick up from where you ended in class, follow up to HAPPINESS, then UNENDING LIFE will come after.
New page means new topic / sub topic on a fresh page.
Nice copying as more are coming
Stay home to save your life.

LOYALTY IN SOCIETY

Loyalty is the quality of being faithful and submissive to one’s commitments, promises and goals in life.

TYPES OF LOYALTY

There are various types of loyalty but they differ from one person to another and these are;

- **Divine loyalty** deals with one’s commitment to supreme being (God) and his / her religion as well as its doctrines like Christianity.
- **Cultural loyalty** deals with one’s commitment to his / her cultural values, customs, traditions, practices and norms in a given society like Male circumcision (Imbalu) among the Bagisu, language among the Baganda, initiation, etc.
- **Social loyalty** deals with one’s commitment to his / her responsibility and obligation in societal life like communal work.
- **Group loyalty** deals with one’s commitment to a given group of people with common interests and goals for the benefit of all like Red Cross, Patriotism clubs, Wildlife clubs, Debate clubs, etc.
- **Economic loyalty** deals with one’s commitment through which one earns and improves on his economic status in term of wealth and material possessions as well as ways of survival.
- **Personal loyalty** deals with one’s commitment to oneself and another for peaceful and harmonious living like husband and wife, parents and children, etc.
- **Political loyalty** deals with one’s commitment to the politics of his country and ideologies of his political party.

IMPORTANCE OF LOYALTY IN SOCIETY

Loyalty is very important in our daily lives in society as follows;

- It leads to the development of the society, community and the country at large since people understand each other as they come up with developmental ideas meant for the good of the country.
- Loyalty creates and brings about good relationships among people like employers and employees work together and understand each other in many issues.
- Loyalty helps people to observe societal rules and regulations to be termed law abiding member like students at school to the school rules and regulations.
- Loyalty creates peace and unity amongst people as it brings about togetherness in work for the good of the society and country at large.
- It eliminates cases of rebellions and terrorism as civil or tribal wars are dealt through use of the supreme law.
- Loyalty helps to keep and preserve the cultural norms, rituals and values as people are identified in their traditional settings.
- It leads to being of high self-esteem in society and being of respect due to one’s personality and principles by other people.
- Loyalty leads to reduction in crime rate in a society as people are committed to their jobs and workplaces.
- Loyalty leads to co-operation among people as they are easily relate to one another in the family setting.
- Loyalty reduces conflicts among people as every one respect the other like employees and employers.
- Loyalty promotes the spirit of nationalism and patriotism among people of a certain country as they honor the national flag and national anthem.
- It leads to good and democratic governance as the voting process is conducted smoothly.
- It promotes transparency and accountability in society as openness is exercised in all spheres.
- It also leads to success in one’s individual efforts socially, economically, politically and religiously as he / she fulfills his /her own set goals.
- It also builds good morals among people especially the young ones in the family as their promises are fulfilled.
- It guarantees Christians of assured eternal life since they fulfill the demands of religion and the laws of God.
- It favors proper upbringing of children as parents live exemplary lives.
- It ensures steady provision and maintenance of social services in society since taxes are paid.
LOYALTY IN PRESENT SITUATION

The loyalties Ugandans express in the modern society are;

- Modern man have observed and respected his spiritual loyalty by attending to church activities and the church service itself like on Sundays, in Kampala, Christians flock to Christ the King church.
- Marriage partners have honoured their matrimonial vows by living happily together e.g. the president of Uganda, H.E. Y.K Museveni celebrated 40 years of marriage with Janet Museveni in 2013
- Children’s right have been protected by nurturing and grooming them into productive citizen by their parents, elders and the government itself e.g. Raising Voices have always screened to “Stop violence against children on NTV.
- Children have remained submissive and obedient to their parents and elders by loving, respecting and supporting them e.g. the reknown gospel singer and woman of M.P of Buyikwe, Judith Babirye who sang a song, “Maama” and dedicated it to her mother.
- Many Ugandans have sought quality education in well facilitated schools, colleges and universities for the betterment of their lives like at Makerere University in Kampala
- Many workers have remained committed to their work by sticking to their professional ethics and obedient to their employers e.g. UPE and USE teachers are teaching despite the low payment by MOESTS.
- Many Ugandans have respected their leisure time after a week’s busy schedule on weekends and public holidays to relax and restore the lost energy e.g. People in Kampala and Entebbe always go to Lido beach for fun.
- Many Independent Organizations have protected and advocated for people’s rights as they are being violated like Uganda Human Rights Commission headed by Hon Medi Kagwa, FIDA for the rights of women at Kamwokya in Kampala.
- Many Ugandans have observed their cultural rituals, norms and customs as a sign of belonging and identity e.g. in Buganda of central Uganda, girls do the pulling ceremony and Bagisu of Eastern Uganda, boys undergo male circumcision (imbalu).
- Many Ugandans have observed the rule of the constitution made in 1995 as the supreme law like every leader has be elected democratically e.g. president Y.K Museveni have been elected in 1996, 2001, 2006, 2011 and 2016.
- People’s political rights have been exercised by getting involved in the country’s affairs through voting, participating freely in election and contesting for leadership e.g. in 2016, they were 6 contestants for presidency such as .............
- Many Ugandans have observed some work plans / policies of the government for the benefits of all parties like mass vaccination against polio and measles usually amongst children, tax payment, population census, cost sharing at public universities, etc.
- Investigative organizations have been set up to ensure transparency in public offices and fight against crime like corruption and embezzlement of funds etc e.g. Criminal investigation department in police at Kibuli, Public Accounts Committee in Parliament, Inspector General of the Government headed by Justice Irene Mulyagonya and Anti corruption court at Kololo in Kampala.
- Judicial authority has executed justice without fear or favor to the public while in the courts of law e.g. the former M.P of Arua, Akiba Godi was sentenced to Luzira for killing his wife in Mukono and Kampala tycoon Kato Kajubi was re arrested and sentenced to life imprisonment for sacrificing Joseph Kasirye

WAYS HOW A CHRISTIAN CAN BE LOYAL TO THE FAMILY

- Christians can be loyal by participating in the daily domestic work at home like washing utensils, respecting each other at home, etc.
- Through portraying good morals both at home and outside home so as to give a good picture to other people.
- Through studying as required in order to uplift the status of the family.
- By co-operating with the family members in all kinds of activities.
- Through proper handling family property like furniture, fragile things such as glasses.
- Through working for the development of the family.
- By promoting Christian values in a family like understanding God through bible studies etc.
- By promoting good relationship with their neighbors.
- By attending social functions together as a family like music concerts
- By respecting the cultural norms to which that family belongs.
WAYS HOW A CHRISTIAN CAN BE LOYAL TO THE SOCIETY OR STATE / COUNTRY

- Christians can be loyal through paying taxes like PAYE, VAT and Local Service Tax as demanded by the state / society.
- Through participating in developmental work such as like community work like cleaning of roads.
- By respecting and recognizing the state symbols like national anthem, flag, and state authorities like president, ministers, etc.
- Through promoting democracy and abiding rule of law as one participates in the elections and other political activities.
- By providing social services like education and health services to natives for basic survival.
- Through organizing national prayer days and praying for political leaders for blessings and protection
- By observing and respecting national and official public holidays for national unity like independence on 9th October and women’s day on 8th March
- By accepting national appointments for national duties like Rev. Fr. Simon Lukodo as Minister of Ethics and Integrity
- Through participating in community activities and self-help projects such as road, well construction and repair.
- Through promoting the moral wellbeing of the society as one is an exemplary and imparting behavior among children.
- Through educating children at various levels like primary, secondary, university, etc.
- Through promoting peace as a soldier or peace maker / mediator in a different way or another like Archbishop bishop J.B. Odama between the NRM government and Joseph Kony rebels in northern Uganda in 2006
- Through promoting responsible parenthood as one cares for the wellbeing of children.
- By accepting national appointments for national duties like Rev. Fr. Simon Lukodo as Minister of Ethics and Integrity
- By providing a positive and constructive criticism to the government in power like to stop oppressing those in opposition
- By leading peaceful demonstrations and condemning widespread of criminal acts like murder e.g. Pastor Martin Sempa of Makerere University Revival Church against homosexuality
- By sharing torture and suffering with others like Archbishop John Baptist Odama who spent at nights with displaced people at Gulu bus park
- By obeying and cooperating with security organs like police and army to avoid crime makers as wrong doers are reported.
- By offering charitable social services to the vulnerable groups like orphans, widows, elderly and disabled for comfort

WAYS HOW A CHRISTIAN CAN BE LOYAL TO THE SCHOOL

- Christians can be loyal by following the school rules and regulations.
  - By following the school time table.
  - By properly handling of the school property such as furniture, etc.
  - Through getting involved in all school activities like mass, sports, manual work, clubs, etc.
  - Through observing preps and attending all lessons as required of a student.
  - Through portraying good morals and guiding others who have gone wrong.
  - Through exercising Jesus’ values in life like obedience, love of one another and sharing with friends.
  - Through working hard for the development of the school like reading hard so as to make the school perform better.
  - Through putting on the school uniform in proper order.
  - By being respectful to teachers and other administrators.

WAYS HOW A CHRISTIAN CAN BE LOYAL TO THE CHURCH

- Christians can be loyal by paying church fees such as tithe, offertory and other donations for the development of the church.
- Through attending church services without exception especially on Sundays as a Christian obligation.
- Through obeying the ten commandments as guiding principles between God and Man and between man and fellow man
- By observing and honoring all official religious holy days like Martyrs day on 3rd June, Easter, Christmas on 25th December, etc.
- By practicing Jesus’ law of love, trust and respecting one another because we are all one family.
- Through preaching the gospel of the Lord and extending his kingdom as instructed by Jesus to non believers for conversion.
- By calling for forgiveness and reconciliation with our enemies in order to live as people of God / harmonious living.
• Through repenting to God so as to be forgiven of their sins and even towards other people.
• By forging unity between different Christian sects for harmonizing Christian faith and its doctrines through ecumenism by UJCC like on Good Friday, the way of cross joint service in Kampala.
• Through remaining loyal to the power and guidance of the Holy Spirit and recognizing his role in the church for mighty works.
• By participating in Eucharistic celebrations as Christ instructed us because it brings them together and for preparation of eternity.
• By participating in prayer and private treats as an individual or group to commune with God.
• Through involving in thanksgiving, singing, praise and worship for God’s endless provision.
• By fasting for at least 40 days as Jesus Christ for personal confession and almsgiving.
• By standing for the truth and being honest in what you do at all times.
• Through obeying and respecting one’s parents and political leaders for prolonged life.
• By attending fellowships, bible studies, crusades and Christian seminars / workshops / conferences to share strengths and failures in life like at the end of every year on 31st December, there is always a crusade at Namboole stadium in Wakiso.
• By seeking and attaining the holy sacraments like baptism and marriage to join God’s family and Christian identity.
• By extending activities of charity to the needy, elderly and poor in church like Elderly of Bakateyamba at Nalukolongo in Kampala.
• By condemning immoral acts / injustices and working for peace and harmony in society.
• By defending and advocating for the rights of the oppressed and voiceless like refugees, street children, prisoners, etc like Pastor Gary Skinner of Watoto ministries in Kampala who helps the needy at Suubi orphanage in Mpigi.
• By composing and writing Christian music and literature for developing talents, inspirations and disseminating Christian information.
• By training more Christians in the skills of leadership as a way of extending God’s kingdom like at Kisubi seminary in Wakiso, Katigondo in Masaka where Catholics priests are trained.

DISLOYALTIES EXPRESSED IN UGANDA TODAY

Disloyalty is the quality of unfaithfulness / is a situation where one fails to fulfill his promises and commitments. The disloyalties among Ugandans today are;
• Some church leaders have involved themselves in material gains as opposed to church work as many pastors have turned the church into businesses e.g. former Pastor William Muwanguzi of Namulanda Revival church along Entebbe road in Wakiso who used church to buy a hammer and named it “Kiweede” meaning it’s over.
• Many religious leaders spend most times voicing out their personal differences and grudges which divide church / christians e.g. Pastor Martin Sempa of Makerere Pentecostal church and Pr. William Male of Revival Ministries in Kampala used to allege over sodomy cases to Pastor Robert Kayanja of Rubaga Miracle Cathedral.
• There is growing habit of discrimination / favoritism among the followers by the church leaders and politicians which is mainly based on wealth, race and sex like Pastor Merida Namutebi of Liberty Church at Lugala in Kampala who discards those who offers coins in her church.
• Many married couples have been victims of marital unfaithfulness (adultery) which has brought about broken families e.g. Pastor David Kiganda of Christianity Focus Centre church in Kampala who separated with the wife, Hadijja Nasejje on the grounds that she was cheating on him with a chapatti seller at Ndeeba in Kampala.
• Justice in court of law has been interfered by the politicians which has resulted into biased judgment and at times delayed and denied justice.
• Many Ugandans have been arrested and take long without being tried in courts of the law beyond 48 hours as required by the law e.g. people who were arrested in Kayunga during the Buganda riot in 2009 took about 2 years without being tried in high court.
• Today justice is no longer for the poor but for rich even when they are guilty e.g. the poor no longer own land as they are always evicted from their houses without their concern and usually in a rude way especially in Kayunga.
• Innocent people have been injured and sometimes killed before tried in court of law or investigated on them (mob justice).
In schools, students have suffered from torture and assault by the old comers (Bullying and teasing) leading to body injuries and sometimes death e.g. in 1992, a senior one boy of Namilyango college in Mukono was teased to death by senior four boys.

Many young people have considered their culture as old fashioned and out dated by going in for western culture which devalues it e.g. young girls who expose their bodies in indecent dresses on Kampala streets and kneeling while greeting is also dying out.

Some societies today practice cultural rigidities which violate people’s rights and lead to body injuries e.g. female genital mutilation among the Sebei in Kapchorwa and forced marriages among Karamajongs.

Some men have oppressed and exploited their wives since they are taken to be generally weak and inferior e.g. former MP of Arua, Akbar Godi murdered his wife in Mukono.

Many Ugandan children have been abused in all sorts by their parents and other people who deny them their rights e.g. in 2006, Aisha Nabukera was burnt by her step mother in Masaka.

Ugandan children have been granted too much freedom with less restrictions on the dos and don’ts which has resulted into moral decay.

Many girls and women have been victims of sexual abuses like rape, defilement and incest by lustful men due to drug abuse like 9 years aged Nambi Hanifa who was gang raped by unknown men at Kyebando in Kampala in 2012.

Young girls and women have deliberately terminated the so called unwanted pregnancy denying the unborn the right to live.

Many pretty women have gone on streets to exchange their bodies for material wealth and money like Tourist and Sheraton Hotels in Kampala / the reknown Bad Black aka Shanita Nalukenga of Kawempe in Kampala who became a prostitute at tender age.

Many public servants have misused their offices and embezzled government funds and property in order to satisfy their endless personal desires e.g. the Former Principal accountant in the OPM Geoffrey Kazinda who stole over 200 bn shs meant for redevelopment of Northern Uganda.

Minority groups of people like widows, orphans and elderly have been denied the attention they deserve by other members of the society which makes them social out-casts.

**DISLOYALTY IN THE MODERN CHURCH**

- Misuses of church money for personal gains like former Pr. William Muwanguzi
- Involved in social evils like sexual immorality e.g. Pr. David Kiganda’s wife.
- Discrimination / favoritism like Pr. Imerida Namutebi
- Too much love / greed for money like Pr. Augustine Yiga and Pr. Samuel Kakande
- Misuse of spiritual gifts like Pr. Yiga Augustine
- Power struggles in the church like Pr. Ssematimba Peter who manipulates other pastors to get more followers in voting process.
- Selfishness / individualistic hearts among Christians.
- Use of more of their human wisdom when praying to God’s people e.g. 2000’s, Joseph Kibwetere of Retoration of 10 commandments in Kanunga who used his own wisdom and took people’s property in the name of preaching the end of the world and consequently burnt them to ashes.
- Setting bad example to children and end up being drunkards and hooligans who commit all sorts of crimes.
- Failed to dedicate all their time in developing one another but instead prioritizing church sacraments like Baptism, Holy Communion, etc.
- Failed to call upon people for repentance in fear that the believers may run way.
- Stationed gospel in one place in the church.
- Dodging sacraments like Baptism, Eucharist and Matrimony.
- Misusing the church platform / podium to abuse other beliefs or air out personal differences
- Personalizing the church works and activities by pastors and followers
- Showing too much greed for material things / materialism by using church name to get riches
- Showing hatred of fellow Christians over minor issues

NB: Refer to injustices / failures / negative changes in modern church to give more disloyalties in church today
CAUSES OF DISLOYALTIES IN SOCIETY

- Limited parental care or guidance leading to misbehaviors and permissiveness among children.
- Drug abuse such as smoking marijuana, opium, fuel which confuses them mentally thus leading to rape and fight in public.
- Poverty due to unemployment leading to stealing of other people’s property, witchcraft and corruption.
- Permissiveness as one is allowed to do what he or she wants due to freedom of human rights leading hooligan and disrespect of elders.
- Greed for money due to one’s mentality which leads to prostitution, robbery, corruption, embezzlement of public money etc.
- Unemployment due to retrenchment policy and population explosion which leads to selling of home property, cheating, gambling and prostitution to earn a living.
- Bad examples from other leaders due to poor family background leading to adultery, alcoholism, etc.
- Increased income inequality between the rich and the poor that makes the poor steal and kill the rich.
- Peer group influence due to identity which also leads to break down school rules and regulations, divorce, etc.
- Lack of religious commitment / irreligious by many people due to multi-religions leading to kidnapping, killing, witchcraft and corruption for example the unknown thugs who gunned down Joan Kagezi, the state prosecutor at Kisasi in Kampala in 2015.
- Poor upbringing of children resulting into ..........
- Ignorance of the law leading to.....
- Too much greed of power
- Sectarian tendencies / prejudice among people
- Corruption in courts of law
- Western culture
- Loss of self-control
- Militarizing politics
- Lack of constitutionalism
- Oppressive political ideologies
- Weak panel courts
- Pride and arrogance among people
- Envy and jealousy
- Poor family background
- Pornographic literature
- Rigid cultural beliefs and practices
- Lust for sex
- Frustrations in marriages and marital relationship
- Loose rules and regulations.
- Selfishness and individualism
- Urbanization
- Dictatorial rule / regimes

DANGERS OF DISLOYALTY IN SOCIETY

- It results into expulsion in case of a student and excommunication from the society if one is a grown up citizen.
- It results into marriage breakdown due to adultery and defilement.
- Disloyalty results into acquiring diseases such as AIDS as a result of prostitution and adultery.
- It leads to imprisonment as one is convicted of an offence by the courts of law.
- Disloyalty also leads to mob justice as one is involved in theft of property.
- It leads to hatred and enmity between individuals who were formerly friends to one another.
- It leads to conflicts and disunity among people thus leading to disharmony in society.
- It leads to exile especially as one is involved in rebel activities / corruption.
- Disloyal workers lead to losses in a company / to their bosses.
CONFLICTING LOYALTY AMONG CHRISTIANS IN UGANDA

Conflicting loyalty is a divided loyalty between two likely and interested loyalties to be fulfilled at same time.

In Uganda today the conflicting loyalties faced by Christian in life are;

- Christians are always pre-occupied with earthly work at the expense of God’s work.
- Christians with high academic papers have disrespected biblical teaching but look at the academic knowledge as the answers to daily life.
- Christians have always created tempting situations to revenge or fight back those who caused pain to their dear ones than showing a spirit of forgiveness.
- Christians living under suffering like those suffering from incurable diseases like AIDS, cancer, sickle cells, etc find it difficult to remain faithful to God or to question whether God is healer.
- Naturally some Christians are faced with conflicts of whether to remain loyal in spite of being childless or having sex outside marriage for children.
- Christians are challenged with remaining loyal to care for their families especially mother or honouring other social obligation like looking for daily bread.
- Some Christians are faced with conflicts of whether to remain loyal in spite of being childless or having sex outside marriage for children.
- Christians are challenged with whether God is in full control of their lives or be subjected to social injustices like rape and natural calamities like death and drought.
- Some Christians are challenged whether to be loyal to the Sabbath as a day of rest or to serve in public offices and institutions.
- Some Christians are tempted to get jobs in evil ways like witch craft and bribery given the high unemployment levels in the world today or to patiently search and wait for rightful jobs.
- Christians under the supervision of corrupt bosses are challenged in signing fake checks and papers to keep their jobs or to lose it for sake of God’s truth and transparency.
- Christian lawyers face a challenge of defending publically renowned criminals in court of the law using blind loyalty or refute the work to defend them for their Christian faith and lose money.
- Christian judges are challenged with sentencing to death to capital offenders or to remain loyal to the commandments of God which says “Don’t kill”.
- Christian doctors and health workers are faced with a challenge of helping young girls and women to carry out abortion against the commandments of God that says “don’t commit murder”.
- African Christians faced a challenge of remaining loyal to the traditional rituals like the twin ritual among the Buganda which is against their faith of baptism rite.
- Religious leaders are faced with the conflict whether to be loyal to God’s work or the work of the nation.

CONFLICTING LOYALTIES AMONG STUDENTS IN SCHOOLS / YOUTH

- Prefects find it difficult whether to defend their friends who are in wrong or hand them over and break the friendship.
- Parents’ choice of subject combination / selection / life career / course of study against student’s.
- Conflict whether to go for classes on Sunday or to church for prayers.
- Students face a challenge whether to stick to school rules and regulations or disobey them for personal interests and peer group laws.
- Whether to go for personal interests like secular dance and outing or to fulfill church / religious demands like fellowship.
- Whether to go for preps or to dodge for entertainment and leisure.
- Whether to give in for sex with their teachers to get more marks or refuse and fail academically.
- Whether to follow peers’ influence in daily activities in life and western leisure activities or parents’ influence.
- Whether to stick to their African cultural values or to follow western culture.
- Whether to choose schools of their own choices or to take up their parent’s choice.
- Whether to carry out abortion and continue with their studies or to forego studies and have a ruined future.
- Socially accepted dressing code against the indecent dressing.
- Interest and practice of sex relationship / co-habitation before official formalities against parents’ decisions until right time of marriage.
- Youths’ choice of marriage partners against parents’ guidance and choice / tribal and religious settlements.
- Writing one’s final examinations on Sunday or going for Sunday service to praise God.
Either going for the burial of one’s parent or sitting one’s final examinations.

**SOLUTIONS TO THE CONFLICTING LOYALTIES AMONG CHRISTIANS**

The following are the measures which can be done by Christians in their way to overcome the challenges of conflicting loyalties.

- One should fully trust and equip himself with word of God in the Bible in preaching.
- Prayers should always be relied on in a Christian life as a means of communicating to God.
- Christian should involve themselves in private retreats in order to sort out conflicts among themselves e.g. going to Bukalango at Mt. Sion Prayer centre for mediation.
- All Christian should copy Jesus’ example of total forgiveness to those who annoy / wrong them e.g. Acholis and Langis in northern Uganda should forgive Joseph Kony for his rebel activities.
- Christian should observe respect of the moral values of patience as its part of life.
- Christians should always be calm when making choices in order to avoid any conflicts.
- Christian should respect the discipline of endurance despite of the long suffering.
- Christian should be straight forward to others with an open heart in solving the conflicting loyalties.
- Christians should always respect the professional conduct and ethics in different aspects of life and avoid unnecessary conflicts at work.
- Should personally take themselves for guidance and counseling to the elders in the church and community.
- Should take in concentration of the virtue of humility in order to appreciate the importance of loyalties in life.
- Should have control of their tongues especially those who react quickly or speak uninvestigated words to others to cause conflicts.
- Should adopt the spirit of tolerance in their lives so as to avoid some loyalties which may cause harm to their interests.
- Should give priority to their self-consciousness or understanding / reasoning while making or admitting a conflict.
- Should be single-minded while handling conflicts rather than double- minded that is serving one master at a time.
- Have a spirit of God’s love as one avoids causing harm to others’ loyalties but just respect them.
- Give loyalty to elders especially parents and their choices
- Obey and abide by the general rules / supreme law of the society than personal rules
- Seek God’s Holy Spirit intervention in one’s life commitments.
- Oppose personal injustices and disloyalties without fear or favour.
- Accommodate the cultural values, norms and customs of the society they live.

**AFRICAN CUSTOMS THAT CONFLICT WITH CHRISTIAN FAITH**

- Practice of polygamy against monogamy
- Worshipping spirits, ancestors and gods (polytheism) against one true God (monotheism)
- Divorcing wives against permanence in marriage
- Exchange of wives (married partners) against condemnation of adultery
- Regarding women inferior against all created in the image of God
- Sacrificing and offering to idols against God in Heaven
- Human sacrifice for social benefit against God’s commandment of “don’t commit murder”
- Inflicting cultural rigidities like female genital mutilation against Christian virtues of sex is a gift from God.
LOYALTY IN AFRICAN TRADITIONAL SOCIETY

In ATS, loyalty was part of life and so the following are the loyalty expressed by the Africans:

- Africans worshipped God as their creator and sustainer in the universe to evoke Him for blessings in livelihood such as Katonda, Were, etc.
- Africans respected their traditional beliefs and customs in their society for a sense of their belonging.
- Africans greatly respect and fear of the sacred places to the extent that no one could build or cultivate there like along river banks, hills, forests, etc. e.g., among the Buganda of central Uganda, Nakayima hill of Mubende was observed as a sacred place.
- They kept sacred objects and items such as sticks and roots in their houses, beds, bags or tied them around their bodies as they were used for good health, protection and success.
- Africans appeased their gods, ancestors and spirits as a way of renewing their relationships between the invisible and the visible world especially in shrines known as essabo among the Bagandas of Central Uganda.
- Africans always had prayers to ask for blessings from God before and after any activity that was going to be done for good life and success.
- They used to offer sacrifices and offerings to their gods and spirits in form of animals, birds or crops to appease them like Musoke, god of rain, etc.
- Africans showed honor and respect to the talented people with outstanding abilities and skills in their societies for executing and performing religious duties like medicine men, rain maker, witch doctor, diviners, etc.
- They paid great concern to informal education taught by auntie, uncles and other members of the society for places to help the young generation on how to handle life in future e.g., among the Buganda, the girls were taught by the sengas and boys by the kojjas.
- Every African society held meaning of myth to carry religious rituals and give religious information about the unknown events e.g. among the Buganda, it is believed that death was brought by Walumbe, Nambi’s brother.
- Africans made blood bonds or pacts to safeguard their relationship and friendship in the society for peaceful living, brotherhood and oneness e.g., among the Banyoros of western Uganda, it was omukago.
- Africans were loyal to religious messages portrayed in music and songs as they communicated social life e.g., among the Buganda, there was a song called njabala which was portraying a message of hard work in women.
- Every African had observed and respected initiation ritual as a way to adulthood from childhood so as to recognized in the society e.g., among the Bagisu of Eastern Uganda, every young male had to be circumcised in order to become an adult and recognized in the society.
- Every grown African had to get married so as to produce children for clan expansion e.g., among the Bakigas in South Western Uganda, girl who became pregnant while still at his father’s home was seen as an out-cast and would be thrown on a high cliff and left to die by brothers.
- An African marriage was a success as the couples produced children to seal their relationship and extend the clan.
- Africans respected life after death as they buried their departed relatives with domestic utensils and other properties to use in the next world and even poured drinks on the ground in their respect e.g., in Egypt, it is said that pharaoh was buried with servants to help him in the next world, even the Bachwezi of Western Uganda and Nyamwezi of Tanzania.
- In Africa, leaders like kings, local chiefs, cultural leaders were respected and honored by other members of the society since they believed that leadership was from God e.g., in Bunyoro, they paid tributes to the Omukama as assign of respect and honour.
- Africans showed loyalty to leaders and society through joining a tribal / societal war willingly so as to protect their territorial integrity and against invaders.
- Africans ensured loyalty by seriously punishing crime offenders through excommunication, curses, paying fines and canning to deter any cause of disloyalty in the society.
- Traditional Africans strictly insured and imparted discipline to the young ones to avoid conflicting loyalties.
- Africans shared all obligations and privileges communally in groups for community development and well being like beer party celebrations.
- Africans organized and fulfilled the payment of bride wealth / dowry to the parents and society at large for customary marriage.
NB: In Africa, it was noted that any disloyalty was intolerable and even the people got in the act, would be regarded as outcasts and punishable.

DISLOYALTY IN AFRICAN TRADITIONAL SOCIETY

In the African traditional society, disloyalty was rare or unheard of since right from childhood, puberty change, adulthood; people were taught how to be loyal / committed in life but very few cases of disloyalty were heard of and these are;

- Abominable acts such as killing their children, elders, leaders, etc.
- Traditional doctors turning into bad witch doctors like Africans bewitching each other.
- Some Africans running away from some traditional rituals such as male circumcision, funeral rituals, etc.
- Some men committed adultery with other peoples’ wives.
- Some people broke their agreements such as breaking the vows of blood pact.
- Leaders became dictators on their subjects like kings having a right over the lives of their subjects.
- Some men refused to marry yet it was an obligation of every grown up to marry.
- There were cases of incest in some traditional societies.
- Some children disrespected their parents.
- Some people were dishonored their ancestors when they refused to do what ancestors called for like failure to give them sacrifices.

SOLUTIONS TO DISLOYALTY IN SOCIETY

- They were ex-communicated from the society like witches.
- They were cursed especially children by their parents.
- They were denied decent burial by the whole society like one committed suicide.
- They were fined through forcing them to pay in form of material things, local beer, etc.
- They were canned by their different clan elders / parents.
- They were ear-marked so as for the whole society to know that one is a crime victim.
- They were denied respect in society and even chased away from their own tribes, clans and families.
- They were sometimes disowned by their parents.

IMPORTANCE OF LOYALTY IN AFRICAN TRADITIONAL SOCIETY

- Loyalty to the living dead helped to strengthen a good relationship between the living now and the living dead.
- Loyalty helped also to preserve the African traditional culture among people.
- It also showed respect and honour to parents especially during the payment of dowry.
- Loyalty helped to create security and trust among people (individuals) through blood pacts.
- It also promoted faithfulness among individuals.
- It encouraged mutual understanding among people.
- It helped in the smooth running of the society by leaders for harmony and peace.
- It also minimized crimes in the society.
- Loyalty enabled Africans to live in togetherness and great unity.
- It helped Africans to have a sense of belonging and identity through love of their societal assets like wells, grazing land, etc.
- It promoted prosperity through hard work in attaining material wealth

WAYS THROUGH WHICH PEOPLE IN TRADITIONAL AFRICA SHOWED LOYALTY TO THEIR ANCESTORS

- Through dedicating sacred places to ancestors like tops of mountains, etc.
- Through showing faith and trust in the ancestors as leaders sworn by their names
- Through molding, curving and designing sacred objects to represent their ancestors.
- Through constantly calling upon ancestors to bless them like giving them children and good harvests.
- Through cleaning up burial places of their ancestors.
• By restricting children from playing around burial places for fear of disturbing the resting ancestors.
• By giving names of the ancestors to newly born babies to signify rebirth of the ancestors.
• By offering sacrifices and libations (pouring local beers) to ancestors.
• By calling upon the ancestors to guide the living people in case of any challenge / calamity in society.
• Through involving them to intervene or witness the family affairs like introduction ceremonies.
• By burying them with some of their property to use in the next world.
• By living morally upright lives in order to appease their ancestors.
• By honouring the wills of the living dead

WAYS THROUGH WHICH AFRICANS SHOWED LOYALTY TO LEADERS, ELDERS AND PARENTS
• By paying of the bride price (dowry) to parents during marriage ceremonies.
• By giving special gifts and tributes as a sign of appreciation like cattle, crop harvests, etc.
• Through joining tribal wars willingly so as to protect the society as respect to leaders.
• By giving their wives and daughters to leaders because of their status like Kabaka of Buganda was believed to be owner all women in Kingdom.
• By greeting them while kneeling down especially among the Baganda.
• Through entertaining leaders in games like wrestling.
• Through giving them energetic young men to do for them manual work.
• By addressing the elders in some societies using special titles like Buganda elders were addressed by titles such as Ssebo for men and Nyabo for women.

WAYS THROUGH WHICH LOYALTY BROUGHT PEACE AND HARMONY IN AFRICAN SOCIETY
• It promoted unity and a strong sense of belonging to all members of the society.
• It discouraged individualism and selfishness because all resources were owned and shared communally to benefit all.
• Loyalty instilled a sense of being responsible among Africans which guarded them against breaking of laws / injustices.
• Loyalty helped people to respect and preserve their customs and norms of the society.
• Loyalty ensured Africans to participate in their societal demands like joining the army to defend the society.
• Loyalty compelled elders to discipline the young ones in order promote social order and good behavior.
• Loyalty helped to promote justice in which all people were fairly treated in society.
• It helped to fight sexual immorality of all kinds like adultery, prostitution, fornication, etc.
• It also reduced unnecessary competition among Africans as all basics of life were shared and lived as a group.
• Loyalty also helped them to co-exist with strangers without fighting or killing them as they welcomed.

TYPES OF LOYALTY IN TRADITIONAL AFRICAN SOCIETY
There were mainly three types of loyalties in the African traditional society and these were;

Personal loyalty which involved loyalty of the;
• Husband to wife in a family.
• Children to parents,
• Blind by the guides,
• Mother to her baby,
• Friendship / blood pact / bond.

Group loyalty which involved being loyal to;
• One’s family,
• The clan,
• One’s sex group
• One’s age group

N.B This meant acting together as one group but with different individual.

Cultural loyalty which involved being loyal to;
• The African traditional religion,
- The deities, spirits and ancestors
- One's language, customs, rituals and practices
- The societal symbols, objects and others.
LOYALTY IN CHURCH HISTORY

After Pentecost, the early Christians had responsibilities to perform as Jesus had instructed them. Therefore these were the loyalties that observed in church history:

- The preaching of the Gospel was one of the loyalties which they had to do in all corners of the world to convert non-believers from door to door e.g. St. Paul preached to Rome, Corinth and Galatia.
- Baptism was another loyalty which every converted member had to undergo as a sign of join God’s family like Paul was baptized by Ananias, the disciple in Damascus.
- The church leaders had to lay their hands on the newly converted Christians so as to get spiritual blessings from God.
- Early Christians held fellowship and Bible study meetings in church in order to strengthen their faith.
- They held prayers and private retreats either as individuals or groups, families in order to make their requests and mediate to God like Peter and John went to the Jerusalem temple at 3 O’clock hour for prayers.
- They carried out fasting and confession for almsgiving and penance purpose in Christian lives.
- They praised and worshipped on Sabbath to glorify God through songs and dances as well as to appreciate Him for his love, care, authority power and protection.
- They celebrated the breaking of bread and taking of wine (Eucharist) in memory of Jesus’ broken body and poured blood for preparation of eternity.
- They were committed to teaching and training basic principles of Christian faith (catechism) to the newly converted Christians for mastery of the word of God.
- They shared everything they had to the poor and the needy as a life of love, sharing and concern for one another.
- They were committed in settling disputes and conflicts that come up amongst Christians for harmonious living.
- They used to travel long distances on foot from their homes preaching the gospel as well as establishing churches e.g. Paul travelled with Corinth, Galatia and Rome.
- They wrote and compose Christian literature in form of letters and songs / hymns for distribution and use in church liturgy like Paul wrote to Corinthians, Timothy and Romans.
- They started and founded churches in places where they preached for the new converts to gather for worship like Paul founded churches in Corinth, Galatia and Romans.
- They endured to persecution and all suffering for the sake of Christ as testimony of Jesus’ death and resurrection like Deacon Stephen who was stoned to death in Jerusalem, Peter and Paul suffered imprisonment.
- They put the gospel message into writing like Matthew wrote a gospel.
- They visited and prayed for the sick.
- They organized crusades for Christian debates to challenges the Greek philosophers.
- Apostles also offered counseling and guidance to people suffering stress form various problems.
- They gave public testimonies concerning the great things God had done in their lives.
- They elected and at times appointed church assistants / junior leaders or deacons like Deacon Stephen in Jerusalem.

WAYS HOW CHRISTIANS IN THE EARLY CHURCH SHOWED DUAL CITIZENSHIP

A dual citizen is a citizen of two worlds. Early Christians tried as much as possible to strike a balance between being good citizens of the Roman Empire and being good citizens of the kingdom of God as follows;

- They became baptized and received a Christian name as a sign of membership to God’s kingdom as well they maintained their traditional names which were a sign of belonging to the secular world.
- Christians paid taxes to the political leaders and at the same time paid title to the church authorities.
- They sang Christian songs but maintained their traditional drums, dances and rhythms.
- They respected their earthly parents and at the same time respected their heavenly father.
- They provided charitable services to their fellow needy Christians and at the same time supported and cared for their biological relatives.
- They participated in community welfare services as demanded by Roman officials and at the same time participated in church construction activities.
- They obeyed the laws of the state and at the same time obeyed the law of love which was commanded by Jesus Christ.
- They accepted the authority of the state to punish wrong doers while at the same time believed that it was God who would finally judge all men during the Parousia.
• Some Christians served the earthly governments as tax collectors and enforcers of law and order and at the same time remained loyal to Jesus Christ.

**LOYALTY EXPRESSED BY THE UGANDA MARTYRS TO GOD**

In the late 19th century, during Kabaka Mwanga Leadership of Buganda in central Uganda, the newly converted Christians faced a challenge of being loyal to the Christian faith in Buganda at that time.

Ugandan Martyrs were the young men who were burnt at Namugongo in 1886 by the King's official called Mukajanga on the orders of Kabaka Mwanga of Buganda. Most of them were Baganda and the non-Baganda living in Buganda. They had accepted Jesus Christ and were baptized but originally servants in the King's palace.

Despite the humiliation and persecution from the Kabaka and his chiefs, these Christians remained loyal to their God in the following ways:

• They accepted to take up baptism and they acquired Christian names as an identity of Christian faith like Lwanga got Charles, Kaggwa got Andrew, then Mulumba got Matthias, etc.
• They embraced all the Ten Commandments of God with total obedience.
• They believed and had faith one true God thereby abandoning the traditional spiritual beliefs and spirits.
• They gave up everything including their own lives for the sake of Christ.
• They remained committed to their new faith and accommodated all principles that governed Christian faith.
• They communicated to their God regularly through prayers on any step and action they had reached and taken.
• They practiced the habit of praising and worshipping God each time on Sundays they met together as God's family.
• They regularly studied the bible to understand it deeply so as to endure the suffering.
• They accepted to suffer and face death as it was seen as a spiritual conflict between God and Satanic beliefs of Buganda.
• They courageously preached the gospel far and wide in Buganda areas without any thing pulling back though with resistance. They laid a firm foundation on which the missionaries (the White fathers and the CMS) started the giant churches of Roman Catholics at Lubaga and Protestants at Namirembe in Buganda.
• They provided free labor force in church ministry and leadership as catechists on behalf of the missionaries as well as church construction like at Rubaga and Namirembe churches.
• They set an example and admirable lifestyle serving as young Christians which inspired many Bagandas to become Christians like Kizito Omuto at age of 14.
• They courageously defied Kabaka’s orders and they chose trust in God their creator.
• They refused to use violence to solve their problems with the Kabaka’s men.
• They refused to participate in sexual immorality such as homosexuality as it was demanded by the king and his chiefs as a way of decampaigning against injustices and other forms of immorality
• They expressed their faith in action by helping the needy with appropriate service they needed under guidance of the Holy Spirit in form of charitable activities

**CONFLICTING LOYALTIES AMONG THE UGANDA MARTYRS**

They faced the following challenges as conflicts either;

• Being loyal to be called Christian names or traditional names.
• Worshipping one true God (monotheism) or the Kabaka and his gods (polytheism).
• Obeying God’s Ten Commandments and Jesus’ commands or Kabaka’s commands and orders.
• Offering sacrifices to God or to the gods, spirits and ancestors.
• Going for worship in churches or in the shrines.
• Attending Christian fellowship and bible study or Kabaka’s meetings
• Offering charitable works to church members or communal works in the palaces.
• Working for Kabaka’s rewards and gifts like land or God’s rewards in heaven.
• Serving as church leaders like catechists as chiefs (Mukajjanga) for the Kabaka in the kingdom.
• Remaining and living in a polygamous marriage of taking up a monogamous one.
• Preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ to non-believers or delivering Kabaka’s messages to his subjects.
• Respecting African culture or new religious doctrines.
• Attend catechetical instructions or to remain with their parents or the King in the palace.
LOYALTY IN THE BIBLE

In the Bible, the focus is on how loyalty was viewed both in the Old Testament and the New Testament.

LOYALTY IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

In Old Testament, the two key players are God and the Israelites with their commitment to one another.

WAYS HOW GOD WAS LOYAL TO THE ISRAELITES

- God was loyal by making an agreement with Israelites like Abraham in the Abrahamic covenant in which He vowed to fulfill all the promises He made with him such as the Promised Land of Canaan, many descendants, etc.
- God was loyal by calling any person to do His work like Moses to go to Egypt to liberate the children of Israel from slavery.
- God was loyal by showing His mercy over Israel when He saved their 1st born sons over the angle of death as those for the Egyptians died on the Passover night.
- God was loyal by availing them with food known as Manna and quails and water to consume in times of hunger and thirsty while in the wilderness where they would have died (Exodus 16 and Num 20).
- God was loyal by fighting battles as well as giving them victories over their enemies Like the Philistines, Amorites, Jebustites, etc (Deut 7)
- God was loyal by making covenant with them on Mt. Sinai that He was to be their father and they were to be His children (Deut. 19).
- God was loyal by always proving His goodness to His children whenever there could be like the existence of the cloud ahead of them on the way to the Promised Land in the desert and the covenant Ark in which the Ten Commandments were held.
- God was loyal by accepting sacrifices presented to Him on an altar for forgiveness of their sins especially on the atonement day e.g. King David, the second king of Israel, offered to God a sacrifice after committing adultery with Bathsheba and murdering Uriah, her husband.
- God was loyal by answering the genuine prayers made to Him by the faithful men and women like prophets and priests on behalf of the unrepentant Israelites e.g. He accepted the prayers of Hannah who was barren and answered her by giving her a child whom she named Samuel. (1 Sam 1)
- By giving them an earthly king as soon as his people demanded for one who was Saul as their first king of Israel.
- By giving fertile and vacant gardens and lands of Canaan to his people that they were free from plants and cities as they entered.
- God was loyal by tirelessly sending prophets to Israel in every generation to guide and warn them over their injustices as well as reminding them of Decalogue e.g. prophet Elijah to King Ahab for marrying a foreign woman and worshipping Baal gods, prophet Nathan to King David for committing adultery with Bathsheba and murdering Uriah, etc.
- God was loyal by punishing sinful people and exposing the immoral people for reformation in life e.g. King David was exposed for committing adultery with Bathsheba and murdering Uriah.
- God was loyal by providing to Israel his immeasurable powers in form of wonders and miracles like He sent fire to burn the sacrifices on Mt. Carmel contest between Prophet Elijah and Baal prophets. (1st king 18: 20-24).
- God was loyal through forgiving the Israelites for their disobedience and sins and restored Israel from foreign lands and suffering the exile e.g. during prophet Ezekiel’s time, He brought them back to Israel from Babylonian exile.
- God was loyal by granting them His immeasurable knowledge and wisdom for perfect leadership in Israel like to King Solomon, the 2nd king of Israel who used his given wisdom to judge a case of two prostitutes claiming the live baby and denying a dead one.
- By promising them a Messiah as a future understanding leader to bring peace and reconciliation between men when they were in trouble during Prophet Isaiah
- Through choosing for them good leaders like Judges
- By visiting them, when they were suffering like in Babylonian exile and Egyptian slavery.
- By giving them the Ten (10) Commandments which guided their political, economic and social spheres of life in daily life.
- By appointing for them priests such as priest Aaron, Samuel and Eli to led them in religious affairs.
LOYALTIES EXPRESSED BY THE ISRAELITES TO GOD

Israel as God’s chosen community had to show a commitment to the divine relationship that started between God and her on Mt. Sinai. So this commitment was shown as;

- Israelites had to have physical mark of being circumcised as a command that He required from his people at age of 8 years like Abraham circumcised Isaac at 8.
- They had to observe the annual celebration of the Passover in remembrance of their liberation from Egypt.
- They were to abide by the Ten Commandments given to them through Moses at Mt. Sinai as their guiding principles between them and God as well as reading and following the Mosaic laws.
- They believed in only one true God as agreed in the covenant made for faithful living e.g. Abraham turned away from the worship of many gods (moon worshiper) to only one God (monotheist).
- They observed the Sabbath day as they put aside all their work to make it holy and even sometimes Israel would go to Jerusalem temple to worship God.
- They offered regularly living sacrifices of crop harvests and male animals without defect on the altar to God for thanksgiving of confession like Prophet Elijah at Mt. Carmel.
- They made pilgrims to the holy places of God for medication and self reflection like to Jerusalem temple and Mt. Sinai.
- They held a sacred day of atonement on which they repented their sins and God forgave them.
- All Israelites had respect for their fellow Israelites’ rights and dignity even though one was a slave as they were created in God’s image.
- Israelites observed social justice among themselves without oppression and exploitation of others as everyone was below the law.
- Israelites had to respect the divine institution of marriage within the 12 tribes of Israel as indulgence in any sexual evils was punishable like King Ahab was condemned for marrying Jezebel, a foreigner from Sidon.
- They held a day of Tabernacle on which they thanked God for the crop harvest they received from the promised land of Canaan.
- They held a day of trumpet when they got together to offer a praise feast to the Almighty as trumpets were blown all over Israel.
- They had to have prayers regularly in which they asked God to depend on their faith and save the people like Prophet Elijah’s prayers on Mt. Carmel that ended 3 years’ drought.
- They obeyed and listened God's prophets and God's priests for the service of God’s people like Samuel, Aaron, Joshua, Moses, etc.
- They had to follow the Sinatic covenant as they were to call God their father and them His children.
- They observed fasting as a way of confession and becoming righteous like King David, the second king of Israel who fasted after double sinning.

DISLOYALTIES EXPRESSED BY THE ISRAELITES TO GOD

- Israelites rejected God's rule and leadership over them and demanded for a human and an earthly kings like the foreign nations during Prophet Samuel (1 Samuel 8)
- They worshipped foreign and false gods which was against the Ten Commandments such as Baal gods during reign of King Ahab brought by his wife Jezebel of Sidon, worshipped and even destroyed Yahweh’s temples and constructed those of Baals.
- Most Israelites rejected God's prophets and the prophetic messages which defied God’s command e.g the chief priest of Bethel, Amaziah stopped prophet Amos from prophesying and King Ahab rejected Prophet Elijah.
- Some Israelites practiced religious syncretism as they mixed the worship of Yahweh with that of idols in dark corners like the Golden calf in the wilderness at foothill of Mt. Sinai
- They terminated and murdered innocent people which was against God's Commandments e.g. King David plotted to have Uriah killed, King Ahab killed Naboth.
- They intermarried with foreign wives which was against God's law and will (Deuteronomy 7:3) against intermarried, for example King Solomon who married several foreign wives from Sidon and Astarte, King Ahab married Jezebel from Sidon, etc.
Some Israelites offered poor and defective sacrifices on God's altar, misused the tithe as well as misusing temple authority of priesthood leadership like Chief Priest Eli's sons ate the temple sacrifices.

Some Israelite traders, the rich and religious leaders cheated their customers and the poor by selling expired goods, overpricing and using false weighing scales during Prophet Amos’ time.

They neglected widows, orphans and strangers which was an act of hostility to God’s people.

They disobeyed God's commandments and instructions given to them on how to rule and execute authority like King Saul the first king of Israel who spared the king of Amalekites, Agag and his property during war against them, King David carrying out a census in Israel, Moses struck twice on the rock to get water of the Israelites yet God told him to strike once.

They practiced sexual immorality that ashamed God like King David committed adultery with Bathsheba, Uriah's wife, incest and rape of King David's children, Amnon and his half sister Tamar, etc.

They exploited workers without pay or less like King David during the building of Jerusalem city and King Solomon during the construction of Jerusalem temple.

Israelites took advantage of poor people whom they sold and traded fellow men in slavery which degraded human dignity like the sons of Jacob sold their brother Joseph to the Egyptian merchants.

They exploited and oppressed God’s people for selfish interests by the kings like grabbing land from Nabboth by King Ahab, grabbing women like King David took Uriah wife, Bathsheba, forced labour on Jerusalem city and palace by King David and King Solomon respectively and heavy taxes by the same Kings on the same building projects.

They married many wives against Israel’s code of leadership especially the kings like King Solomon married 700 princesses and 300 concubines from neighbouring nations.

**NEW TESTAMENT TEACHING ON LOYALTY**

In New Testament, the two key players are God and the Israelites with their commitment to one another.

**WAYS HOW JESUS WAS LOYAL TO GOD**

In the New Testament, Jesus committed himself through total obedience to God and focused on seeing God’s will to be fulfilled as below;

- Jesus was loyal by accepting to be baptized by John the Baptist in R. Jordan though he was righteous.
- Through defeating Satan’s / Devil’s planned moves to tempt him in the wilderness for 40 days and nights like though he was hungry, He refused to the stones into bread to eat and .
- By always praying to God before doing anything and during hard times like at one time, he left his disciples and went to the garden of Gethsemane and Mt. Olives to pray.
- By exhibiting unconditional love of God to mankind as performing great miracles like turning water into wine at wedding at Cana in Galilee, etc.
- Through casting demons and making them to tremble as a way of showing God’s almighty power over nature like from the young boy to pigs.
- By chasing out those who had turned the God’s house into a market place to cleanse the Jerusalem temple as he overturned their tables of money changers and released the pigeons.
- Through making pilgrims to holy places for spiritual reflection like while riding on a colt to Jerusalem temple / city.
- By forgoing food in service of God’s people and work to make God’s will to be fulfilled like while having a conversation with a Samaritan woman at Jacob’s well in Samaria.
- By allowing to the plotted and betrayed by his own disciple, Judas Iscariot and later to be arrested by the Roman authority as planned by God.
- Through crying out to God for help while the cross at Golgotha as he said “why he have you forsaken me?”
- By giving up his own life as a sacrificial lamb for the sinful man to be redeemed as he was crucified at Golgotha on the cross.
- Through having private retreats in lonely places for meditation and spiritual reflection to God like in the garden of Gethsemane / Mount Olives before his arrest.
- By enduring humiliation and suffering in public for salvation of mankind as he accepted to be arrested, underwent trials and accepted the false accusations before the Pilate.
- Through attending Sabbath worship and Passover celebrations like at the Last super with the disciples.
• By fasting in the wilderness for 40 days and 40 nights.
• By inaugurating the New Covenant between God and man kind through his death and resurrection.
• Through preaching the good news of God’s kingdom to fishermen like Simon Peter and the brother Andrew, tax collectors like Levi, Samaritan woman at Jacob’s well in Samaria, etc.
• By teaching people especially to the disciples how to pray to God the father in the words; "Our father..."
• By self sacrificing for the sake of his father’s will as he left his family.
• By living a poor and humble life as he rejected to be made king (Mark 11)
• Through criticizing the Pharisees and other religious teachers for following rigid laws instead of catering for human needs like hypocritical prayers, fasting and other religious practices.

LOYALTY SHOWN BY JESUS TO THE JEWS

In spite of Jesus being a messiah, Jesus observed the following loyalty in service of man especially the Jews;
• Jesus established a strong relationship between God and man through love as preformed great miracles like he healed the woman who had suffered from severe bleeding for 12 years.
• He accepted to be circumcised one week old as a sign of the Abrahamic covenant to the Jewish culture.
• Jesus served all the people equally and impartially whether rich or poor, Jew or gentile, young or old e.g. he was a Jew but shared a word of God with the Samaritan woman at Jacob’s well in Samaria.
• He felt sorry for those suffering by showing a compassionate heart to them e.g. he fed 5000 men with 2 fish and 5 loaves of bread in Galilee.
• He prayed and preached to the people who had stubborn hearts especially those who oppose him (Pharisees) like he explained to the Pharisees on the questions of fasting, Sabbath, adultery, etc.
• He answered puzzling questions posed to him by his disciples and followers as well through parables e.g. he explained to those who had low understanding on the parable of the lost sheep which meant ......
• He showed the Jews and other people how they should have faith in God in their daily lives like when He walked on waters of Lake Galilee and even instructed Peter to do so but failed due to little faith.
• He showed the Jews the spirit of servant hood in his leadership as he washed the feet of his disciples on the last supper of the Passover feast.
• He showed the Jews the spirit of forgiveness and reconciliation to everyone even those who hated him through prayer to his father to forgive them as he cried out on the Cross at Golgotha to forgive those who crucified him that they didn’t know what they were doing.
• He protected the rights of the children to participate in God’s kingdom as he said to his disciples, “let the young ones come to me because the kingdom of God belongs to such”.
• He appreciated and recognized the role of women in building the kingdom of God like the poor widow who offered the two little copper coins.
• He insisted and endured on serving them even though he was abused and insulted by calling him mad and a prince of demons by the Pharisees.
• He called and trained disciples and then delegated them some of his responsibilities to help in the building of God’s kingdom like he said Peter will be the rock on which the church will stand and also when he sent 72 disciples to go the lands of Gentiles to preach.
• He redeemed mankind to attain salvation when he was crucified on the Cross at Golgotha for man’s sins.
• Jesus advised his disciples to obey the state authority of the Emperor as he said "give to God what is God's and to Ceasar what is Ceasar's (Matthew 22:15 - 22) and to pay tax.
• Jesus taught his disciples to involve life-cost sacrifice of leaving one's family and becoming a full-time servant of God as a fisherman of people like Simon Peter and the brother Andrew, James and John.
• Jesus gave a new Law to his believers to guide them in their daily living of loving God with all the heart and mind and loving the neighbor the way one loves him / herself.
• He accepted that he was a Messiah and son of God when he appeared before Pilate without fear to speak the truth.
REASONS WHY THE JEWISH AUTHORITIES AND JEWS CHOSE TO BE DISLOYAL TO JESUS
Throughout his lifetime, the Jewish authority, religious groups such as Pharisees and his fellow Jews turned out to be disloyal in all whatever he taught and did.
This was mainly because of the following;

- The Jewish community chose to be disloyal to Jesus because he denounced all political developments (motives) as well as being a political messiah and insisted that he was only a spiritual messiah.
- The Jewish community chose to be disloyal to Jesus because he associated with all kind of people including social outcasts and socially poor like carpenters, tax collectors, fishermen, etc who were of less important.
- The Jewish were disloyal to Jesus because he associated with people who were considered unclean and sinners by the religious officials like prostitutions, lepers, Gentiles, etc.
- They were disloyal to Jesus because he ignored the ritual of washing his body and hands before going in God’s presence as well as eating without observing this ritual.
- Because Jesus and his disciples ignored fasting while others fasted as they had regular meals
- Because Jesus became fame and popular in Jerusalem with increasing number of followers in the public as he had love for the disadvantaged and performed miracles
- Because he criticized the way Sabbath was honoured and called himself the lord of the Sabbath meaning he was free to do anything on that day.
- Because Jesus preached in parables that challenged the understanding of the Jewish authorities like in the parable of the wicked tenant. (Mathew 21:23)
- Because he originated from a poor family of his father, being a mere a carpenter in Nazareth and more so born in a kraal in Bethlehem.
- Because he chased them away from misusing the Jerusalem Temple as a market place like money changers and pigeon sellers.
- Because he claimed to destroy his father’s house (temple) and rebuild it in three days which was a greatest sin (blasphemy) among the Jews.
- Because he was mad by his own family members when he refused to eat food.
- Because he was physically beaten, tortured and mocked by the Roman soldiers which were worthless to a messiah.
- Because he was crucified on the Cross at Golgotha with two thieves which implied he was a thief too.
- Because of his act of forgiving sins which they knew it was God alone to forgive and took it to be blasphemy
- Because of his way of preaching as it was authoritative and always contradicted with the Jewish leaders and the teachers of the Mosaic Law (Pharisees).
- Because he called and tagged himself different and strange names and titles during his teaching which irritated the teachers of the law like son of God, the good shepherd, Lamb of God, Vine dresser, King of Jews, etc.
NEW PAGE

SECTION C: LIFE

Sub Themes:
7. Happiness
8. Unending life
9. Success

HAPPINESS

Happiness is an expression of pleasure and excitement shown by laughers, smiles, celebrations, thanksgiving, praises, dances, shouting, tears, etc after attainment of something in one’s life.

HAPPINESS IN PRESENT SITUATION

In the modern world, people have happiness in different ways as they work tirelessly to attain it in their lives whether religiously, socially, economically, politically, culturally, personally, etc.

SOURCES OF HAPPINESS IN UGANDA TODAY

- Most Ugandans feel happy when they are close to God by going to churches for worship and praise e.g people in Kampala go to worship at Rubaga Cathedral Church.
- Many grown-up Ugandans derive happiness when they are legally married in their religious faith or customarily in their cultures e.g Bobi Wine of Fire Base Crew aka R.S.K wedded Barbie Itungo in Rubaga Cathedral Church.
- Many married couples find happiness when they are gifted with children of balanced sexes e.g H.E Y.K Museveni with the wife, Janet Kataha Museveni are happy with 3 daughters and son Brig. M.K, the singer Bobi Wine aka R.K. Ssentamu with the wife Barbie I. are happily with their children; Kampala, Nairobi and Shillings.
- Ugandan parents attain happiness when their children are morally upright with love and fear of God, parents and other elders in society e.g. President Y.K Museveni and the wife Janet nurtured their daughter, Patience Museveni into a Pastor of Covenant Church at Kasanga in Kampala
- Many Ugandans feel happy when they pursue good and quality education in their lives in well facilitated and prominent schools like King's College Buddo in Wakiso, Seeta High School in Mukono, St. Mary’s Kisubi in Wakiso, Bishop Cipriano K S.S.S in Kampala.
- Ugandans derived happiness when they are given and rescued well paying jobs out of many qualified people for a better living e.g. Mrs. Jennifer Musisi who was appointed in 2011 by the President of Repubulic of Uganda as the Executive Director of Kampala Capital City Authority and earns over 30 million per month.
- When workers at their place of work are given good terms and conditions of work for positive morale like medical, transport and loan facilities e.g all MPs in the Ugandan Parliament are given 100 million each to purchase a vehicle for transport allowance.
- When people’s rights are protected and advocated for justice and fairness in society like for women by FIDA at Kamwokya in Kampala, children by National Council for children Rights in Kampala, general human rights by Uganda Human Rights Commission in Kampala headed by Hon. Medi Kagwa.
- When there is gender balance between men and women in all sphere of life for equality through woman emancipation and ministry of Ethics and Integrity under Minister Rev. Fr. Simon Lukodo like today women are happy because the 10th parliament is headed by a woman MP of Iganga, Hon. Rebecca Kadaga Alitwara.
- When they access and enjoy different leisure activities at their school in the most exciting places for entertainment and relaxation e.g in Kampala people go to Lido beach in Entebbe, Theatre Labonita and Club Ambiance on weekends in Kampala.
- When they fulfill their cultural responsibilities and duties for identification in the society of belonging like initiation, funeral rites, burial rites etc e.g among the Bagisu of Mbale, participation in male circumcision ceremony locally known as Imbalu.
- When they are surviving and living for a very long time on earth given the life risks like accidents and deadly diseases e.g. the grandfather of Sylvia Najjinda, the Nabagereka of Buganda, Edward Ssebugwayo who lived for over 103 years at Nkumba in Wakiso.
When one is acquiring and possessing a lot of riches for luxurious living in good and rightful means like expensive cars, mansions e.g. the singer Bobi Wine of FBC aka Robert Kyagulanyi Ssentamu owns a mansion in Kasangati, One Love Beach at Busabala-Munyonyo in Wakiso, Fire base Studio at Kamwokya in Kampala.

When the state is developing economically in terms of infrastructures and social amenities for quality socio-economic services like Northern Bypass for transport in Kampala, the Bugajali power Station for electricity in Jinja.

When they are ruled by honest democratic leaders who listen to and mind about people’s views for nationalistic feeling and love of the country like 1% tax on Mobile money in 218/19 budget was reduced to 0.5% by presidential directives, H.E. Y.K. Museveni.

When there is respect of the constitution by all sectors of the state for proper rule of law like detention of former IGP, E. Kale K. at Makindye military barracks in Kampala for allege violation of human rights and abuse of office during term of office for 12 years

When people are exercising the political rights in voting their leaders and freely contesting for leadership at all levels like every after 5 years of term of presidential office, Ugandans has repeatedly voted Mr. Y.K Museveni

When there is transparency and honesty in political and ministerial offices for effective service delivery to the masses like KCCA under the leadership of E.D, Mrs. J.S. Musisi is reconstructing all subroads and market in Kampala City.

Ways how young people attain happiness today.

- Attending fellowship and bible study
- Joining and participating in school and church choirs
- Going for night clubs and night prayer
- Attending prom, baptism, wedding and birthday parties
- Dating and courting the future partners
- Watching film movies and music videos of all sorts
- Reading and writing Christian and romantic literature as well as school news
- Adventuring / touring places for pleasure and study
- Involving casual talk and educative debates for confidence building
- Playing games and sports for development of in born talents
- Visiting and creating friends for socialization
- Eating appetizing food like chicken and chips for improved nutrition
- Being health free from deadly and incurable diseases for prolonged life
- Having company of both parents with love and care for proper survival and livelihood.
- Celebrating and honouring public holidays like women’s day, martyrs’ day, heros’ day, independence, etc
- Passing exams at all levels especially at the University with 1st first degree honor for a good job in life
- Being a leader at school and local council as a youth council for students’ and people’s leadership
- Study in good quality schools for a better and clear (holistic) future
- Starting and having a prospering business for stable income and improved standards of living
- Respecting your rights by others for justice and equality
- etc.

CASES OF UNHAPPINESS IN PRESENT SITUATION

Ugandans are unhappy their societies as follows;

- High level of corruption / embezzlement of funds leading to poor service delivery like CHOGAM money in 2007
- Exploitation of the poor like Pastor Imelda Namutebi of Liberty Church.
- Sexual harassment leading to STIs, unwanted pregnancies, etc like former Pr. William Muwanguzi who raped an S.4 vacist at Nateete in Kampala in 2010
- Abuse and violation of human rights leading to mistreatment
- Discrimination / favouritism leading to denied equal opportunities
- Dictatorship of leaders leading to poor governance and rebellion
- Unfair judgment / biased judgment leading to abuse of the constitution
- Neglect of basic social services by parents leading to school dropouts, street children and malnutrition
- Arbitrary arrest and long detention without trial leading to abuse of fundamental human rights
- Over taxation and high costs of basic services (water and electricity) by the government agencies leading to poverty and chasing of the citizens
- Misuse of church funds by religious leaders leading to failure of church work and development
- Murder and killings leading to loss of lives
- Telling lies / empty promises by politicians leading to manipulation of the masses
- Abuse of children rights / child sacrifice leading to loss of lives and juvenile delinquency
- Human trafficking to foreign countries leading to human slavery and sex working
- Cultural rigidities that involve body torture leading to violation of rights
- Material gains / materialism by church leaders that involve smuggling and dodging taxes leading to the tarnishing of the church name
- Church grudges and differences among religious leaders leading to disunity and division
- Adultery (marital unfaithfulness) among the marriage leading to division and disunity
- Sexual evils (rape, defilement, homosexuality, bestiality, prostitution, lesbianism, incest, fornication)
- Commercialized justice in court of law leading to denied justice to the poor
- Mob justice by angry crowd leading to injury and death of innocent people.
- Delayed justice by judiciary system leading to long detention and abuse of rights
- Bullying and teasing in school by old students leading to injury, death, school dropout and poor performance
- Moral decay due to permissiveness leading to theft, prostitution and hooligans
- Oppression of women by male relatives leading to violation of their rights
- Permissiveness due to busy parents leading to moral decay /
- Abortion by young girls and school girls leading to death and denied life to unborn
- Taking bribe
- Etc

**HAPPINESS IN MODERN CHURCH**

In church today, Christians attain happiness in following ways;
- Christians are happy by attending fellowships and bible studies for sharing the God’s words and deeper understanding of it.
- Christians are happy by communicating to God through prayers for request, provision, guidance and blessings
- Through the Uganda Bible society translating the Bible through several languages for simpler understanding of word of God
- By establishing and having mass media like radio stations and T.Vs stations for sensitization of the public, job creation and evangelism.
- Christians are happy by being imparted sex education especially the youth for handling puberty challenges and questions.
- By protecting their marriage institution as well as sticking their marriage vows for permanence
- By advocating and protecting human rights of voiceless for justice and equality
- By offering charitable services to the needy and helpless for human survival
- By winning the youth back to the church in her affairs and activities for building God's kingdom
- By mobilizing the public on behalf of the government in national programs like elections, mass immunization, etc.
- By mediating between the conflicting parties
- By providing educational services to the public in church based schools for eradication of illiteracy
- By providing medical services to the public in church based health centres.
- By setting up income generating projects for church survival and employment to Christians.
- By preaching the gospel on streets and crusades for conversion to Christianity like Kampala streets.
- By calling upon Christians for repentance / penance to turn back to God.
- By encouraging forgiveness and reconciliation to one another like Pastor Robert Kayanja of Miracle Cathedral Centre in Kampala forgave Pr. Martin Ssempa of Makerere Revival church and William Male of Revival Ministries for the accusation of sodomising about him.
- By training Christians to become leaders in church like priests, catechists and pastors for continued church work.
UNHAPPINESS IN THE MODERN CHURCH

- Being selfish and individualism
- Limited confidentiality of Christians’ secrets like Rev. Fr. Anthony Musaala
- Cowardness of church leaders to comment on wrong things of Christians and to call people back for repentance and reconciliation
- Discrimination / favouritism among Christians
- Unexemplary church leaders leading to shame e.g. Bishop David Kiganda of Christian Focused Centre in Kampala divorced with the 1st wife and re-married a Zimbabwe woman, Cindy.
- Misuse of church money for personal needs leading to crippled church work like the former Pr. William Muwanguzi
- Sexual evils among church leaders leading to the disgrace to church e.g retired Anglican Bishop of West Buganda Diocese, Dr. Chris Ssenyonjo who has continuously promoted homosexuality.
- Love for wealth or materialism by church leaders e.g Joseph Kibwetere of Restoration of Ten commandments in Kanungu who preached that the world is coming to an end and told the followers to sell their property and give him the money and he burnt them in 2000.
- Misuse of spiritual gifts e.g. Joseph Kibwetere of Kanungu, Pr. Yiga A. “Abizayo” at Kawala, Pr. Samuel Kakande of Synagogue Church at Mulago in Kampala
- Power struggle like Pr. Peter Ssematimba, the operator of Super FM in Kampala wanted to use the Pentacostal churches to become a Lord mayor of Kampala in 2011.
- Use of human wisdom to preach other than the Holy Spirit e.g Kibwetere in Kanungu.
- Involvement in earthly work than church work e.g Rev. Paul Bakaluba Mukasa of Mukono who is involved in parliamentary work than church work.
- Prioritising the church sacraments and practices than extending helping hand and love to the needy
- Misuse of church pulpits (podiums) to view out personal grudges like Pr. Martin Sempa of Makerere leading to disunity.

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CHRISTIAN AND TODAY’S WAYS OF GETTING HAPPINESS

- To Christians, happiness is achieved through preaching the good news of Jesus while today it’s through preaching politics on political rallies to win voters.
- To Christians, happiness is achieved by sharing material things like food, clothes while today it’s through owning wealth individually.
- Christians achieve happiness through commitment to prayer and fasting while today it’s through attending parties where food is served and eaten with dancing.
- To Christians, happiness is attained through holy sacraments like baptism while today it’s through attending social parties like birth day and graduation parties.
- To Christians, happiness is through having faith in miraculous events while today people achieve happiness through theft, witchcraft and other illegal ways.
- To Christians, happiness is through missionary journeys to holy place while today people achieve happiness through adventurous trips, holiday campings and panics.
- To Christians, happiness is achieved through forgiving and reconciling to one another while today people achieve happiness through revenging to their enemies and killing.
- Christians are happy when they are worshipping and praising to their almighty God while people today get happiness by praising gods of nature and practice of witchcraft.
- To Christians, baptism of new babies brings happiness while dedication of young ones to local gods in child sacrifices causes happiness in to present situation.

REASONS WHY UGANDANS TODAY HAVE FAILED TO GET FULL HAPPINESS (THE CAUSES OF UNHAPPINESS AMONG UGANDANS TODAY)

- Ugandans fail to achieve true happiness because of the poor family background and surrounding circumstances they are living in like step parents.
- Some people fail to achieve happiness due to natural calamities like flooding, famine and landslides in Bududa.
- Due to inability to produce children (barrenness and impotence) especially among women.
Because of high rate of poverty due to laziness
Because of physical disabilities like the lame, blind, etc.
Due to political instabilities such as wars and tribal crushes in their localities.
Due to unhealthy competitions in the community among business men.
Because of ignorance and illiteracy.
Due to bad practices like witchcraft, murder, kidnap and human sacrifice.
Due to weak government laws like some laws allow the rich to oppress the poor.
Because of abandoning God for other gods / irreligion.
Etc

**INSTANCES FOR FAILURE TO BE HAPPY DESPITE OF MATERIAL WEALTH**

- Failure to succeed in a political office like 
  Rt. Dr. Col. Kiiza Besigye who is wealthier but failed to become president of
  Uganda for several contesting.
- Education failure like Nasser Ntege Ssebagala, former mayor of Kampala who is rich but is academically illiterate.
- Failure in professions / career vocations like Rev. Fr. Anthony Musaala was a good musician and preacher but backslide
  in Roman Catholic Church.
- The Baganda on central Uganda are rich, educated and the biggest ethnic tribe but fail to produce political president for
  Uganda’s leadership.
- Some people have separated in marriage despite their popularity and wealth like Hon. M.P, Judith Babirye of Buyikwe
  and Samuel Niwo.
- Death of relatives makes living relatives unhappy despite the property left for them like the death of Don Ivan Ssemwanga
  of rich gang in Kampala.
- Some people are imprisoned which make them unhappy because they are in jail despite the wealth they have for example
  Kato Kajubi who sacrificed Joseph Kasirye.
- Displacement of people due to natural calamities like Bududa people who were relocated to Kiryandongo district.
- Political instability / civil wars like people in southern Sudan are unhappy despite the wealth they have
- Some people with incurable diseases like cancer, diabetes and AIDS are unhappy though with cash
- Some people are childless in their families / marriages which makes them unhappy though with cash like Hon Speaker of
  10th Parliament of Uganda.
- Etc.

**THINGS STUDENTS CONSIDER TO BE THEIR SOURCE OF HAPPINESS IN SCHOOL**

- Coming from rich family where a father has a good job, pays school fees in time, etc.
- Being free from punishment, sickness, performing well in class, etc.
- Having adequate pocket money to sustain one in school.
- Being disciplined to the extent being recognized by the teachers.
- Being loved by teachers because of following the school routine and rules.
- Having many constructive friends within and outside class.
- Having entertainments like discos and outings in the school.
- Owning good items like mobile phones, school bags, dresses, scholastic materials, etc.
- Belonging to a winning house / class in a certain school.
- Winning zonal tournaments in sports like football, basketball, etc. by one’s school.
- One’s school performing well at S.4 and S.6 national examinations in the country.

**INSTANCES WHICH MAKE SOME STUDENTS UNHAPPY IN SCHOOLS TODAY**

- Bad administration which respond less to the needs of students.
- Poverty in some students without money for breakfast.
- Hatred among students moreover for childish reason.
- Unfavorable and inconsistent school rules which may lead to unfair dismissals of students.
- Limited qualified teachers when students have paid all the due school fees.
- Inadequate school facilities like classrooms, spacious dormitories, etc.
- Struggle for power among prefects and teachers.
- Loss of self-control among girl students who befriend teachers or fellow students
- Big generation gap between interests of students and those of their teachers.
- Sexual harassment by teachers or old students especially boys.
- Parents’ failure to visit their children in schools
- Poor school programs punctuated with many activities with less time for resting.
- Corporal punishments like canning, slashing, etc.

### MAIN FEATURES / CHARACTERISTICS OF A HAPPY FAMILY TODAY

- A happy family is one that is able to have children of both sexes.
- A happy family is one where the family members love and care for one another.
- It is one where members are able to get their basic needs like food, shelter, clothing and school fees for the children.
- A happy family is one where children are morally brought up (disciplined)
- It is one where members are God fearing and pray together.
- It is one which has parents and all children alive and without any sickness.
- It is one where all children have attained their highest level of education and they are employed.
- It is one where all the daughters are officially married in the church.
- It is one where other people refer to it as an example for their well-being.
- It’s one which enjoys leisure together with parents enjoying at the expense of the children
- In good terms with neighbours

### Revision questions

1. What is the Biblical teaching that can help Ugandans find true happiness?
2. “Many people today are not happy despite their material wealth”, Giving examples, explain why this is so?
3. How do Christians in the modern church attain happiness?
HAPPINESS IN AFRICAN TRADITIONAL SOCIETY

In ATS, happiness among the Africans was brought about by some lifestyles that were accepted in society and these were;

- Every African had to attain happiness by being in good terms with the ancestors, spirits and God through building shrines for them, worshipping them and offering them sacrifices e.g. among the Baganda of Central Uganda, they built shrines known as “essabo” for worshipping Mukasa, Musoke, Ddungu, Kibuuka, etc.
- By practicing religious and cultural rituals of any sort for the continuity of the traditions like burials, funerals, twin rituals known as “okwalula abalongo” among the Baganda of Central Uganda; initiation ritual like male circumcision known as “Imbalu” among the Bagisu of Eastern Uganda.
- By organizing, participating and undergoing initiation ceremonies as an opener for adulthood life like male circumcision among the Bagisu and the Kikuyu of Kenya, visiting the bush among the Baganda for girls, etc.
- By socially getting into marriage at a grown up age for clan extension
- By attending marriage ceremonies of customarily type known as okwanjula among the Baganda.
- By producing many children from different clans of different women as they were of importance to families in various ways e.g. in Buganda, for security purposes; in Kigezi, for labour; the Bahima and Karamajongs for wealth especially girls, etc.
- By having many wives and fertile with capacity of producing many children e.g in Buganda, they had a saying that “Omusajja asajalata” meaning he can marry many wives as he can.
- By establishing friendship and mutual understanding between families and other members of society through making blood pacts / bonds known as “Omukago” among the Baganda.
- By extending and participating free community services (charitable services) to assist the weak, the disabled and the widowed by communal sharing in their societies in group for their development e.g in Buganda, “bulungi bwansi” was carried out in making wells and roads.
- By honouring and respecting the cultural leaders in authority as it was believed that it comes from God e.g. the Kabaka of the Baganda, Omukama of the Banyoro and Batoro, etc.
- By consulting the religious leaders of social influence to fight the life tragedies like witches, drought, famine, diseases, etc e.g. in Buganda, they have Musoke, the god for rains; in case of barreness then Mukasa, the god of children; Kibuuka, the god of war were sought.
- By harvesting large and good yields from their farm fields or animal farms to feed all his family members as well as disposing off some food e.g. the Baganda were happy after collecting a lot of matooke.
- By gaining a title of a hero after adventurism and heroic events like successful victory in war or any fight, being creative in work, etc e.g. Omuganda would be given a title of “omuzira” after capturing wives from Bunyoro / coming back with things of treasure from war.
- By possessing physical and material wealth for prestige and fame in society like herds of cattle among the Bahima of Western Uganda and Karamajongs of North eastern Uganda, large trucks of fertile land among the Baganda, etc.
- By having and attending social gatherings and ceremonies to relax and refresh their minds e.g. the Itesos of Eastern Uganda felt happy when celebrating beer parties of “Ajano”.
- By living to old age around four generations for about 120 years, to have seen great grandchildren.
- By being free from misfortunes like illness and death of relatives with capability of planning for something and realize it.
- By having wisdom from God and ability to judge cases wisely.
- Through choosing and enthroning a new king after the departure or exiling the former king.
- By producing a new child in the family depending on tribe and sex and holding child naming festivals.
- By respecting and observing societal norms, values and customs
- By acquiring new land or cattle for the society through war or raiding
- Through watching the children playing and growing up in good health and discipline
- By having power / authority and prestige in society.
- Through having a good reputation in society and being a man for others.
- By being successful in one’s work like a successful hunting or fishing exercise.
OCCASIONS WHEN PEOPLE HAPPILY CELEBRATED IN AFRICAN SOCIETIES

- Beer party was celebrated after a particular task or work had been completed.
- Traditional welcome of twins where sacrifices were offered and feasted as a way of trying to cleanse a misfortune.
- Enthronement of a king which was associated with many rituals and feasting.
- Victory in war which guaranteed security against loss of the enemy was highly celebrated.
- A good harvest where sacrifices were offered as appreciation for God’s blessings.
- Male circumcision was celebrated as a passage of the young ones from one stage to another through joyful ceremonies.
- Child birth was celebrated by welcoming and receiving one in the society.
- House warming was celebrated as the entrance into a new house.
- Last funeral rite was celebrated for having achieved a new heir in the family replacing a deceased relative.

HAPPINESS OF ELDERS IN TRADITIONAL AFRICAN SOCIETIES

Elders found happiness from the following:

- Elders were happy when they had adequate necessities of life like food and houses.
- They were happy when they watched their grand children playing in the compound.
- They were happy in times of good / bountiful harvests.
- They got happiness from good relationship with the gods.
- In times of offering sacrifices and libation.
- When the young were disciplined / morally up right.
- Introduction ceremonies and weddings were made.
- When naming the newly born.
- When sharing beer with fellow elders.
- When telling stories to the young.
- When teaching proverbs to the young.
- When they were passing on occupational skills to the young.
- When their advice was appreciated by the young.
- When the young grew up in good health.
- When presiding over cultural functions like funerals.
- When a new king or chief was being crowned.
- When sharing the fruits of work with others.
- When they saw the young doing communal work.
- When they saw the young respecting customs.
- When they were in good relationship with extended family members.
- When blood pacts / bonds between families were honoured and respected.

MOMENTS OF UNHAPPINESS IN AFRICAN TRADITIONAL SOCIETY

- Diseases which killed people such as sleeping sickness leading to loss of relatives.
- False accusations of wizards and the witches which made the accused unhappy.
- Failure to get an animal after a day’s hunt made one very unhappy because of the stress they had accumulated.
- Failure by some women and men to produce children (barrenness and impotence) caused miserable life all through.
- Natural disasters like earth quakes, drought, floods and landslides which made people unhappy for example people in Bugisuland in Eastern Uganda were unhappy due to landslide from Mt. Masaaba.
- Presence of inter-tribal wars where innocent people lost their lives made other unhappy.
- Death of one’s animals like sheep, goats and cattle made the owner unhappy to the extent of shifting to farthest place.
- Presence of harmful spirits which killed or tormented people made others very unhappy.
- Divorce of women in marriage made married men very unhappy especially after one had paid bride price.
- Poor harvests were seen as a curse causing unhappiness among African farmers.
- Being in bad terms with one’s ancestral spirits also rendered him unhappy and thus required the person to be purified.
- Failure of people’s sons and daughters to find marriage partners made their parents unhappy.
N.B: In ATS, any vice / evil act which caused pain and suffering to any member in society was taken to be a moment of unhappiness (refer to injustices / disloyalties / failures in ATS)

REVISION QUESTIONS:
1. What was the understanding of happiness in African traditional society?
2. How were the African ideas about happiness understood by the early Christians in the church?
HAPPINESS IN CHURCH HISTORY

The main purpose of the church as it was founded was to be a source of happiness to its followers in this suffering world.

However, as any other normal institution, the church equally became both a source of happiness and unhappiness to Christians.

MOMENTS / CASES OF HAPPINESS IN CHURCH HISTORY

- Preaching the gospel to the non-believers for conversion like St. Paul to the Corinthians, Romans, Galatians, etc; St. Francis of Assisi to North Africans; CMS and WFs to Bagandas; Apollo Kivebulaya to Batoro, etc.

- Baptism / baptizing to join God’s family as a Christian like Paul was baptized by Ananias in Damascus, Paul baptized Crispus, Gaius and Stephanas with his family in Corinth, St. Francis baptized people in North Africa; CMS and White fathers baptized the Uganda martyrs in Buganda; Adrian Adman baptized his son Joseph and his wife Agnes in T.Z.

- Spiritual blessings from God by laying hands and anointment like receiving the Holy Spirit by the apostles on the Pentecost day in Jerusalem.

- Fellowshipping and bible study for spiritual sharing and deeper understanding of Christianity like John and Peter at 3 O’clock; St. Augustine of Hippo fellowshipped with people of North Africa.

- Prayers of answered requests and blessings like Peter and John in the Jerusalem temple at 3 O’clock; St. Augustine of Hippo went to the desert of Egypt to pray.

- Fasting for almsgiving, confession and righteous living like the apostles fasted for 40 days, the Uganda Martyrs also fasted, etc.

- Praising and worshiping for thanksgiving of God’s provision and sustenance like the apostles in the Jerusalem temple, St. Clement of Alexandria used to praise and worship in Alexandria.

- Composing, learning and singing hymns of praise and thanksgiving for use in glorification of God like St. Augustine and St. Ambrose composed Christian songs.

- Celebrating and sharing the Eucharistic meal / Holy Communion in remembrance of Christ’s death and resurrection for preparation of and hope for eternal life like St. Augustine praised God at his mother’s death instead of mourning in belief of resurrection.

- Translating and interpreting scriptures into local languages to the non-believers for easy understanding like Peter and Paul at Antioch; St. Augustine of Hippo in Italy with Bishop Ambrose then Clement of Alexandria in Athens.

- Performing miracles and wonders to show God’s almighty power like Peter healed a lame man at the Beautiful gate of Jerusalem temple.

- Charitable works and services as a sign of compassionate, sharing and kindness to the needy and helpless to meet their needs like Ananias and Sapphira who sold their property and gave the money to the apostles; St. Francis also shared his wealth with the Friars, the sick, poor etc.

- Setting disputes and conflicts for peaceful and harmonious living like CMS and WF settled disputes between Uganda martyrs and the Baganda people / leaders.

- Founding and building churches where new converts worshipped and praised God like St. Paul in Rome and Galatia; St. Clement in Alexandria, St. Augustine in Hippo in North Africa; Apollo Kivebulaya in Toro and Former Zaire.

- Writing spiritual and Christian letters to the new converts for encouragement and answering puzzling Christian questions like St. Paul to Timothy, Galatians, Corinthians and Romans; St. Peter and St. James to all Christians.

- Holy journeys to sacred places for meditation and spiritual reflection like Paul to Rome and Syria; Clement to Italy and Syria and also Augustine to Italy and Syria.

- Private retreats for meditation and appeasing God like the apostles to Jerusalem temple

- Founding and building schools for eradication of ignorance and illiteracy among Africans

- Starting and building health centres / hospitals for treatment of tropical diseases

- Decampaigning slave trade and other social evils like throwing twins for respect of God’s creature and equality

- Introducing monetary trade for fair business and exchange

- Training African church leaders as catechists and priests for Christianity continuity.

- Introducing modern farming and cash crops for cash economy and generating income like Kenneth Borup into cotton growing in Buganda in 1903.
• Teaching catechism to new converts for mastery of Christian faith and its principles / doctrines
• Possessing and exercising spiritual / charismatic gifts for the service of the Christ / church
• Suffering and persecution for the sake of the gospel like St. Paul, St. Stephen, the Uganda Martyrs, etc.
• Practicing renunciation or self denial from world pleasures for the sake of Christian faith like the monks and nuns.
• Growing number of new converts and expansion of the Church for larger kingdom of God
• Observing and honouring key religious feasts like Easter, Pentecost and Christmas days in memory of religious days
• Practicing other trades like handcrafts, sale of surplus food and other items to distribute the money to the poor.

MOMENTS OF UNHAPPINESS IN THE CHURCH HISTORY

Even though the main purpose of the church (apostles, monks and nuns, Christian missionaries and their followers) was to bring joy to the lives of believers, unfortunately there were unfriendly instances / cases within the church that caused unhappiness to her and the followers at large. These were;
• Opposition from other religious groups leading to ..........
• Persecution and suffering leading to ............
• Language barrier resulting into ............
• Rejection by the crowds due to poor / Pharisees background
• Discrimination due to cultural and personal differences
• Distant churches
• Few preachers in number
• Poverty / shortage of funds
• Disunity / divisions among followers and themselves
• Loss of life / martyrdom
• Misuse of spiritual gifts / charismatic gifts
• Materialism / greed for money
• Intermarriages with non-believers
• Illiteracy and uneducated apostles
• Religious wars
• Sexual immoralities among the Christians like incest, prostitution especially in the Corinthian church.
• Tropical diseases to the missionaries, monks and nuns.
• Wild animals to monks and nuns and missionaries
• Christian slavery
• Desolution of polygamous marriages by missionaries in Africans.
• Hostile tribes
• Presentation of God as harsh, cruel, tough and unforgiving to the believers.
• Association with colonialists especially missionaries
• The Roman entertainments of prisoners with animals.

N.B: Refer to problems faced by apostles under change; the missionaries under change; failures of monks and nuns under work; disapproved leisure activities; injustices in church history; problems / failures under service in church history; disloyalties in Church history and failures in church history under success for details on the above cases of unhappiness.

PEOPLE IN THE EARLY CHURCH WHO WERE HAPPY INSpite OF THEIR SUFFERING / ADVERsITY

• St. Paul continued to preach the Good News to Athens and Rome though he was persecuted, stoned and taken to prison. Acts 27.
• Peter was also put in prison and summoned by the Sanhedrin to stop preaching but he continued to preach.
• Ignatius was the first Christian slave but was happy because he had faith in Jesus Christ and later became a Bishop in Syria.
• Ignatius wrote thanks giving letters to Christians who visited him before he was murdered.
• Ignatius also composed songs of praise to God and preached the gospel.
• Ignatius was murdered by a gang of brutal soldiers but was full of joy.
- **Silas** was imprisoned but later continued to sing praises to the Lord.
- **Barnabas** was persecuted but he continued to preach the gospel.
- **James** was imprisoned but continued to preach Good’s News. Acts 12:1.
- **Dorcus** was a widow but found happiness through extending charity services to fellow widows and other people. Acts 9:3ff.
- **Stephen** prayed and forgave people who were stoning him but he was eventually stoned to death.

**PERSONS WHO ACHIEVED HAPPINESS IN THE EARLY CHURCH**

**ST. AUGUSTINE OF HIPPO**

- St. Augustine was born at Thagata in the province of Numidia on 13th November 354 AD and died on 28th August 430 AD.
- In his early life he was opposed to the gospel and chased for happiness through materialism.
  - Augustine got religious influence from his mother Monica who was so devoted to God after listening to the gospel message attentively and found it enriching and satisfying.
- So he attained happiness in the following:
  - He read and listened to the good Christian literature and so was inspired by the story of St. Anthony.
  - He became so joyous when he was baptized in 387 AD at the age of 33.
  - He became a committed Christian and studied the scriptures more deeply which made him extremely happy.
  - He wrote a number of books calling upon his contemporaries to seek for happiness through Jesus Christ like in his book "The Confession," showing that one can find happiness with God.
  - He found joy in teaching Oratorio and philosophy.
  - When he converted into Christianity he acknowledged that Jesus was a son of God.
  - He which brought him happiness.
  - He shared the word of God and preached the good news which gave him more joy for converting people.
  - He was kind to the needy, visited the sick, fellowship with them etc and made charities to them in form of feeding.
  - He refrained from mourning when his mother died since he knew there was hope for better joy after her death.
  - He condemned injustices which denied man happiness in life like the bad form of leisure of watching nude women and fights between slaves and beasts.
  - He was happy to learn the songs of praise of Jesus’ name.
  - He lived a humble life full of prayer which made him extremely happy.

**ST. IGNATIUS OF ANTIOCH IN SYRIA**

- Ignatius was originally a first Christian slave and his life was full of unhappiness because of his faith in Christ.
- He later became a Bishop of Antioch in Syria.
- He was murdered in Rome by a gang of Roman brutal soldiers but was a happy man of God to die as a friend of Jesus Christ.
  - So he attained happiness in the following:
  - He wrote thanksgiving letters to various Christian communities who visited him for encouraging them to love Christ and die for him before his murder.
  - He aimed at attaining freedom out of slavery and physical torture of the time.
  - He wanted to liberate people from sins of the world.
  - He attained his happiness through songs of praise to God.
  - He endured suffering and persecution for the sake of Christ and expectancy of ever lasting happiness in heaven.
  - He constantly prayed and fellowshipped for unity and love in the church.
  - He preached the gospel of Christ to non-Christians of the time.
  - He read the scripture and visited Christians while waiting to be killed.
  - He later listened to the good news and accepted Jesus in his life.
  - He was baptized to become a spiritual and happy child of God.
  - He had hope for life after death which made him happy.
  - He had love and care for the sick, elderly and all the needy.
ST. CYPRIAN OF CARTHAGE

- He at first lived a life full of worries, evils and troubles.
- When he listened to the gospel, he made a decision to become a Christian.
  So he attained happiness in the following;
  - He was baptized in Jesus' name which made him a new and happy creature.
  - He received the Holy Spirit which guided his life, making him happy.
  - He felt a free man and became orderly in his life.
  - He started sharing the word of God with others which made him happy.
  - He overcame the selfishness of his former life.
  - He preached the good news which made him very happy.
  - He enjoyed helping the needy in form of charity.

Revision question:
1. As a student of CRE, what lessons do you learn from the happiness attained by the above personalities during their time in Church history?
HAPPINESS IN THE BIBLE

In the Bible, the focus is on the sources of happiness and unhappiness in both Testaments.

OLD TESTAMENT TEACHING ON HAPPINESS

In Old Testament, it noted that there was time for laughter and time for sorrow which was life mixture of joy and sadness.

MOMENTS OF HAPPINESS IN OLD TESTAMENT

- God was greatly pleased when he completed the creation work on the 6th day and even blessed it. (Gen 2:1,3)
- Adam had total happiness when he was given Eve as his companion since he lived lonely in the Garden of Eden. (Gen 2:23)
- When they were liberated from Egypt after 400 years of suffering and slavery (Exodus 12).
- The childless mothers Sarah and Hannah released happiness when they conceived and gave birth to their 1st born Isaac and Samuel respectively. (Gen 21:6 and 1st Samuel 1:20)
- The Israelites celebrated an event of happiness of Passover as they remembered the end of slavery in Egypt and the start of a new nation of Israel.
- The Israelites felt happy when they received the Ten commandments (Decalogue) on Mt. Sinai through Moses as their guiding principles in their daily lives with God and fellow man
- The Israelite community had joy when God accepted their sacrifices on the Atonement day as they asked for forgiveness (Lev. 16) like King David sacrificed to God to ask for forgiveness for committing adultery with Bathshaba and murdering Uriah.
- All families in Israel showed their joy in an annual thanksgiving ceremony of the Tabernacle as they thanked God for the crop harvests from the promised land of Canaan.
- Israel witnessed sweet victory and great joy when the little shepherd boy David defeated the giant Goliath, the commander of the Philistines army. (1st Samuel 17:41ff)
- King Solomon together with all the Israelites expressed joy when they completed the construction of Jerusalem temple and dedicated it to God as his divine house of worship. (1st Kings 8:62ff)
- Prophet Elijah brought happiness to Israel on Mt. Carmel when the lost rains for 3 ½ years came to an end after a public contest with Baal Prophets to whom he proved the true God of Israel and later burnt them. (1st Kings 18ff)
- Job regained happiness as God ended his troubled suffering and made him prosperous (richer) twice as much as before with ....... (Job 42:10,16)
- Israelites received happiness when God returned them to their promised land of Canaan from exile of Babylonia in which they had been oppressed after sinning against God during Prophet Ezekiel.
- God promised the Israelites to receive everlasting happiness, peace and righteous through the Messiah who is to come and redeem mankind through Prophet Isaiah. (Isaiah 9:6-7)
  - The Israelites felt happy when King David brought back the captured covenant Ark from the Philistines.
  - There was time to laugh and time for sadness (Ecclesiastes 3:1).

Revision questions

1. Give the Old Testament teaching on happiness.
2. How were the Israelites happy?
3. What is the understanding of happiness in OT?

MOMENTS OF UNHAPPINESS IN OT

The following are the cases of unhappiness that caused sorrow to people’s hearts in the OT;

- Murdering and killing others like when Cain terminated his brother’s life Abel after his sacrifice being rejected, David killed Uriah, etc.
- Disobeying God’s commandments like when Adam and Eve fallen the 1st commandment and ate the forbidden fruit in the Garden of Eden.
- Involving sexual evils like when people of Sodom and Gomorrah practiced incest and homosexuality between fellow men, etc.
- Being barren / childless for a long time in marriage like Hannah with Elkanah and Sarah with Abraham.
- Being lost or missing in the family like Joseph one of Jacob son who was sold by the brothers to the Egyptian merchants.
- Oppressing and mistreating others like in Egypt under the bondage of slavery by Pharaoh.
- Robbing / taking the blessings of the other from the father or God like Jacob took the blessing of his brother Esau with the help of the mother Rebecca from Isaac.
- Having false and hypocritical prayers and other religious practices like when the people built the tower of Babel as a way to reach God.
- Demanding the earthly king to be ruled like other nations like when Israelites demanded for an earthly King and rejected God’s kingship during Prophet Samuel.
- Defying God’s orders and commands on how to rule his people like King Saul the 1st king of Israel who spared the king of the Amalekites, Agag and property during the war against them.
- Offering poor and defect sacrifices on altar to God like the sons of Eli in 1st Samuel, Cain, etc.
- Exploiting and grabbing God’s people of their wealth, property and wives like King David took Uriah’s wife Bathsheba; King Ahab took Naboth’s vine yard.
- Over taxing and using forced labour for selfish ends to God’s people like King David and King Solomon imposed heavy taxes and used forced labour on Jerusalem city, palace and temple.
- Capturing the covenant ark in which the two tablets (Decalogue) were kept by the Philistines during King Saul’s reign.
- When the Israelites were expelled in exile of Babylon after sinning against God during Prophet Ezekiel.
- Cheating and stealing the poor and customers by the religious leaders, rich and traders by using wrong weights, over charging them as well as over taxing them.
- Losing material and economic wealth in terms of cattle, servants, children and wives as well as being sickly like Job who suffered without a good reason and developed a skin disease.
- Intermarrying foreign women which was forbidden by God like King Ahab who married Jezebel from Sidon, etc.
- Practicing polygamy like King Solomon who had 700 princesses and 300 concubines.
- Practicing idolatry like the Golden calf in the wilderness.
- Worshipping small gods and building them altars as well as temples like King Ahab worshipped Baal gods.
- God’s punishments to the Israelites like he exiled them in Babylonia.
- In the Old Testament, there was time to laugh and time for sadness (Ecclesiastes 3:1).
- The story of the flood during Noah’s time (Genesis 9)
- The death of the someone like first born child of King David with Bathsheba
- Imprisoning someone like Daniel in a cage of lions, etc.
- Defeating cases during attacks and invasions like Goliath, a philistine soldier during King Saul

**CAUSES OF UNHAPPINESS IN THE OLD TESTAMENT**

1. Disobedience of God’s instructions like Adam and Eve disobeyed God’s laws and were sent away from the Garden of Eden.
2. Jealousy and envy caused unhappiness like Cain killed his brother Abel and this made him a wanderer.
3. Acts of slavery made the Israelites unhappy for a period of 400 years because they were oppressed.
4. Presence of bad leaders made the Israelites unhappy especially during the era of Priest Eli and his sons.
5. Barrenness brought unhappiness in some people such as Hannah the mother of Samuel.
6. Death also caused unhappiness like when King David lost his son with Bathsheba he was filled with unhappiness.
7. Over taxation and forced labor also caused unhappiness like during the days of King Solomon who was harsh to the people.
8. Poverty also caused unhappiness in Israel like the poor of Amos’ time were denied justice in courts of law and some sold for a pair of sandal and piece of silver.
9. Lust for sex
10. Greed for wealth
11. Hatred
12. Etc.
WAYS HOW THE DISOBEDIENCE OF MAN BROUGHT UNHAPPINESS

It is in Gen.3, that man (Adam and Eve) fall off God’s command and ate the fruit in the mid of the Garden of Eden that was forbidden. Because of this fall, the following negative consequences resulted:

- Man was expelled from the Garden of Eden and given a hard task of looking for a new home.
- Man was cursed to die and death came into this world as God said you were made from soil and you will return.
- Woman was to have trouble in pregnancy and labour pains in giving birth.
- Man and his off-springs were to experience snake bites thus enemity between human race and snakes.
- Woman was to have desires for the man and remain subordinate to him.
- The earth was cursed to produce wild weeds and thorns to give man hard time to survive.
- Man was to toil and sweat to make land produce food for survival.
- Man lost his direct contacts with God and the divine fellowship with Him as he left the Garden of Eden.
- Man became guilty and afraid of God’s presence and glory as he hid from Him.
- The relationship between man and woman became sour as each blamed the other for the sin.
- Man’s superior control over creatures including animals became rebellious.

HAPPINESS IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

The New Testament shows that Jesus is the source of happiness to his followers and this is seen in the following ways:

1. Jesus has divine love and is a perfect representation of God so he brought love everyone to have joy and happiness as he shared two fish and 5 loaves of bread with 5000 hungry men in Galilee.
2. Jesus removed the Sabbath law which was a burden to man so as to give him happiness as he said the Sabbath not made for man but man for the Sabbath.
3. Jesus offered himself as a sacrificial lamb on behalf of the sinful man so as to bring happiness to man as he was crucified on cross at Golgotha.
4. Jesus assured Jews of redemption and deliverance from original sin as he was/is the hope to enter God’s kingdom where happiness is.
5. Jesus entered into a new covenant with God through the bloodshed and broken body on the cross at Golgotha for bringing everlasting happiness to mankind.
6. Jesus introduced a new baptism of the Holy Spirit and water which provides spiritual renewal to his followers for enjoying happiness of salvation as he was baptised in River Jordan by John the Baptist.
7. He showed the heart of charity/compassionate to the needy people to bring joy in their lives as he healed the woman who had suffered for 12 years with blood flow.
8. Jesus exhibited to the Jews the spirit of forgiving and reconciling with conflicting parties as source of joy among them as he forgave those who crucified him on the cross at Golgotha.
9. He showed concern to the children’s rights as weak and voiceless people so as to bring happiness to them in the Kingdom of God as he told his disciples, “let the youngones come to me because the kingdom of God belongs to such”.
10. Jesus interacted with different people like the rich and poor, Jews and Gentiles, men and women, young and old etc which meant his happiness is universal as he had a conversation with a Samaritan woman at Jacob’s well in Samaria though it was forbidden for Jews.
11. He showed concern to the women’s rights and role in building the kingdom of God so as to bring happiness to them in God’s eyes as he recognized the poor widow who offered two copper coins in the Temple treasury.
12. Jesus showed a virtue of humility as he accepted to serve others instead of being served as a source of happiness to man as he washed the feet of his disciples at the last supper on the Passover day.
13. Jesus assured the followers of resurrection after death as the greatest happiness to all those who believe in Jesus as he himself resurrected on the third day after his death to defeat Satan.

NEW TESTAMENT TEACHINGS ON HAPPINESS

1. The NT teaches that true happiness is in spiritual possession and God’s Grace than material wealth and following the Law of Moses.
2. The New Testament teaches that happiness lies in one’s obedience to God and following him alone.
3. The New Testament indicates that happiness comes from one’s love for his neighbors and at the same time love for God.
4. It teaches that having hope in life after death among all believers bring happiness.
5. It teaches that happiness means having love and trust in God the almighty with all your heart and soul.
6. It teaches that happiness is having fellowship with others through Eucharist and unity in Christ.
7. It teaches that true happiness means having love, respect and mercy upon our fellow men.
8. The New Testament teaches that happiness means repenting of one’s sins to allow reconciliation and forgiveness to take place.
9. It teaches that happiness among the married is through upholding the marriage vows and keeping the stability of their marriage.
10. It teaches that happiness is being born again with water and spirit.
11. It teaches that happiness means believing in the beatitudes of Jesus like being humble, peacemaker, spiritual poor, merciful, etc.
12. It teaches that happiness comes from accepting the Good News and sharing it with others as Jesus a true savior.

**JESUS’ TEACHING ABOUT HAPPINESS IN THE BEATITUDES / SERMON ON THE MOUNTAIN**  
(Mt. 5:1-10)

In the beatitudes in Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount, we find the summary about the fundamental attitudes of those who accept the Good News of the kingdom of God for true happiness in their lives and this is as follows;

1. Firstly Jesus teaches that happy are those who know that they are spiritually poor, the kingdom of heaven belong to them that is those who are spiritually hungry and thirsty for God’s word.
2. Jesus teaches that happy are those who mourn for others, God will comfort them that is those who are sad, heartbroken and frustrated by this life but still trust in God will receive blessings.
3. Jesus also teaches that happy are those who are humble / meek, they will receive what God has promised that is those who keep a low profile before God and other people.
4. Jesus also teaches that happy are those whose greatest desire is to do what God requires, God will satisfy them fully that is those who follow God's commandments.
5. Jesus also teaches that happy are those who are merciful to others, God will be merciful to them that is those who help the needy, the lame, orphans etc.
6. Jesus also teaches that happy are the pure in the heart, they will see God that is those who pray, repent and lead righteous lives.
7. Jesus also teaches that happy are those who work for peace, God will call them His children that is those who work to reconcile others, to end wars, stop quarrels, etc.
8. Jesus also teaches that happy are those who are persecuted because they do what God requires, the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to them that is those who are beaten, mocked, framed, false accused for Jesus’ sake.
9. Jesus also teaches that happy are those who are insulted and told all kinds of evil lies against them because they are my followers, the greatest reward is kept for them in Heaven that is those who preach.

**REASONS WHY IT’S DIFFICULT TO ACHIEVE HAPPINESS BY FOLLOWING THE BEATITUDES**

1. Some people think and believe in acquiring material wealth in order to achieve happiness yet the beatitudes teaches about spiritual achievement in heaven for one to be happy.
2. Some people want to be self-sufficient and committed so as to be happy yet beatitudes teach that one has to remain trustworthy to God in order to be happy.
3. Some people’s prayers are unanswered and take long to receive God’s response which reduces the Christian faith in God to be spiritually happy thus making them to refrain from spiritual poverty.
4. Some Christians are persecuted by non-believers which make Christian life hard thus denying them chance to have happiness of belonging to the kingdom of God.
5. Some Christians have little and limited time to mourn for others, yet beatitudes teaches that happiness comes from consoling and mourning with others for God’s comfort in Kingdom.
6. Some Christians have the attitude of mind your business in their lives which discourage them from being merciful to others for God’s mercy to them in Kingdom.
7. Some Christians have love for power and status in their society they live which prevent them to be meek / humble for happiness as beatitudes teach to receive God’s promise.
8. Some business Christians exploit customers due to some bad policies of the government like over taxation which prevent them from carrying out peaceful and justful trade thus the end of one’s happiness as a child of God.
9. Some Christians live in permissive environments which make them lose the purity of the heart thus prevent him from getting happiness of being seen by God in heaven.
10. Some Christians have had prolonged suffering and illness which makes them to hate God thus end of getting full satisfaction in God.
11. Some Christians are revengeful in nature which limits their desire to work for peace thus preventing them from getting full happiness of being God’s children.

**SOURCES OF HAPPINESS TO CHRISTIANS ACCORDING TO NEW TESTAMENT**

1. Happiness is derived through receiving and accepting the gospel
2. Happiness is attained through being on good terms with others.
3. It’s achieved through being kind to others and taking care of those who need care.
4. Happiness is achieved through involving in worship and praise.
5. It is achieved through accepting holy sacraments like baptism and Holy Communion.
6. By being spiritually poor in order to know more about God.
7. By living a life of self-denial and carrying one’s cross for the sake of God’s kingdom.
8. By involving in fellowships, bible study and church services.
9. Happiness is achieved by mourning for the sake of the kingdom of God.
10. By accepting to be persecuted for the sake of God’s kingdom.
11. Happiness is derived through calling upon God’s intervention in our lives by praying.
12. It is by involving in the promotion of peace in the world.

**BIBLICAL TEACHING THAT CAN BRING HAPPINESS TO THE FRUSTRATED PEOPLE**

1. The Bible shows God’s presence amidst our problems like Israelites in Egypt.
2. God forgave Adam and Eve, so He can too forgive us sinners.
3. God called Abraham though he was a pagan and made him rich and famous.
4. God gave Sarah a child at 90 years, so He can help barren people.
5. The Bible teaches that those who obey God’s laws will be truly happy (Psalm 37), so people should follow God’s commandments.
6. The Bible says that life is made up of happiness and sadness (Ecclesiastes 3:4), so we should know time of each event in life.
7. The Bible teaches that those who trust God amidst problems will be happy like Job and Hannah.
8. Jesus brought the good news of happiness, so people should accept salvation for happiness.
9. Jesus assured his followers that he would listen to their prayers and would give them happiness.
10. He taught that happy are the poor and peace makers that their happiness is in heaven.
11. He welcomed the poor, the strangers and sinners and gave them comfort like 12 years bleeding woman.
12. Jesus defeated Satan for the good of mankind on the cross, so ……………
13. He healed the sick, so he can still heal all sorts of human diseases for human happiness
14. He resurrected and prepared the way for us to heaven for spiritual happiness.

**Revision questions.**

1. What does Jesus teach in Mathew 5 about happiness?
2. Explain the problems Christians in trying to find true happiness in Mathew 5.