Isifundo 6

**Agasti 4–10*

Ulungiselelo LukaPetros

SABATHA EMVAKWEMINI

Fundela Isifundo Sale Veki:
IZenzo 9:32–43, IZenzo 10:9–16, Efese 2:11–19, IZenzo 11:1–26, IZenzo 12:1–18.

Indima Yenkumbulo:
"Ke kaloku uPetros wawuvula umlomo wakhe wathi, Niyaqiqa okwenyaniso ukuba uThixo akamkhethi wabuso bamntu; kwiintlanga zonke, lowo umoyikayo, asebenze ubulungisa, wamkelekile kuye" (IZenzo 10:34, 35).

Ngokusuka kukaPawulos aye eTarso, uPetros uphinda asale engumdlali ophambili kwimbali kaLuka yemihla yokuqala yebandla lobuKristu. UPetros uzotywa ekuhambo etyhutyha elakwaYuda nemimandla engqongileyo. Incwadi yeZenzo apha isixelela amabali ababini amafutshane emimangaliso, ukuphiliswa kuka-Eneya nokuvuswa kukaTabhita (uDorkas), athi alandelwe libali likaKorneli kwisahluko se-10.

Ukuguquka kweeNtlanga yayinguwona mba wempikiswano kwibandla labapostile. Nangona iingxoxo ezalandela ukubhaptizwa kukaKorneli zazikude kakhulu ukuba zinganako ukuzisombulula zonke iinzima, ukuthululwa kukaMoya, okufana noko kwenzeka ngePentekoste, kwanceda ukoyisela uPetros nabazalwana eYerusalem kwelokuba iintsikelelo zeendaba ezilungileyo zazingaphelelanga kumaYuda. Ngelo xesha, ibandla lakwa-Antiyokwe nalo lalise liqalile ukubheka phambili eziNtlangeni.

Isifundo sale veki naso siquka ukuvuka kwentshutshiso entsha nemfutshane—ngoku phantsi kukakumkani uHerode—negalelo layo kubapostile, ababesinde kwintshutshiso eyayisenziwa nguPawulos.

**Funda esi sifundo ukulungiselela iSabatha ka-Agasti 11.*

ELida NaseYopa

UPetros wayehambele apho kuhlala khona amaKristu kummandla ongaselunxwemeni lwakwaYuda. Kubonakala ukuba injongo yakhe yayikukunika ululeko ngeemfundiso (IZenzo 2:42), kodwa uThixo wamsebenzisa ngamandla ukuba enze imimangaliso ngokufanayo naleyo yayenziwe nguYesu ngokwaKhe.

Funda: IZenzo 9:32–35. Zimpawu zini ezifanayo ozibonayo kummangaliso kaYesu kuLuka 5:17–26 nokuphiliswa kukaEneya?

Nangona imfutshane ingxelo, ummangaliso usikhumbuza ibali elaziwa kakhulu lomlwelwe waseKapernahum owaphiliswa nguYesu (Luka 5:17–26). Nenkcukacha engomandlalo iyafana. Okubaluleke kakhulu, phofu, ligalelo lokuphiliswa kukaEneya, kungekuphela eLida, kodwa nakummandla ongakunxweme lwaseSharon. Bakuba bebuqinisekisile ngokwabo ubunyaniso bommangaliso, abantu abaninzi babuyela eNkosini.

Funda: IZenzo 9:36–43. Phinda ufunde ibali elingokuvuswa kukaTabhita. Yintoni ebaluleke ngokukodwa ngalo?

UTabhita—igama lesiAramaic elithetha "ibhadi;" ngesiGrike, uDorkas wayelikholwa eliyintandane ekuhlaleni ngenxa yemisebenzi yosizo lobuKristu. Ibali lokuvuka kwakhe nalo lihambelana nommangaliso owenziwa nguYesu, ukuvuswa kwentwazana kaYayiro (Luka 8:41, 42, 49–56), awakubona ngamehlo uPetros. Elandela umzekelo kaYesu, wacela bonke abantu endlwini ukuba baphume (bona kuMarko 5:40). Emva koko waguqa wathandaza, waza wayibiza inkosikazi efileyo, "Tabhita, vuka" (IZenzo 9:40). Abapostile benza imimangaliso emininzi; kanti, inyaniso yeyokuba, ezi yayizizenzo zikaThixo ngezandla zabapostile (IZenzo 5:12). Ukufana nemimangaliso kaYesu mhlawumbi yayikukulikhumbuza ibandla, kunye nathi namhlanje, ukuba, into ebaluleke kakhulu ayikuba ngubani isixhobo kodwa ngumlinganiselo wokuzinikela kwaso kuThixo (bona uYohane 14:12). Xa sithi ngokupheleleyo simvumele uThixo ukuba asisebenzise kumsebenzi weendaba ezilungileyo, zinkulu izinto ezinokwenzeka. UPetros akazange avuse uTabhita kuphela, kodwa imimangaliso yakhokelela abaninzi baseYopa enguqukweni (IZenzo 9:42).

Abanye abantu bacinga ngokuthi, ukuba nje bebengabona ummangaliso omnye obambekayo, njengalo wenzeka apha, bebengakholwa. Kuthi, naxa nje yenzeka imimangaliso yakhokelela abanye ekukholweni, iBhayibhile izaliswe ngamabali yabayibonayo imimangaliso kodwa abakholwa. Lumile entweni, ke ngoko, ukholo lwethu?

Endlwini KaKorneli

EYopa, uPetros wahlala endlwini kaSimon, oshishini lakhe yayikukusuka izikhumba (IZenzo 9:43). Ngelo xesha, eKesareya, kwisithuba seekilomitha ezingama-40 ukusuka eYopa, kwakukho umthetheli-khulu waseRoma, uKorneli igama. Yena nendlu yakhe babengabakhonzi abazinikeleyo bakaThixo, nangona babengekayibambi ngokomthetho inkolo yobuYuda, into ethetha ukuba uKorneli wayeyiNtlanga engalukileyo. Kumbono owanikwa nguThixo, wayalelwa ukuba athumele abathunywa eYopa amemele kuye uPetros (IZenzo 10:1–8).

Funda: IZenzo 10:9–16, 28, 34, 35. Yintoni awayibonayo uPetros, wawachaza njani la mava?

Kubalulekile ukuba, umbono kaPetros wawungathethi ngokutya, kodwa ngabantu. Kona kwakulixesha lasemini emaqanda, uPetros elambile, laza ilizwi lathi kuye makaxhele adle; kanti, uThixo wasebenzisa umbono, engasusi umahluko phakathi kwezihlambulukileyo nezingahlambulukanga izilwanyana, koko efundisa uPetros ngemo yegospile equka bonke abantu. Ngokuphandle, injongo yombono yayikukususa kuPetros ingqondo yokuzithintela iiNtlanga. Imbono kaPetros yayiyeyokuba, xa athe wangena endlwini kaKorneli abe nobudlelwane naye, wayeya kuba uzingcolisile aze angafaneleki ukuba anqule etempileni okanye akwazi ukuza phambi kukaThixo. AmaYuda enkulungwane yokuqala awayevela kwaYuda neziphaluka ayengahlangani neeNtlanga ezingolukanga. Ingxaki yayilulwazi ngoThixo lwelo xesha, olwaluzicalula iiNtlanga kubudlelwane noSirayeli, nangona le mbono yayikukugqwethwa kwayo yonke injongo yobukho bukaSirayeli njengesizwe, ekwakufuneka sifikelele ehlabathini nokwaziwa kukaThixo oyinyaniso. Ngenxa yokuba ulwaluko lwalungumqondiso womnqophiso ka-Abraham, iintlanga ezingalukanga zaya zacalulwa zaphathwa ngendelelo. Zazingenayo nakancinane inxaxheba kwiintsikelelo zomnqophiso zide zibe zamkele ulwaluko, zaba ngamaYuda. Imbono enjalo, phofu, yayingahambelani nokufela kukaYesu izwe lonke, njengoko aya aqonda amakholwa okuqala, ekuhambeni kwexesha.

Funda: Tito 2:11, Galati 3:26–28, noEfese 2:11–19. Zisifundisa ntoni ezi ndima ngokuba kokwezwe lonke kwesigidimi seendaba ezilungileyo? Zimele ukusixelela ntoni ngokungalungi kokuba amaKristu agodle intiyo ngakulo naliphi iqela ngokuxhomekeke kubuzwe okanye kubuhlanga?

Isipho SikaMoya

UZenzo 10:44–48 usivezela umzuzu obalulekileyo kwimbali yebandla lokuqala. Kwakuqala ukuba igospile ishunyayelwe kwiiNtlanga ezingolukanga ngomye wabapostile. Ngokungafaniyo namakholwa amaGrike, abapostile namanye amakholwa amaYuda babengakulungelanga ukwamkela iiNtlanga ebandleni. Njengokuba uYesu wayenguMesiya kaSirayeli nje, babecinga ukuba igospile kufuneka yabelwe amaYuda kuphela, akufuphi nakude. IiNtlanga zona kwakufuneka kuqala ziguquke zibe ngamaYuda zize emva koko zamkele ukubandakanywa elukholweni. Ngamanye amazwi, ngaphambi kokuba iiNtlanga zibe ngamaKristu, kwakufuneka kuqala zibe ngamaYuda. Le yindlela yokucinga ekwakufuneka itshintshiwe kula makholwa okuqala angamaYuda. Isipho seelwimi esanikwa uKorneli nendlu yakhe songezwa ukuba sibe ngumqondiso ocacileyo nobonakalayo wokuba, ingqondo enjalo yayiyimpazamo, nokuba uThixo akamkhethi wabuso bamntu, nokuba imiqathango yosindiso imi kumgangatho omnye phambi kukaThixo, kumaYuda nakwiiNtlanga.

Funda: IZenzo 11:1–18. Lasabela njani ibandla laseYerusalem kumava kaPetros aseKesareya?

Intiyo yamaYuda ekukade yema ngakwiiNtlanga yawakhokelela amakholwa eYerusalem ukuba amgxeke uPetros ngokutya nabantu abangalukileyo. Kubonakala ngokungathi ayekhathalele kakhulu imininingwana yeenkonzo zamadini amaYuda kunokusindiswa kukaKorneli kunye nendlu yakhe. Kunokuba babesoyika ukuba, hleze lithi ibandla, ngokusilahla eso sithethe, kube oko kubonisa ukuba liyikhanyele inkolo yakwaSirayeli; babezakulahlekana nokuthandwa nguThixo, baze babe nobutyala bona ngokwabo ngezityholo ezifanayo—kubazalwana babo abangamaYuda—nezo zakhokelela ekufeni kukaStefano.

“Lalifikile ixesha lokuba ibandla likaKristu lingene kwisigaba somsebenzi esitsha ngokupheleleyo. Ucango olwaluvalwe luninzi lwabaguqukileyo bamaYuda ngakwiintlanga lwaluvulwe genge ngoku. Abeentlanga abamkele iindaba ezilungileyo babeza kwamkelwa njengabalinganayo kunye nabafundi abangamaYuda, ngaphandle kokuba banyanzeleke ukuba benze inkonzo yolwaluko.”—Ellen G. White, *IZenzo Zabapostile,* p. 136. NjengakwiPentekoste, apha, ngokufanayo, bathetha iilwimi ababengazazi ngaphambili, endaweni yesiwiliwili okanye iilwimi “zasemazulwini.” Injongo engumahluko yayinye: lo gama kubapostile isipho sasijonge kumsebenzi oya emhlabeni wonke, kuKorneli sasisebenza ukubethelela ukuba, ubabalo lukaThixo lwalusebenza naphakathi kweeNtlanga.

Ibandla Lakwa-Antiyokwe

Ekhuthazwe kukuguquka kukaKorneli, uLuka uyiphazamisa ingxelo yakhe yokusebenza kukaPetros ngokubonisa ukuhambela phambili kokuqala kwegospile phakathi kweeNtlanga.

Funda: IZenzo 11:19–26. Yintoni eyenzekayo ngokufika kwa-Antiyokwe kweembacu ezazivela eYerusalem?

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Esi sigaba kwiZenzo 11 sibhekisa ekutshutshiseni kukaPawulos kwisahluko sesi-8. Ngoko ke, nangona ukukhula okudlulileyo kwakusenzeka kwaYuda nakwezinye iindawo, amanye amakholwa amaGrike awanyanzeleka ukuba ayishiye iYerusalem ayisasaza ivangeli ngaphaya kwemida yakwaYuda. ULuka unika ingqwalaselo eyodwa kwisixeko esikhulu sakwa-Antiyokwe, eSiriya, apho iimbacu zaqala ukushumayela kumaYuda akuzo nakumaGrike, baye abaninzi kubo beyamkela inkolo. Ukuthuma kukaYesu kwiZenzo 1:8 kwakubonakala kumalinge ala maGrike angamaKristu angamaYuda. Yayingawo awaba ngabona baseki bomsebenzi kwiiNtlanga. Ngenxa yempumelelo yebandla kwa-Antiyokwe, abapostile eYerusalem bagqiba ukuba bathumele uBharnabhas ukuba ayokuyihlola imeko. Ngokuphawula amathuba amakhulu okuqhubela phambili ivangeli, uBharnabhas wathumela ukuba kuze uPawulos eTarso, eqonda ukuba uya kuba ngumncedi omkhulu. Wayenyanisile uBharnabhas. Emnyakeni, yena noPawulos basebenza kunye, izihlwele ezikhulu, inkoliso ingabeeNtlanga, zakwazi ukuziva iindaba ezilungileyo. Intshiseko abathetha ngayo ngoYesu Kristu yenza ukuba amakholwa apho aziwe ngokuba "[ngama] Kristu" (IZenzo 11:26). Into yokuba "babizwe" ngokuba ngamaKristu ibonisa ukuba isaci esenziwa ngabo bangaphandle kwebandla, mhlawumbi behlekisa, lo gama amakholwa wona akhetha ukuzibiza ngokuba "ngabazalwana" (IZenzo 1:16), "abafundi" (IZenzo 6:1), okanye "iingcwele" (IZenzo 9:13). Ngexesha kubhalwa IZenzo, um"Kristu" waye esisihlonipho esiqhelekileyo (IZenzo 26:28), aze uLuka abonakale esamkele. "[um]Kristu" uthetha umlandeli kaKristu okanye onamathele kuKristu.

Kuthetha ntoni kuwe ukubizwa ngokuba ungu"mKristu"? Yintoni ngobomi bakho enobuKristu ngenene? Oko kukuthi, uphila ngokwahlukileyo njani kwabo bangengawo amaKristu kwizinto ezibaluleke ngokwenene?

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Ukutshutshisa KukaHerode

Xa sibuyela kwakhona kwaYuda, sijongana nengxelo yokubulawa kukaYakobi, umntakwabo kaYohane ongunyana kaZebhedi ngukumkani uHerode (Marko 1:19). Wayefuna ukwenza loo nto nangoPetros.

Funda: IZenzo 12:1–4. Kusifundisa ntoni oku ngemingeni elalijongene nalo ibandla lokuqala?

Ukumkani uHerode okhankanywa apha nguAgripa I, umzukulwana kaHerode oMkhulu (Mat. 2:1); walawula kwaYuda ukususela ngoA.D. 40 ukuya kuA.D. 44. Isiphumo sokubonakala kwakhe engcwele, saba kukuthandwa kwakhe ngamaYuda awayewaphethe, ngakumbi abaFarisi. Ukuzama kwakhe ukuzuza ukuthandwa ngamaYuda ngokuhlasela abanye abapostile kudibana ncam noko sikwazi ngaye kweminye imibhalo. Ngenxa yokuba ukubulawa kukaYakobi kwenzeka ukufezekisa injongo ka-Agripa, waya waceba ukubulala noPetros. UPetros wabanjwa wanikelwa kumaqela amane lilinye linamasoldati amane ukuba amjonge, iqela elinye kwixesha elinye lemilindo emine yobusuku. UPetros wayenamasoldati amane ahleli nawo ngexesha: wayeza kuqanyangelwa kumasoldati amabini, linye ngakwicala elinye, amabini ajonge isango. Ukuqaphela okunjalo, ngokuqinisekileyo, kwakuzama ukuphepha oko kwakha kwenzeka kuPetros (noYohane) kwixa elingaphambili (IZenzo 5:17–20).

Funda: IZenzo 12:5–18. Yintoni eyenzekayo eyayiphendula imithandazo yabazalwana?

Ngobusuku obuphambi kwemini uAgripa awayeceba ukuxoxa ityala nokubulala uPetros, uPetros waphinda wakhululwa ngendlela emangalisayo yingelosi. Kwakhona, sifumana ibali elingokufa kuka-Agripa eKesareya (IZenzo 12:20–23). Enziwa amalinge okufumanisa unobangela wokufa kwakhe, (izifo eziquka umhlaza netyhefu); kanti yena uLuka uyibeka icace xa esithi, ukumkani wafa ngenxa yokubethwa nguThixo.

UYakobi ubulewe, uPetros unikelwe, uHerode ujongene nomgwebo wezulu. Kwezinye iimeko sibona ubulungisa; kwezinye, akubonakali kunjalo. Kumele ukusifundisa ntoni oku ngokuba asisoloko siba nazo zonke iimpendulo kuyo yonke imibuzo yethu nokuba kutheni le nto sidinga ukuphila ngokholo ngokubhekiselele kwizinto esingaziqondiyo?

Ukufunda Ngakumbi:

"Kwisahluko seshumi kwiZenzo, sinaso esinye isiganeko sokusebenza kwezithunywa zezulu, okwaba nesiphumo esikukuguquka kukaKorneli neqela lakhe. Ezi zahluko [8–10] mazifundwe, zinikwe ingqalelo. Kuzo sibona ukuba izulu lisondele kakhulu kumKristu oxakeke emsebenzini wokusindiswa kwemiphefumlo kunokuba abanye becinga. Kufuneka sifunde kuzo nesifundo sendlela uThixo amxabise ngayo wonke umntu, nokuba elowo umele ukumphatha njani omnye umntu osesinye sezixhobo zeNkosi zokugqitywa komsebenzi waYo emhlabeni."—Ellen G. White Comments, *The SDA Bible Commentary,* vol. 6, p. 1059. "Xa ibandla lithandaza, umsebenzi kaThixo uya kuhambela phambili, zithi iintshaba zaKhe zidake, nokuba oku akulikhululi ibandla ekuthwaleni ubunzima nasekufeleni inkolo; inkolo kaLuka kuloyiso lwevangeli inyanisekile kwaye ikwamkela ukuba, nangona ilizwi likaThixo lingakhonxwanga, abasebenzi balo kufuneka balindele ukuphatheka kakubi, babotshwe."—I. Howard Marshall, *IZenzo Zabapostile* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1980), pp. 206, 207.

Imibuzo Yokuxoxwa:

1. UKorneli uchazwa njengendoda "emhlonelayo, emoyikayo uThixo, kunye nayo yonke indlu yayo; ibaliza abantu kunene; kanjalo yayimana ikhunga kuThixo" (IZenzo 10:2). Kuyabonakala ukuba uMoya kaThixo wawusele usebenza kuKorneli kwakude phambi kokuba ahlangane noPetros. Ingaba mhlawumbi ubomi bakhe bokuzinikela kuThixo kwakulithuba lokuba uThixo afikelele kuye ngesigidimi seendaba ezilungileyo? Sifundo sini esinokuzifumanela sona kweli bali lakhe?

2. Eklasini, buyelani kumbuzo wokugqibela wangoMvulo nizibuze lo mbuzo: Ithini imeko yenkcubeko, eyasekuhlaleni, neyombuso enihlala kuyo eyenza ukuba kubekho uhlobo lokulwa kobuhlanga angafanele ukuba akugcine amaKristu? Ngamanye amazwi, singenza njani njengamaKristu ukuba sibe ngaphaya kwenkcubeko nemvelaphi yethu, xa sidinga ukuba sibe njalo?

3. Nangona enomonakalo onjalo, amalinge kaPawulos okutshutshisa ajika anegalelo elilungileyo: iimbacu ezafika kwa-Antiyokwe zaqala ukushumayela, kumaYuda nakumaGrike. Eklasini yabelanani ngamava wenu entlungu nokuphatheka kakubi awakujikayo uThixo kwaba yintsikelelo.

4. UYakobi wayengomnye wabafundi ababesondele kakhulu kuYesu (Marko 5:37, 9:2, 14:33); kanti ke, waba ngowokuqala kwiShumi elinambini ukufela inkolo. Yeyiphi eminye imizekelo esiyifumanayo eBhayibhileni yabantu ababethembekile abafa ngendlela ekhohlakeleyo? Sifundo sini esingathi sizifumanele zona ngayo yonke ingxaki yokuphatheka kakubi?