

Imifanekiso Yobunye



SABATHA EMVA KWEMINI

Fundela Isifundo sale Veki:

1 Pet. 2:9; Eks. 19:5, 6; Efese 2:19–22; 1 Kor. 3:16, 17; 1 Kor. 12:12–26; Yohane 10:1–11; Psalm 23.

Indima Yenkumbulo:

“Kuba, kwanjengokuba umzimba umnye, unamalungu amaninzi, abe ke onke amalungu aloo mzimba mnye emaninzi nje, emzimba mnye, ukwanjalo ke noKristu lo” (1 Korinte 12:12).

Njengokuba nawuphi othe wayifunda iBhayihile esazi, izele yimifanekiso nemifuziselo eyalatha kokuqinisekileyo okukhulu kunemifanekiso nemifuziselo ngokwayo. Umzekelo, undoqo walo lonke uhlelo lwemibingelelo yeBhayibhile, ngandlela ithile, kukufuzisela eyona nyaniso inkulu: UYesu nalo lonke icebo losindiso. Kukho nezinye iintlobo zemifanekiso emininzi eziye zisetyenziswe eBhayibhileni, maxa wambi, nakuyo kuthi kusekelwe kwiziqalelo ezininzi—njengamanzi, umlilo, umoya. Ukungena nzulu emxholweni, le yimifanekiso yakomoya neenyano zokwazi ngoThixo. Umzekelo, xa uYesu wayesithi, “Umoya uphepheza apho uthanda khona, uze usive isandi sawo, kodwa ungawazi apho uvela khona, nalapho usinga khona: bakwanjalo bonke abazelwe nguMoya” (Yohane 3:8), umoya wawusetyenziswa njengomfuziselo kaMoya Oyingcwele. IBhayibhile isebenzisa iqela lemifanekiso ukusebenzisa uhlobo lobunye esibufumana ebandleni, ubunye uThixo afuna bubonakalaliswe phambi kwehlabathi. Umfanekiso ngamnye awuphelelanga wona ngokwawo. Endaweni yoko, xa iyonke, le mifanekiso ithhila izinto ezininzi ngobunye bebandla, njengoko lunjalo ulwalamano lwebandla koThixo, ulwalamano lwamalungu ebandla—elinye nelinye, nolwalamano lwebandla nasekuhlaleni konke. Isifundo sale veki siza kuqwalasela kweminye imifanekiso nento eyityhilayo kuthi ngobunye kuKristu.

**Funda isifundo sale veki ukulungiselela iSabatha kaNovemba 10.*

Abantu BakaThixo

Funda: 1 Petros 2:9; Eksodus 19:5, 6; Duteronomi 4:20; noDuteronomi 7:6. Zithini ezi ndima ngomgangatho owodwa wabantu bakaThixo?

Ibandla lingabantu, kodwa kungengalo naluphi uhlobo lwabantu. Ibandla ngabantu bakaThixo, abantu abangabaKhe, abathi uThixo unguYise noMsindisi, nabahlangulwe nguKristu nabamthobelayo. Umfanekiso umilisela ingcinga yokuba uThixo wayenabo abantu emhlabeni kususela ukuba kwangena icebo losindiso nokuba kukho ukuqhubeka okuhlangeneyo phakathi kukaSirayeli kwiTestamente eNdala nebandla kweNtsha. Ukususela kuAdam, amanyange phambi nasemva koNogumbe, noAbraham, uThixo wenze umnqophiso nabantu baKhe ukuba babe ngabameli bothando lwaKhe, inceba, nobulungisa baKhe emhlabeni. Abantu bakaThixo babizwa ngokuthi “sisizukulwana esinyuliweyo,” “isibingeleli esibukumkani, “abantu abayinqobo.” Ezi zaci zibonisa ukuba babekelwe bucala ukuze bafeze injongo ekhethekileyo: “[ukuvakalisa] isidima salowo wanibizayo ukuba niphume ebumnyameni, ningene ekukhanyeni okungummangaliso” (1 Pet. 2:9). Oku kukwa kukuphindwa kwenkcazo yesimilo sobubele bukaThixo, njengoko sichazwe kuEksodus 34:6, 7. “UThixo walizuzwa ibandla laba lelaKhe ngendlela eyodwa ukuze amalungu alo abonakalalise iimpawu ezinexabiso zesimilo saKhe kobawo ubomi, aze avakalise ukulunga kwaKhe nenceba yaKhe kubo bonke abantu.”—*The SDA Bible Commentary*, vol. 7, p. 562.

Funda: Duteronomi 7:6–8. Yintoni eyenza ukuba uThixo anyule inzala ka-Abraham ibe ngabantu baKhe? Kusasebenza njani namhla oko?

Mhlawumbi singazibuza, Leliphi ilizwe namhla elifanele umbhalo wokuba “luhlanga olungcwele” (omnye umfanekiso webandla)? Alikho. Izizwe zonke, neentlanga zonke, zinabantu abangalufanelanga uthando nobabalo lukaThixo. Nangona iBhayibhile isibiza ngokuba singabantu abangcwele, isiBhalo naso sifundisa ukuba ukunyulwa nokumiselwa kukaSirayeli kwakwakhelwe ngokupheleleyo phezu kothando lwaKhe kungengako okuhle ezinokuthi izidalwa ezingabantu zibe nokukuzisa kuYe. Ukwenziwa kwabantu bakaThixo sisenzo sokuthanda indalo nokuthi—sesikho isono nokreko lwelizwe lonke—uThixo asigcine isithembiso saKhe kuAbraham, sokuba, ngembewu yakhe, uKristu, uya kubasindisa abantu baKhe. Kanye njengoku unyulo lwabantu bakaThixo lwalusizenzo sobabalo lwaKhe, kunjalo nokusindiswa kwabo. Lo mxholo usikhumbuza ngengcambu yethu enye kubabalo lukaThixo esingalufanelanga.

Kungani kufuneka sisoloko sigcine inyaniso engcwele yokuba usindiso lwethu lukoko kwenziwa nguKristu ngenxa yethu, kungabi koko sinokuze sizenzele kona, nokuba “singabantu bakaThixo”?

Indlu [Usapho] KaThixo

Omnye umfanekiso wabantu bakaThixo kwiTestamente eNtsha yindlu okanye abantu bendlu kaThixo. Ngumfanekiso wamatye nezakhiwo obonisa ukuthungelana nokuxhomekeka enye kwenye kwendalo yolwalamano lwabantu ebandleni. UPetros ubhekisa kumaKristu ngokuthi “ngamatye aphilileyo” (1 Pet. 2:5). Lo mfanekiso uqulathe ubuhle, nokuma isigxina, nokuqina.

Funda: Efese 2:19–22. Zeziphi iingcinga ezisisitshixo azicinezelayo uPawulos kule ndawo? Usixelela ntoni lo mfanekiso ngobunye ebandleni?

Kule ndawo, uPawulos uhlanganisa imifanekiso emibini yebandla: omnye yinto engashukumiyi, indlu okanye isakhiwo; omnye uyaphila, abantu bekhaya. Iitye alinaxabiso kakhulu xa lizihlelele nje lodwa, kodwa xa lihlanganiswe namanye amatye, liba yinto (okanye isakhiwo) esimelana nemimoya yobomi. Akakho umKristu onokuba lilitye eyedwa, kodwa kufuneka amanyane namanye kubudlelwane babantu bendlu kaThixo. Ukuze isakhiwo siqine, kufuneka sime phezu kwesiseko esomeleleyo. UYesu Kristu usesi siseko, “ilitye lembombo” lendlu kaThixo (bona naku-1 Kor. 3:11). Ibandla nalo liyayeka ukubakho ukuba alimenzanga uKristu abe lilitye lembombo kwimisebenzi yalo. Ibandla ngokwenene lingoYesu Kristu: ubomi baKhe, ukufa, ukuvuka, nokubuya. Ibandla lenza usapho lwamakholwa amanyeneyo ukuze abelane nehlabathi ngeendaba ezilungileyo zikaYesu. Umcimbi webandla nguYesu: ukuba ungubani, usenzele ntoni—iyintoni ayenzayo ngaphakathi kwethu, nokuba yintoni ayinika wonke othi amamkele njengeNkosi noMsindisi. Umfanekiso wabantu bendlu ukwanentsingiselo enkulu. Lo umile phezu kolwalamano abantu abanalo phakathi kwabo. Ngumfanekiso oqhelekileyo kamama notata, oobhuti noosisi. Amaqhina phakathi kwamalungu osapho anako ukuqina, kuthi nokuthembana okuhambelana nawo kube ngaphezu kwawo onke amanye amaqhina angaphandle. Ukunyaniseka yinto enkulu kubunye, kuba, bungakho njani obunye ubunye ngaphandle kokuba nokunyaniseka nabo bubekho? Lo mfanekiso uhambelana njani nebandla? Amalungu ebandla akwayinxalenye yosapho olunye olukhulu. Siqhagamshelene, kungekuphela kuba singamalungu osapho loluntu sinomawokhulu omnye, uAdam, kodwa kuba salamene kuYesu uAdam wesiBini, ngo“kuzalwa okutsha” kwethu. Ngoko ke, siyamanyana omnye nomnye, kungekuphela kuba sibambe iinyaniso zemfundiso ezinye kodwa, nakumava okuba yimiphfumlo eguqukileyo enobomi obutsha kuYesu.

Kungosizi ukuba, asingabo bonke umntu abathe banamava amahle ngeentsapho zabo. Ngenxa yoko, lo mfanekiso unokungathethi nto kangako kubo. Singenza njani, phofu, sibandla, ukuba sibe lusapho abangazanga banalo aba bantu?

Itempile KaMoya Oyingcwele

Omnye umfanekiso wesakhiwo uPawulos awusebenzisayo yitemppile kaThixo okanye kaMoya Oyingcwele. Ngumfanekiso wesakhiwo esinexabiso nesixabisekileyo. Kunye noma-1 Korinte 6:19, apho umfanekiso ubhekiselele kumzimba womntu njengetempile kaMoya Oyingcwele, uPawulos, kuma-1 Korinte 3:16, 17 usebenzisa umfanekiso obhekisa kwesona sakhiwo singcwele nesixabiseke kakhulu kwiMpuma iNear East, itempile kaThixo.

Funda: 1 Korinte 3:16, 17. Kuthetha ukuthini ukuthi ibandla liyitempile kaMoya Oyingcwele? Ulumkisa ngantoni kwindima ye-17?

Ngokucacileyo, uPawulos, ngokubhekisa ebandleni, akanangqondo yesiqu [okanye sodonga] setempile okanye indawo yokuhlala kukaThixo. IsiGrike seTestamente eNtsha senza umahluko phakathi kuka“you” wesinye no“you” wesininzi. [asinayo loo ngxaki esiXhoseni. IsiXhosa sino“wena” no“nina.”] Kule meko ke, kusetyenziswe u“you” obhekisa kwisininzi. Lo mfanekiso ubhekisa kubantu abahlangeneyo: Xa ehlangene amaKristu aseKorinte enza itempile kaMoya Oyingcwele, abe ke, ngokovo lwasemoyeni, uThixo uhlala phakathi kwabo. NgokukaPawulos, uThixo uhlala phakathi kobudlelwane bobuKristu; kungoko, isilumkiso sakhe sisesokuba, nabani ozama ukubuchitha obu budlelwane uya kuvuna iziqhamo zokugwetywa. Ubunye bamakholwa busembindini wobu budlelwane nobukho bukaThixo kule tempile. Nangona le ndima ikholisa ukusetyenziswa ekugcineni umzimba lo usisiqu (nto leyo, phofu, afanele ukuyenza amaKristu kakade), asiyiyo into abonisa yona apha uPawulos. Isigidimi sakhe yayisisilumkiso ngabo babeza kubuchitha ubunye bebandla. Ekuqaleni kwesahluko, uPawulos ubhekisa kwinto ayibona ingumngeni kubunye: njengoko “kukhoyo phakathi kwenu umona, neenkani, neembambaniso” (1 Kor. 3:3). Ezi ngqondo noku kuziphatha zizinto ezibuchwechwela kakubi ubunye bobuKristu zize zenze ukuba busuke ubukho bukaThixo etempileni yaKhe. Ngamanye amazwi, iimbambano ebandleni ziyakwazi ukuyichitha itempile kaThixo. Ngoko ke, ufuna ukuba amalungu ahlukane neengqondo nokuziphatha okuthembisa ukuchitha ubunye. Xa iimbambano ziqhambuka ebandleni, icebiso likaPawulos eKorinte lisasebenza namhlanje: “Kekaloku, ndiyaniyala, bazalwana, ngalo igama leNkosi yethu, uYesu Kristu, ukuba nithethe nto-nye nonke, nokuba kungabikho zahlukahlukano kuni; ke nibe ngabalungisiweyo, nigqibelele ngqiqweni-nye, nasicamangweni sinye” (1 Kor. 1:10).

Umona, ukulwa, neyantlukwano—ezi yayingezongxaki nje elalijongene nazo ibandla lemihla kaPawulos. Nathi sijongene nazo namhlanje. Ithini indawo elowo kuthi anayo ekuzameni ukuxazulula ezi ngxaki ngeendlela ezingayi kubuchitha ubunye bethu?

Umzimba KaKristu

Mhlawumbi owona mfanekiselo owaziwa kakuhle kakhulu webandla nothetha ngamandla obunye bamalungu awahlukeneyo [okanye angafaniyo], ngumzimba kaKristu. “Kuba, kwanjengokuba umzimba umnye, unamalungu amaninzi, abe ke onke amalungu aloo mzimba mnye, emaninzi nje, emzimba mnye, ukwanjalo ke noKristu lo. . . . Nina ke ningumzimba kaKristu, ningamalungu ngokwabelwa izabelo” (1 Kor. 12:12, 27). Njengokuba umzimba uyinto enye, eyenziwe ngamalungu amaninzi awahlukeneyo [okanye angafaniyo], ilelo linomsebenzi nomthwalo walo owodwa, libandla eli elingumzimba kaKristu.

Funda: 1 Korinte 12:12–26. Lo mfanekiselo womzimba omnye unamalungu amaninzi usebenza njani kwibandla lakho? Usebenza njani kwiSeventh-day Adventist Church kumhlaba wonke?

Imfundiso kaPawulos kwabase-1 Korinte 12 ibonisa uhlobo olungaqhelekanga lobukho kobunye bobuKristu obububo, olu lokuba, abunto nje ekhoyo ngaphakathi kokungafani, okanye ekhoyo sele kukho oko kungafani, kodwa ekhoyo ephumela ngaphaya kwako ukungafani oko. Akufuneki sikhwankqiswe kukuba inguMoya Oyingcwele olithende loku kubonakaliswa kokungafani. Njengoko umzimba womntu uhlanganiswe ngendlela ekunzima ukuyikholelwa, kwaye wahlukene [ungafani ngendlela emangalisayo], unjalo ukwakhiwa umzimba kaKristu, othi ngoku kwahlukana ubonise ukuphelela nobutyebi bomzimba kaKristu. Lo mfanekiso uza kuthi ngqo silibandla. Kwiminyaka embalwa edlulileyo, iSeventh-day Adventist Church ikhule ngokukhawuleza okukhulu. ISeventh-day Adventist Church inabantu abaneemvelaphi ekunzima nokuzibala, inkcubeko, nokubangqongileyo. Ubuhlanga, ubuzwe, inkcubeko, imfundo, nokwahluka ngobudala, akufuneki ukuba ezo zinto zivunyelwe ukuba zisahlule kuKristu. Ukuba kunokwenzeka, kufuneka ukuba oku kungafani kubunjwe nguMoya Oyingcwele kube ngamandla obunye, butyhile inyaniso yokuba, sele kukho oko kungafani, thina sonke sibanye kuKristu. Njengoko sesibonile, elunyaweni lomnqamlezo, sonke siyalingana, nokuba singoobani okanye siphuma phi. Njengoko ilizwe elisihlangqileyo liya lichithakala, ibandla lona kufuneka libonise obo bunye buthi bufumaneka sekungasekho kufana. Abantu bakaThixo banako ukubonakalisa amandla aphilisayo naxolalanisayo eendaba ezilungileyo. Okumangalisayo, uPawulos usixelela ngendlela lo mgangatho ofikelelwa ngayo. “UKristu eyintloko yebandla eli; waye ngokwakhe enguMsindisi wawo umzimba” (Efese 5:23). “Uyintloko yomzimba, yebandla” (Kol. 1:18). Njengoko ikholwa ngalinye lihlangene noKristu ngokwasemoyeni, umzimba wonke, ngoko, uyondliwa ngokutya okunye. Asinako, ke ngoko, ukudlulisa ekucinezeleni ukubaluleka kokufunda iLizwi likaThixo, ukuthobela oko sikufunda eLizwini, nokuba namava amanye okunqula nokuthandazela ubunye emzimbeni kaKristu.

Izimvu NoMalusi

Funda: Yohane 10:1–11. Yeyiphi imiba kwesi sikweko sebandla njengobuhlanti bomhlambi ethetha ngobunye? Bona nakwiNdumiso 23.

Kwilizwe lanamhla lezixeko ezikhulu, kunqabe kakhulu ukubona imfuyo yalo naluphi uhlobo. Abantu abaninzi ngoku bazi kancinane ngolwalamano phakathi kweegusha nabalusi. Sekunjalo, xa uYesu wayesenza lo mzekeliso, abantu bamqonda kakuhle. Xa wayesithi, “Ndim umalusi olungileyo,” bakhawuleza bambona bakuthanda ukuthetha kwaKhe ngeNdumiso 23:1, “UYehova ngumalusi wam.” Lo mfanekiso wawunganelanga nje ukucaca, kodwa wawuzele yimvakalelo exabisekileyo eyawenza wacaca. Kwinkcubeko yeMpuma yakudala, nanamhla kwiMiddle East, abalusi baziwa ngokuzinekela ekukhathaleleni iigusha zabo, nokuba ithini imingeni. Umbono kamalusi ungomnye wemifanekiso othandekayo esetyenziswa eziBhalweni ukuchaza ubume bukaThixo kubudlelwane baKhe nabantu baKhe.

Umfanekiso wabantu bakaThixo ungumfanekiso onomtsalane. Inqondo esiye sibe nayo weegusha kukungabi nabungozi nakungabi nakuzikhusela kwazo. Ngoko ke, zixhomekeke kumalusi olungileyo ngenkuseleko nenkokelo. Zona ngokwazo, xa sithetha phandle, ziziyatha. Maxa wambi, ngelishwa, igusha iyalahleka, aze umalusi ayifune ayibuyisele emhlambini. Imvana iye idinge ukuthwalwa ihoywe ngaphezulu. Umonde nokuqonda kuyadingeka ekukhathaleleni iigusha. Ngeendlela ezininzi, lo ngumfanekiso ogqibeleleyo ukumela ibandla. Ilungu lebandla akukhonto linokuyoyika kodwa linokuzuzana konke kubudlelwane noMalusi.

NoYesu ucinezela kulo mzekeliso ukubaluleka kokuba iigusha ziliphulaphule izwi lomalusi. Xa iimeko zilidinga, kuyenzeka ukuba ikhuselwe imihlambi eliqela ngokuyivalela kwindawo enye okanye kwisibaya esinye. Yahlulwa njani? Into efunekayo kukuba nje umalusi ame kwisango apho ivalwe khona abize. Ezakhe iigusha ziya kulazi izwi lakhe ziphume zize kuye. “Xa athe wazikhupha ezakhe izimvu, uhamba phambi kwazo, zithi nezimvu zimlandele; ngokuba zilazi izwi lakhe” (Yohane 10:4). Ukuphulaphula izwi likaMalusi kubalulekile ebandleni. Eyona nto, ubunye nokhuseleko lwabantu bakaThixo kuxhomekeke kubufuphi babo kuYe okuhambelana kanye nokuzinikela ekuthobeleni izwi laKhe.

Abantu abaye bakholise ukukuthanda ukufaniswa neegusha. Noko kunjalo, kutheni le nto isikweko esinjalo sisifanele thina? Ufanele ukusixelala ntoni lo mfanekiso ngesidingo sethu sikaMalusi nokudingeka kokuba silithobele izwi laKhe?

Ingcamango Eyongeziweyo:

Ellen G. White, “The Divine Shepherd,” amaph. 476–484, in *The Desire of Ages*; “The Church on Earth,” amaph. 240–243, in *Counsels for the Church*. “Kwimeko yeTempile yaseYerusalem nasekufumanekeni kwezakhiwo zobuGrike-Roma kuyo yonke indawo, ababhali beTestamente eNtsha basebenzisa isikweko setempile ukwenzela ukuba amakholwa abe nombono wobungwele benkonzo, inxaxheba kaThixo ekumiseleni nasekukhuliseni ibandla, ukuchaza imo yomsebenzi kaKristu nekaMoya, nokubambana kwamakholwa phakathi ebandleni. Umzobo ingathi ngumfanekiso ozinzileyo, kanti ke isikweko sihambelana nokwakusenziwa ekwakhiweni kwenkqu yesakhiwo. Endaweni yomfanekiso ozinzileyo, ‘siyanyanzeleka ukuba sibe nombono wokwakhiwa endaweni yesakhiwo ese sigqityiwe.’ Ibandla linikwe ilungelo elimangalisayo lokuvuma ngokuthobekileyo kubomi nebali lalo ukuba “[li]yitempile kaThixo ophilileyo” (2 Kor. 6:16).”—Yohane McVay, “Biblical Metaphors for the Church: Building Blocks for Ecclesiology,” in Ángel Manuel Rodríguez, ed., *Message, Mission, and Unity of the Church* (Hagerstown, Md.: Review and Herald®, 2013), p. 52.

Imibuzo Yokuxoxwa:

1. Cinga ngemfanekiso yeBhayibhile ngebandla. Nguwuphi owuthanda kakhulu? Yintoni ekutsalela kuwo kakhulu? Ezinye izikweko zebandla zinokufunyanwa kwezi ndawo: 1 Tim. 3:15, 2 Tim. 2:3–5, 1 Pet. 2:9. Yeyiphi enye into eziyifundisayo ezi zikweko ngebandla?
2. “UThixo ufuna ukuba abantu baKhe bamanyane ngawona maqhina asondeleleneyo olwalamano lobuKristu; ukubathemba abazalwana bethu kuyafuneka ukuze lihambele phambili ibandla; umanyano ekusebenzeni kubalulekile kwintlekele yenkolo. Inyathelo elinye lobudenge, isenzo esinye sokungakhathali, singalifaka ibandla ezingxakini nasezilingweni elinokuthabatha iminyaka ukuze liphume kuzo.”—Ellen G. White, *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 3, p. 446. Simele ukusifundisa ntoni esi silumkiso ngobunye bebandla? Umele ukuba nagalelo lini umntu ngamnye kuthi kulo mthwalo ungwele?
3. Isifundo sangeCawa siye sacinezela ukuba, nanje “ngabantu bakaThixo,” kufuneka sixhomekeke kuphela kubabalo lukaThixo ngoSindiso, kungaze kube ngokuhle kwethu. Kanti ke usenokuxoxa uthi, asikuko na oko kuxhomekeka kokuhle kukaThixo ngosindiso okusenza ukuba sibe “ngabantu bakaThixo”? Kungani ukuba eli libe (okanye lingabi) libango ekufanelekileyo lihle ukulenza?

Isishwankathelo: ITestamente eNtsha isebenzisa izikweko ezahlukeneyo ukubonisa indalo yobume balo kunye nomsebenzi walo ibandla. Okubaluleke kakhulu, ezi zikweko zifundisa ukuba uThixo ubaqaphele ngononophelo olukhulu abantu baKhe kwaye ebakhusele. Le mifanekiso ikwafundisa ukuba abantu bakaThixo baqhogene kakhulu omnye nomnye nokuba sidinga omnye nomnye ekwenzeni umsebenzi esibizelwe wona.