Dr. Francis Nsubuga - Ugandan Director



## Academic Testimony:

In his writings, Steve Jobs remarked, "Your time is limited, don't waste it living someone else's life." This sentiment resonates with my own journey, particularly since 2009, when I embarked on my career development following the completion of my high school education. From a young age, I aspired to be a professional accountant, which motivated me to pursue a Bachelor's degree in accounting and finance. However, a year after graduating, I came to the realization that my true passion lay outside the realm of accounting. I did not remain in the accounting field for long; instead, I sought opportunities in social work and pastoral care, which proved to be immensely fulfilling. With the affirmation of my pastoral calling from my mentors and role models, I made the decision to engage in training specifically designed for pastoral work.

My educational journey began in primary school and was marked by numerous challenges, as my parents were subsistence farmers responsible for supporting ten children. The financial constraints faced by my family, however, motivated me to focus intently on my studies, striving to achieve academic excellence in order to create a better future for both myself and my family. In my family, I am the youngest of ten children, with seven siblings currently living. At the age of 16, I prayed to

God for the opportunity to earn a doctorate before I turned 40, and I am grateful that this prayer was answered at the age of 38 just this year. This degree represents a significant milestone, as it is the first of its kind in our family and was celebrated by all. I remember during the graduation ceremony, my mother, who is 80 years old, became emotional, overjoyed by the realization that her youngest child had achieved such a prestigious honor.

The pursuit of fulfillment in one's endeavors drives an individual to seek knowledge that transcends the ordinary. This fervor compels one to embrace risks and navigate through challenging and uncertain paths, fueled by steadfast hope and determination. It is with the understanding that one is on the correct journey that the individual remains committed to illuminating the way forward.

Upon completing a Masters of Divinity at Teleo University in 2020, I became deeply motivated to acquire additional knowledge and skills for effectively guiding fellow pastors and church leaders in the mission of multiplying disciples of Jesus Christ, in alignment with the Great Commission as outlined in Matthew 28:18-20. This aspiration led me to enroll for a Doctor of Ministry program focused on Church Growth and ministry multiplication at Teleo University, which I pursued from 2020 to 2025. This level of study obviously presented numerous threatening challenges, particularly in terms of financial constraints and the limited time available to fulfill various commitments. For instance, I needed to be a supportive and attentive husband to my beloved wife, Damalie, and a devoted father to my wonderful daughters, all while managing multiple responsibilities in my role at Hands of Love. I can genuinely attest that without God's support, I would have struggled to persevere. God's faithfulness, love, and grace have been invaluable throughout this journey.

I have always understood that time is finite, which has compelled me to follow a specific path in order to fulfill God's will during my lifetime. I am profoundly grateful for the solid pastoral foundation I have developed, as it will enhance the effectiveness and satisfaction of my pastoral call. There is much to reflect upon, but one truth remains clear: God knows us by name and brings forth beauty in His perfect timing.

## TO GOD BE ALL THE GLORY, ETERNALLY!