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**GUIDELINES FOR STARTING OF FGBMFI CHAPTERS:**

 By Dr Robert Rutaagi [National President].

After nearly three decades of slow growth, followed by dormancy, FGBMFI in Uganda, has revived and is now on its growth path, glory be to the Almighty God.

By the end of August, 2014, there were at least, 50 Chapters [revived, new or in advanced stages of formation], including one [01] Chapter for the Deaf, in Uganda, most of them in and around Kampala City. The immediate challenge is nurturing and mentoring the ‘baby’ Chapters in such a way that they will grow into mature Chapters, contributing to the implementation of the LORD’s Great Commission [Matthew 28:16-20]. The other is to start new Chapters in Kampala as well as Upcountry.

Two-three (the Biblical quorum), Members are enough to initiate a Fellowship [Chapter]. How simple! Five, signals some growth and is good. And ten (10) is a viable formal Chapter in the Fellowship World ready to apply for and receive an International Charter [Certificate/License], This, compared to Rotary International or Lions Club (Secular Social Fellowships) where the minimum number is about 25, it should be much easier to start and sustain a FGBMFI (Spiritual Fellowship) in any Community.

*“Wherever there is a Church, Hotel, Restaurant or Social/Community Hall [Centre], there can be a Chapter [FGBMFI]”* said Eng. Eghosa Ogedegbe, International Director for Eastern, Central & South Africa Region to Participants during the FGBMFI Training Seminar held at Eureka Place Hotel, Ntinda on 12-13 November, 2011.

The following guidelines may help the new Chapter Coordinators or Presidents and their Executives to viably and sustainably revive, start and grow Chapters in their respective Communities:

* Pray and fast before, during and after starting a Fellowship.
* Identify a good Coordinator in a Community /City/Town.
* The Coordinator identifies, at least, one or two or more other members. The more the better!
* Identify a good venue (usually, a decent Public Facility – Hotel, Restaurant, Social/Community Hall).
* Chose a day and time when to meet (Monday – Friday).
* Avoid religious Worship Days (Saturday & Sunday) reserved for their Churches. This is optional. Depending on circumstances favouring Saturday or Sunday.
* Convene the first meeting.
* Invite Senior Fellowship members/Sponsors to attend to provide some necessary guidance. But this involve costs.
* Elect the Executive in the first Fellowship, if possible, or, as soon as it is possible, in subsequent meetings, avoiding any protracted lull that may impede smooth progress.
* Maintain the tempo as consolidation is done through prayer, fasting, meeting regularly, good testimonies, recruitment drive etc. Maintain regular Fellowships [Weekly/Monthly].
* Promote testimony as an efficient and effective tool and channel of evangelism towards implementation of the Great Commission. Matt: 28:16, Rev. 12:1, 1 John 5:5.
* Try to visit other Fellowships [Chapters], near and far, including during visits Upcountry [where there are Chapters] and abroad. Aspire to introduce a Chapter in your home Area [District, County, Sub-county, Parish, Village…].
* Learn as much as possible about the vision, mission, values, objectives, policies, procedures and practices of FGBMFI [read available literature or google the website: www.fgbmfi.org]. Read the Bible regularly.
* Always make sure that, once or twice, before the Fellowship Day, you or the Secretary or the Fellowship/Membership Director, send(s) a reminder(s) [by sms, phone calls or email] to Members to attend the next Fellowship.
* View/watch Unless You Are Born Again [UYABA] – based on John 3:3 on Uganda Broadcasting Corporation [UBC] every Sunday at 6:30-7:00 pm - if UBC reaches your area.

For more information, contact:

**THE PRESIDENT OF YOUR CHAPTER**

 **OR**

**DR ROBERT K. RUTAAGI**

**NATIONAL PRESIDENT [UGANDA].**

**FULL GOSPEL BUSINESS MEN’S FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL [FGBMFI], UGANDA.**

 **Nb: Where these procedures may conflict with those of FGBMFI, the latter will take precedence and the former will be superseded and automatically cancelled.**

17 August, 2015.

**E&OE [To be rectified as soon as detected].**