



**EULOGY BY THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR OF MOGALE CITY LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, CLLR DANNY THUPANE AT THE FUNERAL OF PASTOR LERATO EMILY LEMEKE HELD ON 27 APRIL 2023 AT THE FAITH COMMUNITY SANCTUARY, KAGISO, MOGALE CITY**

Thank you Programme Director,  
Honourable Speaker of Council, Cllr Lucky Sele,  
The Lemeke family and relatives,  
Apostle Joe Mabuela together with all men and women of the cloth in the Ministers Fraternal,  
Leaders of society across various sectors, as well as friends from near and wide,  
People of Mogale City,

We, in the municipality learned with shock and sadness of the passing of a very kind soul, Pastor Lerato Lemeke. When we were asked to speak in honour of this awesome woman of God, we asked ourselves several questions. But the one that stood out for us was: what happens to society when it loses a faithful servant?

Before we answer that question, may we speak to the many voices that come from the family. The voices that ask, why us? The voices that ask, why now? Why our sister, our aunt, our mother? These are voices that no living being can answer convincingly at this hour or at this moment.

We cannot answer those questions because we are mere mortals. We live each second *'re aperetswe ke Ieru la Iesu.'* We never know when our last moment will come. Even the wisest among us do not know that time. Only God knows that last moment.

Those of us who believe in the Word know all so well that because we do not know our last moment, then we must live our lives well. We must give love, respect and stay humble despite the odds we face in our lives. We also know that we must cover ourselves with the blood, the one that protects and gives eternal life.

Pastor Lemeke knew this truth. She immersed herself in the work of the Lord. She was an extremely generous soul as various speakers have described her today. She did not only preach the Word, but she also lived it.

Hers is therefore a life of example. A life of a servant. We return to the question just briefly. What happens to society when it loses a faithful servant?

Society gets into a state of drift. Society wonders about, losing its soul. It loses its identity. It loses its values. Mothers become children and children become mothers. Fathers become sons and sons become fathers. Society loses leadership, it loses its compass and ultimately, society loses itself. Society dies.

We trust that through her life Pastor Lemeke has inspired many among us. We need to be the embodiment of her values in her absence, spread love and care while remaining humble. In that way, we will be the guides that society desires. We will be the glue that keeps society intact. When Pastor Lemeke multiplies, then society will not lose itself. Society will not die. Instead, it will flourish.



Therefore, on behalf of the people of Mogale City during this difficult moment, we wish to express our deepest condolences to the family. We want to encourage you to hold on to God who knows all things. It is in Psalm 59 where the Good Book says,

*“You are my strength, I watch for you; you, God, are my fortress, my God on whom I can rely.”*

Hold on to the most dependable One, The Almighty God. He will give you strength and heal you.

May the wonderful soul of Pastor Lerato Lemeke rest in eternal peace.