

Message from Cardinal Emmanuel Wamala

Greetings in the Name of Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! Universal Chastity Education (UCE) continues to work in line with the mission of Jesus Christ. The teams reach out to young people bringing them a message of Salvation and freedom. Chastity is not about what is prohibited or forbidden. It is about self-control. It concerns the emotional and spiritual wholeness of the human person.

All of us are called to chastity which is, above all, about respecting the holiness and dignity of the human person. That is, every person is called to be healthy, to be honest, to strive for integrity and to respect the sexuality of others. We are called to recognize the integration of our sexuality with our body, mind, and spirit. It is a blessing that UCE reached youths of Gulu region this year explaining to their peers that True Love Waits, strengthened with courage by the Holy Spirit, and supported by the Christian Community, calling upon them to live chaste lives and honoring the gift of sexuality.

To those young people and adults who are single, Chastity is a call for sexual abstinence until faithful marriage. It is a tough, counter-cultural message both to deliver and receive. Youths need to discover the beauty and dignity that comes when the ultimate best gift of self has been reserved exclusively for their spouse. And to those who are married, Faithfulness is the message UCE brings them. This calls for good will and a spirit of sacrifice for young people as they are living their affection for one another in accord with God's law and thus building a marriage that will last because in it, they will continue to grow in love for one another.

The UCE message gives hope and ability to all people, no matter their age, to be able to discipline themselves towards higher values unlike condoms. The media sometimes gives youth a wrong image that everyone else is promiscuous. But as you will read in this report of UCE, thousands have chosen to live pure lives and to follow Jesus Christ who also brings forgiveness and second chances.

I commend the UCE teams for the great work and thank the partners of UCE for bring this life saving message to the youth.

May God's blessing be with you all.

Cardinal Emmanuel Wamala