



**Keynote Address by the Sedibeng District Municipality, Executive Mayor, Cllr. Mahole Simon Mofokeng on the occasion of the Academic Achievement Awards conferred by the Word of Faith Christian Centre on the 09<sup>th</sup> December 2009, held at the Sebokeng Technical High School, in Sedibeng**

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- Programme Director,
- The Chairman of the Word of Faith Christian Centre, Mr Dan Motaung,
- The Principal of Sebokeng Technical High School,
- Educators at the Institution,
- Proud Parents and Guardians,
- Learners and Students
- The people of Sedibeng, and,
- Ladies and Gentlemen.

It is with great honor that I bring greetings from the **Sedibeng District Municipality** and its constituent municipalities. It is very rare indeed, to find a synergy between education and faith. That we are able to find it under one roof is perhaps reason enough for us to celebrate. Celebrate we will today.

It is in our pursuit of education, coupled with stepping up the plate of moral fortitude, that we are reminded of **God's** words in **Ephesians Chapter 6 verses 10 and from 12-13**, in which He says “ **Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.**” “**For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places**”

**Ntate Motaung**, it is encouraging that at the time when families and the youth of our beautiful country are faced with serious challenges, breakdown in family life, uncontrolled access to substances like *nyaope*, where it is common for young people to engage in behavior such as *setjwetla* is fast taking root in our communities, church based groupings like **Word of Faith Christian Centre** assists in returning us to our **Creator** and **Father** by adopting this school.

**Programme Director, the Sedibeng District Municipality** supports without any doubt, all efforts that seeks to encourage the young minds in the area to study, take up the fight to improve their education. Most importantly, it is efforts like the **Word of Faith Christian Centre** that hold a special place in our hearts.

Our joy and pride, **Ntate Motaung**, stems from the fact that when everybody is out to sponsor, support and glorify schools in towns and suburbs, you have taken the path less travelled. The path that says, the children of Sebokeng are indeed the **Special Children of God**. All of you young man and women here present, are a very special kind to all of us as parents. **We are very proud of you.**

To all of the young man and women here presents, you are all deserving of the awards, if for some reason one is not given to you today; remember that, the fact that you stayed in school for the whole year, without giving up in the face of many temptations, makes you very special in my eye and the eyes of the **Sedibeng District Municipality**.

To the parents here present, I raise my hat to you, for you are indeed the rock on which **God's** nation of tomorrow will be built. That you encouraged and enrolled your children for the entire period this year, is in itself a remarkable feat. This is made more so when we look at adults who go out of their way to lead our children astray. **Le Badisa ba Molemo.**

The verse we have referred to above, shows that we are indeed faced with serious challenges. It is in our trust in the **Lord God** and his might that we will prevail. It is in times like these, that the young in our region, need every little help they can get. The need for moral high ground cannot be overemphasized.

The amount of attacks waged against our children is much greater than we realize. The very cell-phones are used to lead our children to the wrong path. The hidden messages in televisions and radio are a very powerful temptation. Indeed, we are not wrestling with flesh and blood, but with principalities of evil.

In conclusion, the role taken by the church, to acknowledge the good things that are done by the school, deserves our support. I hope and wish that all of us, parents, guardians, teachers and students of our beautiful region, realize the thankless efforts put in by the **Word of Faith Christian Centre**, and that we will all pray for them to continue the good work in the face of forces facing us at this time.

**I thank you.**