Transforming Masculinities.
Promoting gender equality and positive masculinities.

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What’s the TM approach?

- A series of interventions to work with Christian/and other faith leaders, communities to promote positive masculinities and gender equality as strategy to end SGBV and promote FP in Kinshasa.

- Changing harmful norms around gender, masculinities influenced, shaped and promoted by faith practice.

- A continuous engagement process with men and women, boys and girls to address knowledge, attitudes and practices on themes such as gender, masculinities, SGBV and FP.

- Bringing this work on ending SGBV and FP within the parameters/context of their respective faiths and cultures.
Who are we reaching?

- The TM interventions are targeted at both men and women, young newly married couples/first time parents (18-24) and both boys and girls (15-24).
- “Gender Champions” are trained facilitators who lead this work at the community level.
- Pastors, Elders, Bishops and their spouses at national, regional and local level. Also other faith leaders.
- The participants for these programs from the 28 communities/congregations selected based on availability of PSI/ASF franchise clinics.
Power and Status.
Participants in a community in Rethy, DRC during a session discussing “Power and Status”.
What’s the process?

Transforming Leaderships: engaging faith leaders on gender, masculinities, SGBV and FP using scriptural reflections and other tools to promote gender equality and positive masculinities.

Gender Champions: training of facilitators at the community level to “lead” transformative dialogues on gender, masculinities, SGBV and FP.

Community Dialogues: facilitated dialogues at the community level to create safe spaces for personal and relational reflections, unlearning and learning to inspire personal transformation.
Addressing theology

- Key scriptures referred, quoted by participants, leaders that are preached, reinforced through marriage counseling/ceremonies and day-day activities are below:

  - **Creation:** “God made Eve out of Adam, therefore she should be submissive, and she was made Adam’s helper.”

  - **Roles:** “God gave specific roles to Adam and Eve in the old testament, and likewise in the new testament God appoints man as the head of the house.”

  - **Relationships:** “Bible is clear that a woman should submit to her husband, like the Church submits to Jesus.”

  - **Sexual relations:** “Bible says a woman’s body doesn’t belong to her, but to her husband.”
Contextualizing SGBV.
Group activity to contextualize SGBV (Rethy, DRC).
Key aspects of TM

- Scripture-based reflections/dialogues on SGBV with a module on FP. Focusing on both spaces for personal transformation and changing harmful norms.
- The sessions are framed around the key scriptures that influence norms and practices.
- Group learning and a safe space for dialogues, for both men and women.
- Brings the discussions on gender, masculinities, SGBV and FP within the context of their faith and culture.
- Promotes accountable practices at all levels (participants, facilitators, Church leadership and related staff).
- Mentoring and coaching of “gender champions”.
- Aims to address underlying beliefs, norms from a scriptural perspective as opposed to prescribe lifestyle.
Resolving conflict.

Group activity on resolving conflict/use of power in day to day life.
What’s our hope?

- Inspiring and facilitating personal transformation, changing harmful norms around gender, masculinities and SGBV.

- Building local capacities to lead this work in their homes, churches and communities.

- A movement of gender champions (both men and women) living out and modeling values of gender equality and positive masculinities in their day-to-day lives.

- Faith champions (faith leaders and their wives) leading this work from the frontline, living as role models for their communities, the couples in their congregations and young people.

- Seeing both men and women live a life of dignity, free of violence and of equality.
Thank you!