

**SPEECH BY THE MOTHER OF THE DAY DR. NAOMI N. JAMES-RUGU,
Ph.D, (READER) ON THE OCCASION OF THE FIRST GRADUATION,
SPEECH AND PRIZE GIVING DAY OF ECWA SECONDARY SCHOOL
MIANGO**

The Executive Governor of Plateau State, Chief Joshua C. Dariye,
The President and the Delegation of ECWA,
The Representative of the Ministry of Education, Plateau State,
The Transition Chairman, Bassa Local Government Council,
The Bra Ngwe Irigwe Your Royal Highnesses,
The Principal and Staff ECWA Secondary School Miango,
The Chief Inspector of Education, Bassa Local Government Council,
The Education Secretary, Bassa Local Government Council,
The Chairman/Chair-person,
Father of the day,
Executive Committee of the Parents Teachers Association,
Members of the Parents Teachers Association,
Gentlemen and women of the press,
Distinguished members of the Alma Mata present,
Students,
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen.

I am highly delighted to be in your midst this morning for this historic occasion and more so as the mother of the day. I am indeed flattered for the singular honour.

With the transition of the School from a Government owned to a privately owned Organization "ECWA" I have no doubt in my mind that the desired objectives of the governing body is to achieve a conducive academic atmosphere as a means of propelling the children to brighter future.

The Bible Studies Programme that has become a regular event is highly commendable. This is a clear manifestation of the authority's desire to carry out the task of the Great Commission.

To the teachers without mincing words, I hereby commend your effort. The job of a teacher is really tasking. You prepare lecture notes, teach, run practicals where the need may arise, carrying out revision exercises, set examination questions, grade examination scripts and enter results. This is quite an uphill task.

At this juncture, I will request that the teachers continue to accord the leadership of the Institution every needed cooperation for the overall success of their mission.

The Parent Teachers Association is highly acknowledged for its wonderful role it is playing in supplementing the effort of the School, notable amongst these is the bore-hole that has been sunk.

To the graduands, you should be thankful to the Almighty God who has sustained and guided your lives thus far. God in his infinite mercy is standing by you all the time. Don't forget to be prayerful so that your lives will bring glory to the name of God. Your graduation today is just an introductory step in your lives, you are going into a more competitive world that is full of diversions and deceits, therefore do not be deceived by the indecent mode of dressing in the society. You may recall, your body is the temple of the Lord. Please engage in decent dressing which portrays the type of person you are.

Parents, lets re-evaluate and ask ourselves whether this indecent mode of dressing adopted by our children should continue or be discountenanced forthwith. Against this background, I urge parents to play significant role in preaching moral values which will go a long way in curbing some of the ills in our society.

To the rest of the students, I will advise that you don't relent in your studies, your future rests solely on your hardwork, dedication and obedience to the School Authority and Parents.

To the alumni of the Institution, I urge you to rally round the school authority and promote the image of your Alma mata, most especially in the area of infrastructural improvement. The use of a classroom block made of zinc sheets is unhealthy for learning. To this end, I call on well wishers, Organizations and Philanthropists to make their contributions towards the reconstruction of this particular block.

As a mother of every child in the School, I will do my best to make some books available for consultation. Permit me also to solicit the assistance of Plateau State Government to give the school a facelift particularly in some needed areas.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen thank you for your attention and may the Almighty God bless you richly.

Dr. Naomi N. James-Rugu