



## 50-DAY PRAYER AND FASTING SEASON: 19<sup>th</sup> August – 8<sup>th</sup> October 2025

### FOCUS ON THE GOVERNANCE SPHERE

### 2026 NATIONAL ELECTIONS AND THE FUTURE OF LEADERSHIP IN UGANDA

#### PRAYER GUIDE FOR WEEK FOUR: 15<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> September 2025

Day	Day of the Week	Date	Area of Focus
28	Monday	15 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	The Financial Sector
29	Tuesday	16 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Early Childhood and Primary Education
30	Wednesday	17 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Secondary Education
31	Thursday	18 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Tertiary Education
32	Friday	19 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Continuing Adult Informal and Non-Formal Education
33	Saturday	20 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Education Governance
34	Sunday	21 <sup>st</sup> September 2025	Science, Technology, Research, Innovation

#### DAY 32: 19<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2025

### CONTINUING ADULT INFORMAL AND NON-FORMAL EDUCATION

#### PROVERBS 1:5

*“Let the wise hear and increase in learning, and the one who understands obtain guidance.”*

#### PROVERBS 9:9

*Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be still wiser;  
teach a righteous man, and he will increase in learning.*

Education does not end with childhood or formal schooling. In a rapidly changing world, societies must embrace continuing, adult, informal, and non-formal education to build resilient, knowledgeable, and responsible citizens. For Uganda, with its youthful population, high levels of rural poverty, and communities still recovering from the legacies of conflict and inequality, lifelong learning is a governance priority.

The phrase *“The illiterate of the 21st century will not be those who cannot read and write, but rather those who cannot unlearn and relearn”* captures a fundamental truth about education and governance today. In earlier centuries, literacy was defined mainly as the ability to read and write. In our time, however, the pace of change in technology, governance, work, and society is so rapid that static knowledge alone is no longer sufficient.

To thrive in the 21st century, individuals and nations must embrace continuous learning. This includes:

- **Unlearning** outdated mindsets, practices, and biases that no longer serve current realities. For instance, clinging to rigid systems of governance or outdated economic models can trap a nation in poverty.
- **Relearning** new methods, technologies, and values that drive transformation. Nations that quickly relearn — like South Korea shifting from agriculture to technology — have leapt ahead.
- **Adaptability** as a new form of literacy: being able to analyze, adjust, and apply knowledge in changing contexts.

For Uganda and Africa at large, this means that true literacy today is not only the ability to read books but also the ability to adapt to innovation, embrace reforms, and apply wisdom in new situations. Governance, education, and leadership must foster cultures where learning, unlearning, and relearning are constant.

### **Continuing and Adult Education: Empowering Citizens**

Adult education equips those who missed out on schooling with literacy, numeracy, and life skills. Governance plays a critical role in providing policies, resources, and programs that ensure no citizen is left behind. A literate adult population is better able to:

- Participate in elections and governance.
- Demand accountability from leaders.
- Manage household economies and contribute to national productivity.

In Uganda, adult literacy programs have transformed communities by enabling parents to support their children's education, farmers to access market information, and women to advocate for their rights.

### **Informal and Non-Formal Education: Beyond the Classroom**

Informal education happens through community interactions, workplaces, churches, and cultural practices. Non-formal education includes structured learning outside formal schools — vocational training, apprenticeships, evening classes, and community workshops. Governance ensures these opportunities are recognized, supported, and integrated into national development strategies.

For instance, Uganda's community-based functional adult literacy programs and NGO-driven skills trainings provide practical education for farmers, artisans, and entrepreneurs. This equips citizens with tools for economic self-reliance and reduces dependency on government aid.

### **Governance and the Right to Lifelong Learning**

Governance shapes adult and non-formal education by:

- Establishing frameworks that recognize lifelong learning as a right.
- Funding literacy and skills programs, especially in rural areas.
- Partnering with civil society and private actors to expand training.
- Integrating adult education into national development plans.

Nations like Finland and Singapore emphasize lifelong learning as a pillar of governance, enabling their citizens to continually adapt to new economies. For Uganda, embedding continuing and adult education into governance would ensure that workers, parents, and community leaders are prepared for national transformation.

## Why It Matters for Uganda's Development

- **Economic Impact:** Skilled adults contribute more effectively to productivity and reduce unemployment.
- **Social Equity:** Literacy and non-formal training empower rural citizens, and marginalized groups.
- **Democratic Governance:** An informed population makes wiser political decisions and demands accountability.
- **National Resilience:** Continuous learning prepares citizens to adapt to technological changes, climate change, and health crises.

## Conclusion

Continuing, adult, informal, and non-formal education are not side issues — they are central to governance. They empower citizens to participate in democracy, improve livelihoods, and build resilience in the face of change. Uganda's governance must therefore view education as a lifelong journey, ensuring opportunities for learning extend beyond schools and into every community.

## PRAYER GUIDE: CONTINUING, ADULT, INFORMAL, AND NON-FORMAL EDUCATION

### 1. Thanksgiving for the Gift of Lifelong Learning

- Thank God for the gift of knowledge and the many avenues through which people can learn, inside and outside classrooms.
- Appreciate the literacy programs, vocational trainings, apprenticeships, and community workshops already transforming lives in Uganda.

*Proverbs 1:5* — “Let the wise hear and increase in learning, and the one who understands obtain guidance.”

### 2. Repentance for Neglect

- Repent for the times when adult, informal, and non-formal education have been neglected in national priorities.
- Confess the exclusion of women, rural communities, and the poor from opportunities to acquire essential skills.

### 3. Prayer for Access and Inclusion

- Pray that governance will prioritize access to literacy and skills programs for marginalized groups: rural dwellers, refugees, the elderly, and those who dropped out of school.
- Ask God to remove barriers of poverty, distance, and gender bias that prevent citizens from accessing adult education.

*Galatians 3:28* — “There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”

### 4. Prayer for Governance and Policy Support

- Pray for the Ministry of Education and other government bodies to recognize lifelong learning as a right, not a privilege.
- Ask God to guide policymakers to fund and strengthen literacy campaigns, vocational institutes, and community learning centers.

*Proverbs 8:15–16* — “By me kings reign and rulers issue decrees that are just; by me princes govern, and nobles—all who rule on earth.”

#### **5. Prayer for Community-Based Learning**

- Pray for churches, NGOs, and community organizations that run adult literacy classes, skills workshops, and informal training.
- Ask God to multiply resources for these initiatives and to raise trainers who serve with integrity and passion.

*2 Timothy 2:2* — “And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others.”

#### **6. Prayer for Economic Empowerment**

- Pray that vocational and informal skills gained will translate into dignified work, entrepreneurship, and improved family livelihoods.
- Declare that Uganda’s people will not only seek jobs but will become job creators.

*Ecclesiastes 9:10* — “Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might.”

#### **7. Prayer for National Transformation**

- Pray that lifelong learning will shape wise citizens who can make sound decisions in governance, family, and community life.
- Declare that Uganda will rise as a nation where knowledge, wisdom, and understanding guide development.

#### **Closing Prayer**

Lord, You are the source of wisdom, knowledge, and understanding. We lift Uganda before You, asking that continuing, adult, informal, and non-formal education be strengthened as a pillar of governance. May no citizen be left behind because of illiteracy or lack of skills. Raise leaders who value lifelong learning, and empower communities to grow in knowledge and wisdom. Let education at all levels bring dignity, equity, and transformation to Uganda. In Jesus’ name, Amen.