

**SPEECH FOR
MORETELE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY MAYOR HON.
CLLR MASANGO GEORGE MANYIKE**

**DURING THE MEN'S SEMINAR
"MONNA THUBA TIDIMALO"**

18 APRIL 2024



Thank you, Programme Director

Hon. Cllrs Present

**Representatives from Moretele Christian Moral Regeneration
Ministries Fraternal**

Makapanstad SAPS led by Colonel Mathabe

Our Esteemed Guest Speakers

Officials

**Men from our communities and those afar who have graced this
important occasion**

Good morning!

Onward and upward with Men's seminar! Onward!

Ko Pele ka bo Rre ba Moretele, Ko Pele!

Ko Pele ka Bo Rre ba South Africa, Ko Pele!

Phantsi kadi phoso-phoso phantsi!

Programme Director, It's nice to be here! Kumnandi kuba lapha!

Thank you for inviting me to speak today not only as the Mayor but also as a colleague, a husband, a father, a brother, an uncle and a fellow brother. I am very pleased and honoured to join you on this important occasion – the first Moretele Local Municipality's Men's Seminar held under the theme "*Monna Thuba Tidimalo*".



First, I would like to say a big thank you to the organizers of this event for seeing it fit to hold an event such as this. It's been a long time coming and we appreciate that our Municipality has employed men and women who are visionaries and not only care about taking services to our people but cares about the wellbeing of their fellow colleagues and community at large. To everyone here, thank you honouring this invite – *together, we can do more.*

When we learn from each other, that's when we learn more about ourselves.

As I prepared for today's speech, my thoughts drifted back to the 80's and early 90's, when the world was a lot different then. Ours was simple, analog existence. I believe many of you here understand what I mean by that.

Let me try to explain. In our time, when you needed to communicate something important, you often did so by way of a handwritten note delivered by a trusted friend or someone closer to the person you are communicating the message to. It was the same as setting up a date to meet with someone – you planned the time and place weeks in advance. Come the day of the meeting, if they failed to show up, you were left guessing as to why.

Now, life is much simpler and yet complicated. We live in the digital age which has forced us to adapt and change how we live, work, and relate to one another.

I often hear people say they wished '*life had a manual*' or a *rewind button that they can press to make things right.*' Unfortunately, we cannot rewind it, nor predict it. We can fully experience it or learn from others.



Learning from others is a valuable skill that can boost your confidence and help you grow personally and professionally. I bet someone is saying in their heart “*easier said than done*”, right? The reward is in the doing. That is the challenge that most people struggle with.

I want to ask that as we continue this journey called **LIFE**, let us take time to **PAUSE** along the way and ask ourselves if “**WE ARE MAKING THE RIGHT CHOICES?**” Those of you who know radio personality, Thabo T-Bose Mokwele, he has written a book called **Pause – Are you making the right choices?**

I encourage you to go and buy the book. That’s the manual that can help you navigate adulthood and parenting. Ntate Malebye and his fellow organizers, please try to book Tbose in our next session. He may not come for free but try to book him so that he can come here, share his experiences, and unpack his book for us.

Today, we may not have Tbose but have listened to confessions from our own brothers from Moretele that we can all learn from. Thank you so much for sharing.

In closing, I would like to encourage you to maintain the five pillars of your personal wellness, being *financial health, physical health, mental, emotional health, and spiritual health*. By this I simply mean that, if your financial health is not okay, your physical, mental, and spiritual health will also not be okay. Let us use the resources made available to us in the institution and in government. We have social workers where one can go to get free professional counselling, etc, if you do not want to speak to your peers, family, or colleagues.

From today, I hope you all go to achieve greater things and become better men in all that you do. **Remember to pause and introspect!** Thank you!

