

PARTNERSHIPS For Training Pastors

Late August 2017

Thoughts From Dave- Our first session of the *Training the Trainers Project* is complete and it exceeded all expectations. With the goal of developing future biblical educators, nineteen participants gathered from three regions of Uganda. The Old Testament was our basic text and we illustrated the skills of biblical interpretation and teaching through lectures, small group study, discussion, and use of resources.

Together, we worshipped, studied, prayed, laughed, ate, and crossed cultural boundaries. I'll let pictures tell most of the story, but hopefully this Update illustrates why this Project is important for the church in Uganda. Session 2 is scheduled for December, so please keep praying for this Project! Joyce and I are grateful for your commitment to stand with the global church, this ministry, and us!



Oyam



Regional Representatives

Masaka and Central Regions



Kampala Baptist Church



Large Group Activities

Pastor Abel Spoke on a Biblical View of African Traditional Religion



Pastor Andrew Led Discussions on Money and Sexual Integrity



This Training Addresses Several Ugandan Church Challenges

- Lack of theological and biblical foundation in many churches
- Deadly influence of the Health, Wealth and Prosperity gospel
- Growing Muslim presence in society and government
- Uganda ranks #2 in world with 48.3 % of the nation's population under the age of 15 years
- Functional illiteracy of 60 % of Ugandan pastors
- The need for a new generation of biblically trained pastors

Biblical Resources Provided



Student Reports



How the Old Testament Fits Together



Our vision is to encourage and equip less-resourced pastors and church leaders through biblical teaching and resources. Beginning in Uganda, we will assist church leaders and mission partners as they nurture pastors and develop emerging leaders to the glory of God.

Small Group Study



Meals



How would you answer some of the questions raised by the participants?

Why did God keep quiet for 400 years (after Malachi)?

I want to know about Nehemiah, Ezra, Esther and Ruth. Are they prophets too? If not, how do we call them?

Can people get saved by keeping the law?

Since Jesus is the one through whom we get saved - what about those who died during the time of the law?

What is your opinion about a person burning a Bible translation? (One Kampala pastor burned KJV Bibles because the Holy Spirit is identified as the Holy Ghost.)

Is it fine for Christians to call upon the spirit of the dead, because we see Saul calling Samuel (1 Samuel 28:1-25)?

Please Pray With Us

Give thanks for the active involvement of each participant in Session 1. Pray for them as seek to put biblical principles into practice.

Pray for Christ to shine as they study Mark's Gospel in preparation for December's Session 2.

Pray for the ministry environment of each participant so that their growth in biblical understanding and Christ-like character will be evident to all.

Pray for Uganda as it faces significant issues as mentioned on page 1.

Pray for Joyce as she wraps up her working days at Cornell University.

Pray for Dave's upcoming September 18 – October 9 trip to Singapore and Timor, Indonesia.

Thanks for your prayers and support!

Summary of Training the Trainers Project Session 1

- This first session focused on an Old Testament overview to illustrate how it fits together and points to Jesus Christ.
- To teach how the biblical story progressed through centuries, names of Old Testament books were placed on the wall in chronological order as Dave retold the story (picture on page 1).
- The Pentateuch, Historical, Poetical and Prophetic sections were studied through lectures and small group activities.
- Study assignments required brief presentations of biblical texts highlighting proper interpretation principles.
- Character qualities were emphasized as we considered the use of money and the importance of a leader's sexual integrity.
- The African Bible Commentary and other biblical resources were provided to enhance the participant's study of Scripture.
- The group returned home with resources, encouragement to apply lessons learned, and assignments to study Mark's Gospel.
- Prayer, fellowship and worship brought our hearts together as we spent these five days in Kampala.