

Thoughts From Dave

One never is certain how transport works in Africa. Sure, the standard options are available – cars, busses, airplanes, bicycles, ubiquitous motorcycles, and one’s feet, but transit schedules always depend on outside forces. Recent travel included flight delays by a South African Airline cabin crew strike and various car malfunctions. Yes, there are several good stories to tell but in the end patience and confidence in God’s providential care was the lesson learned.

These delays gave time to interact with our partners in significant ways. I’m convinced that God’s timing is not always understandable, but his ways are always “right on time”. Hebrews 11:1 reminds us that “faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.” So, I’m learning to see life’s delays as provision and protection from God’s hand rather than an inconvenience. Admittedly, it’s not easy to remember, but it is a necessary quality for the new opportunities that God continues to bring our way. How about you?

Uganda – April 17-25

The week in Kampala was full of vibrant celebration and intentional preparation for future ministry. Working with Daudi Nkuggwa is always a delight as we outlined the course work for the upcoming August and December *Trainer of Trainers Project*. Currently, there are twenty individuals selected for these weeklong events that focus on developing biblical educators for future pastoral training in three regions of Uganda. More details will be forthcoming in the June and July Updates, but you can visit the “*schedule*” page on www.partnershipsfortraining.org for an introduction of the Project and tentative overviews for the 2017 sessions.

The celebration component was the wedding of Jemima Mwenge and David Kaweesi on April 22. Jemima is the daughter of our good friends and ministry partners, Andrew and Edith Mwenge, and I had the great honor and privilege of being the officiant of the ceremony. The church was filled with family, friends, and ministry colleagues creating a wonderful day of celebrating God’s faithfulness in their lives. At the end of the day, there was great rejoicing in all that God had done through the years and in their family.



Zambia – April 26 – May 6

The Pastors and Church Leaders Conference was designed for study and fellowship. Over seventy leaders attended and spent three full days studying the Old Testament books dealing with the Exile and return from captivity. Since 2015, this is the fifth Conference that focused on *Christ in the Old Testament*. As we studied Ezekiel some clarity began to emerge in the participants. One pastor stated that now he is beginning to see how Ezekiel can be taught and preached in the church where he serves. In addition, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, as well as Haggai, Zechariah and Malachi, were studied to give the big picture of God’s redemptive work in his people.

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A short video of the Fimpulu Pastor's Conference can be found at www.partnershipsfortraining.org under the video section of our website or at https://youtu.be/wJ9H_tnT5L8.

Zambia – April 26 – May 6

The teaching and travel in Zambia was shared with Pastor Mike Paris from Ithaca. This was Mike's second trip to Zambia and he is just hitting his stride in cross-cultural settings. We enjoyed sharing of ministry and life together, with many times of prayer and laughs along the way. Mike has a growing heart for Africa and I look forward to seeing how he will be used in partnering with the African church for the glory of God.

Our hosts were Jeremy and Bethany Colvin of Choshen Farm in Fimpulu Zambia. Their vision is amazing as they seek Christ's peace for Fimpulu and the Mansa District. They described the Conference in these words: *"We are giving praise for God's grace during our most recent pastor's conference. Despite travel challenges for Dave and Mike, the Conference was fantastic and we are so encouraged by the local pastors - as always. Please pray that they would be continually refreshed and that the Word of God would continue to bear fruit in their lives!"* Thanks Lord for your presence among us!

Pictures from the Pastor and Church Leaders Conference



Prayer Requests

- Pray for Jeremy Colvin's follow-up connections with the Mansa pastors
- Pray for the preparation of material for the August Training of Trainers Sessions.
- Please continue to pray for the finances needed for ministry in 2017.
- Give thanks for the partnerships God has established through the years and for the upcoming opportunities in Uganda and Indonesia.
- Pray for Joyce and me as we consider the timing for Joyce to stop working and begin to travel to several ministry locations to serve together.
- Pray for our partners and the ministry that God continues to give to them.

If you would like to provide a gift toward the August Training of Trainers Project go to the "support" page of our website and look for the New Horizons Foundation information on how to give. Thank you!

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