



Mid-December 2017

Training the Trainers Project on December 2 – 7 in Kampala, Uganda



Psalms 133 begins with these words: “How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity”. That’s what we just experienced in this second installment of *Training the Trainers Project*. Though it is not common in Uganda, there is something beautiful when differences of geographical regions and language melt away at the feet of Jesus.

This session focused on the Gospels and our study yielded an emphasis on following Jesus as God’s Kingdom people. Highlighting the attitudes and actions of the Kingdom, as found in the Sermon on the Mount, provided enough fodder for vibrant discussions and learning to occur.



We also considered prayer as modeled and taught by our Lord. Ugandan Health & Wealth preachers present prayer as the key to prosperity. The Lord’s Prayer addresses this aberrant focus by stressing a complete view of life in relationship with our Father in Heaven. This study led to a time of concerted prayer by the entire group as we focused on the majesty of God and our relational response to him and others he brings into our lives.



Pastor Abel Segirinya is a Masaka partner who joined us to teach on conflict resolution. As one of the regional church leaders, Pastor Abel is skilled at identifying ways to resolve issues and promote reconciliation between differing parties. These themes naturally flowed from the Sermon on the Mount, as Jesus emphasized the need for honest and peaceful interactions that displays the power of the gospel. Practical illustrations permeated the teaching.

Studying Jesus’ parables, in Luke’s Gospel, emphasized one of the primary teaching methods of our Lord. Parables come from common life situations and are designed to illustrate or teach a spiritual truth. Jesus began many Kingdom parables with the words: “The kingdom of heaven is like” with the intended emphasis of describing the quality and nature of God’s Kingdom as it grows and impacts the world. It was in the midst of this study, we learned of the passing of a good friend to this ministry.



Only 30 years old, Patrick Seruyange was a gifted videographer who produced last year’s video on Masaka’s emerging leaders. He died as a result of kidney failure. We all attended the funeral at Kampala Baptist Church and after the service Pastor Andrew debriefed us on the role funeral services play in the life of a local church. This was a teachable moment in the development of these individuals for future teaching ministry.



On the last day, each participant was required to make a short presentation on a theme from John’s Gospel. As a result, we were better challenged to know Jesus, his righteousness, and the influence of Kingdom values for the various locations where the Lord has placed us. Through the included pictures we hope you can catch a feel for the dynamics of our time together. Thanks for continuing to pray for this Project. We look toward to the three sessions already planned for February, August and December of 2018.



Final thoughts: Joyce and I are so grateful for you and the global partnerships God has provided. Together, we embrace the privilege of serving Christ and his Kingdom. In a few weeks, you will receive a summary of 2017 ministry along with a look into 2018 plans. Thanks for your prayers, your loving support and your consistent encouragement as we walk into a new year. We wish you a very Merry Christmas!

Merry Christmas from our Global Partners and everyone connected with Partnerships For Training Pastors!

As we come to the end of 2017, should you desire to give a year-end gift that will enable future ministry, please go to our website and give through <http://partnershipsfortraining.org/support/> or visit <http://newhorizonsfoundation.com/waytogive>. Currently, we are at approximately 55% of our stated \$20,000 goal for year-end giving. Thanks for considering how you might help us meet this goal.

