

## August Trip Update

**Opening Thoughts:** Back in Ithaca after a two-week trip to Uganda, I (Dave) am still reflecting on how God is working as we invest in the long-range development of pastoral and church leadership. Through the Training the Trainers Project and our Emerging Leaders group in Masaka, our commitment is to nurture this new generation of pastors and church leaders at this time in Uganda's history. Currently, 75% of Uganda's population is under thirty years of age and the future political climate is very cloudy. In the midst of these and other challenges, we are grateful for our partnership with Kampala Baptist Church and look forward to all that God has for us as we serve together in building God's kingdom in this great nation. With grateful hearts, *Dave and Joyce*



### *Training of Trainers Project (TOTP)*

What a group! These pastors and leaders, from three regions of Uganda, were selected by regional church leadership to become theological trainers of others. Three times each year, we meet in Kampala for intense study followed by specific training assignments as the group returns to their village/town. Our times together have been refreshing and a deep bond of fellowship exists across tribal and regional boundaries. "We are in this together!" was a common refrain expressed throughout the week and pointed to a renewed realization of the shared grace that the Lord is giving to this group.

Each TOTP sessions includes study of God's Word. This one focused on *The Acts of the Apostles*, which led to discussions of present-day application of the book, as well as approaches to gospel communication today. An overview of Church History was a natural topic to pursue alongside ACTS.

In addition, the skill of biblical interpretation was put into practice as each person taught on a section of 1 Corinthians. They were required to provide a brief summary of the context, Paul's response to the issue found in the text, and then apply the passage to today's church. Each one had 10 minutes to accomplish this task, because the ability to summarize and apply is a necessary skill in the development of these trainers. As Oyam's Pastor Nelson emphasized, these "individual presentations made me learn a lot."



Meals become a time of relationship building and serve as an important part of the Training Project. That's why Moses *Kaweesi* thanks God for "the testimonies from fellow ministers that keep me going." *Gabit Mukiibi* loves the connection with different pastors as they share their life experiences in ministry. *Pastor Samuel Oola* expressed his gratefulness for "the spirit of love, togetherness and unity among the Training of Trainers and Partners who are facilitating the training, plus the commitment among us." *Pastor Aurilo Twegye* states that he "appreciates the time that we can be with our fellow pastors in training from the beginning until now that we are one." This fellowship is beautiful to see.

*Pastor Dan Waswa Wasswa* is relatively new to the group. A computer programmer by education, Dan is a first-time pastor at Entebbe Baptist Church. He is "grateful for the fellowship and the study of Scripture that has taught me how to deeply understand the Word of God – with its application in our current times." Also, *Pastor Felix Bagende* writes of his gratitude for "the inspiration of the Holy Spirit through the course/week. I have enjoyed. I am also grateful for the biblical tools provided. I am gonna use it."

As one can see, the combination of teaching and study materials, in addition to the warm interaction of the participants, illustrate the joy of this Partnership Project. Thanks for your prayers and for your support. They really make a difference!



*Our vision is to encourage and equip less-resourced pastors and church leaders through biblical teaching and development of 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.*

### ***Biblical Resources Provided for Trainers Project***

Our goal is to establish a constant flow of material that these Trainers can use in their training of others. In this session, we provided copies of John Stott's **"The Message of Acts" (Bible Speaks Today Commentary)** and a study guide that we produced on Acts and principles for the study of New Testament Epistles. Also included in these materials are notes on church history, preaching skills, team leadership and other important leadership themes. Several trainers responded by stating how much these resources mean to them!

*"I am grateful for the wonderful leadership training and the material that I received from the Training the Trainers Project. It really made an easy way of communicating the Word of God and togetherness as church leaders in all of the regions of Uganda. Pastor George Mike Nam*

*"I am grateful for the materials that I receive every time I come for this training." Pastor Edison*



### ***Emerging Leaders in Kinoni– August 10-12***

This session was the third gathering of Masaka region's Emerging Leaders in 2018. Since the last one in May, two young men from the group have become pastors of local churches. Others continue to be involved as youth ministry leaders, worship leaders, and assistant pastors. It is very exciting to see the personal growth in these young adults each time we meet.

Of course, our partnership with Pastor Abel and Pastor Amos, two Masaka District church leaders, is a crucial part of this Emerging Leaders effort. Both men, and their wives, have a wonderful impact on this younger generation.



The picture on the left is of Pastor Abel (C), Moses Kaweesi (L) and Innocent Dave (R). These two young adults are from Kinoni where Pastor Abel has served as their pastor and mentor. Moses is involved in TOTP as well as the Emerging Leaders Group, while David is one of the two Emerging Leaders now pastoring a church in the Masaka Region. We thank God for the on-going work of the Holy Spirit in all these young leaders and for the mentor's heart that God has given to Pastor Abel and Pastor Amos.

During our time together, we spent an extended time praying for one another and the ministry into which God has placed each one. Being with these young adults causes us to pray for their continued spiritual growth amidst the challenges of everyday life in Uganda. We ask that you join us in praying for this new generation of leaders as they serve in the roles God is giving them right now. Thanks!



#### ***Prayer Requests***

***Keep Pastor Abel and Pastor Amos in your prayers as they encourage these Emerging Leaders in ministry.***

***Pray for the continued growth of the Emerging Leaders as they serve Christ in unique ways in their individual locations.***

***Pray for the TOTP participants as they develop seminars and other training events in their villages and towns between now and November 26.***

***Pray for our preparation of teaching material on the Sermon on the Mount for the upcoming trip to Zambia.***

***Keep the nation of Uganda in your prayers as it navigates some political turbulence at the present time.***

***Give thanks with us that God is at work in these training efforts.***

#### ***Upcoming Teaching Trips***

***September 19 – October 6*** – Joyce and Dave in Uganda for 2019-2020 ministry planning and in Fimpulu, Zambia for our 7<sup>th</sup> Training of Pastors and Church Leaders with Choshen Farm.

***November 2-9***– Dave in Haiti for rescheduled Pastoral Training with GivingAll organization.

***November 24- December 4*** – Dave in Kampala for another Training the Trainers Project session.

***January 10 -28*** – Dave and Joyce in Uganda for Training Trainers Project, Emerging Leaders and Large Group Masaka Pastors Training.

***A Word of Thanks*** - I am grateful for having been in Dr. Dave Jones' Training of Trainers Project. I have learnt to share the Gospel with both the Old and New Testaments of the Bible backgrounds. Thank you for standing with Dr. Dave Jones and in particular supporting us. Pastor Ronald Daniel Walyemira