



The steadfast love  
of the Lord never ceases;  
**HIS MERCIES**  
never come to an end; they are  
*New every Morning;*  
great is your faithfulness.

*Lamentations 3:22-23*

**"The Lord's Perfect Timing ...Again!"**



We never grow tired of seeing the Lord work! His mercies and compassions are new every morning, and that is truth we can rest in even as we face difficult times, frustrations, and hardships.

Sometimes we receive a great new ministry idea, but the timing isn't right for it to begin. Tension develops between the Lord's perfect timing and our desire to move forward quickly. We sense the idea will truly help those the Lord has called us to serve, but we must spend time in prayer as we wait on His confirmation. It is never good to go it alone when spiritual things are involved, so if we want to stay in God's will, we must walk with Him—moving forward in faith led by the Holy Spirit. Here's a recent example...

*"Not by might nor by power,  
but by My Spirit, says the LORD of hosts."  
Zechariah 4:6*

Janice began doing research for her seminary master's thesis in 2014, which centered on the practice of Tanzanian widows being disinherited by their deceased husband's family. Disinheritance became prevalent after the government abolished the practice of Levirate marriages, a biblical custom by which a man is obliged to marry his brother's widow. Levirate marriage may seem repulsive to those living in western society, but it is still common in many cultures today and can provide a safety net for women in vulnerable societies, affording them financial security and physical protection.

Three years of interactive research along with many opportunities to teach the biblical approach to dating, marriage, and parenting to native women revealed the physical and emotional difficulties Tanzanian women face. Their average lifespan is 51 years, and statistics say she will spend 18 of those as a widow raising her children



alone. She lives on land that was given to her husband upon their marriage, but which reverts to his family upon his death. The only way she can stay is to agree to a voluntary Levirate marriage (still practiced in some villages) or else agree to never marry again and allow the land to pass to her deceased husband's natural children. If she declines either of these options, she can be disinherited and pushed off the land, often being forced to give up her children as well.

Janice also conducted women's seminars in villages, helping them hear God's heart about how husbands are to love and protect their wives (Ephesians 5:25-33), and how God has instructed widows to be cared for (1 Timothy 5:3-16). Excited, they began to dig deeper into His Word for hope and encouragement. Soon it became impossible for Janice to keep up with the demand for new seminars. Would she have to be content with just scratching the surface of the need, or did the Lord have something greater in mind?



In 2015 the Lord brought us 8 spiritually mature women, and they went through the full 30-day pastoral training program. Several were skilled enough to complete Inductive Bible Study (IBS) Teacher Training and became certified to teach, but then we had to ask, "How does the Lord want us to utilize them?" We struggled and prayed over this, searching for a biblical approach and solution; then the Lord showed up with His answer!

This past November, Janice met with 11 women to finish discussing her research work. Seven were wives of current ICM ministers. The other four were the certified IBS instructors. Two days of in-depth Bible teaching on how the church might make a positive impact on the lives of dispossessed widows based on Scripture, and significant discussions about current trends, all brought forth amazing results—enriching and confirming the





**Above: Some of the women involved in research. Front row, far right is Regina, a 2-time widow, pastor and IBS instructor.**

research project. The women prayed and implored Janice to conduct this training across the country, but in the midst of her pointing out that they themselves could do it better and faster, the vision for an exciting new IBS-based training program—designed by and for women—was birthed. The program would be brought to women across Tanzania, conducted by the four IBS-certified women. They were the Lord’s answer to their own prayers! Wow! Sounds just like Matthew 9:38!

***“Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.”***  
Matthew 9:38

Two full days of IBS foundation will ensure the priority and centrality of the Bible in the seminars, and a



full day of inductively-taught lessons on women’s topics will help them understand their God-ordained roles as wife, mother, widow, and godly woman in their church and village. It will also deter any men from wanting to attend! These are the right women, at the right time, to carry out God’s plan to spread His Word!

***“...Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?”*** Esther 4:14b

Please pray for these ladies and Janice as they prepare the specially tailored. Our prayer is that these seminars will begin by April 2017 and provide much-needed instruction and encouragement for the women of Tanzania.



**Above: Itikisaeli is a pastor and IBS instructor.**



**(Above): Pendo is also a pastor and IBS instructor. (L): Amalia is a widow, pastor, and IBS instructor.**

Catch up on our personal journey through our website news, and find many more pictures there.

[www.JimAndJaniceLarson.com](http://www.JimAndJaniceLarson.com)



# Picture of the Month



The Mt Meru Pastoral Training Center was built almost exclusively with funds saved over the last few years by one of the ICM-TZ pastor-instructors because he wanted to see more training brought to another area of the country. The building in the foreground is a dormitory; building on the left is a dining hall, and the building in the background is the new classroom. This facility will free up thousands of dollars to do more seminars because the pastor is not going to charge for its use! Praise the Lord!

## CONTRIBUTIONS PAYABLE & MAILED TO:

Intensive Care Ministries  
P.O. Box 109  
Mentone, CA 92359-0109

Note "LARSON" in Memo of check

On-line giving available via PayPal on our website



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## PRAYER ITEMS

Pray for our furlough schedule, family visits, reports to churches, conferences, and new support partners.

- Feb 3-6, Canon City CO
- Feb 7-9, St Petersburg FL
- Feb 10-20, Fort Walton Beach FL
- Feb 21-Mar 2, St Petersburg FL
  - Mar 3-6, Greeneville TN
  - Mar 8, Return to Tanzania