

HEART FOR AFRICA
"TRANSFORMING BIBLICAL PREACHING ONE PASTOR AT A TIME"
FEBRUARY 2019

*"Who among all these does not know
that the hand of the LORD has done this,
in whose hand is the life of every living thing,
and the breath of all mankind?"
Job 12:9-10*

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The Hand of the Lord

Once again our faithful, merciful Lord has brought us through an extremely busy and trying season of ministry work overlaid with many happenings in our personal lives. We visited our family over the holidays, attended a productive mission conference, and were blessed by Jim being officially ordained as a pastor. While reflecting on the Lord's many blessings, we also thought of our friend, Bishop Eddy--the man responsible for bringing the latest campus to fruition in the Morogoro region of Tanzania. He is one of our Inductive Bible Study instructors and the national director for his denomination.

Bishop Eddy has a large church property which had been forcibly taken from him by a group of Muslims some time before we met him and his family in 2013. After 5 years of legal fights in the courts, he finally received a favorable judgement from the government and was able to retake possession of his property last year. Seeing the hand of God at work to successfully bring him through this trying crisis, he offered us the full use of his property...to take whatever buildings we needed to establish a Bible college campus. There would be no cost to purchase the land or pay rent; all we had to do was select the buildings, then restore and equip them for use. What a blessing, and we could see the Spirit of God at work in Bishop Eddy's heart on behalf of the ministry.

"I will sing of the mercies of the LORD forever; with my mouth will I make known Your faithfulness to all generations."

Psalm 89:1

The need for a campus to our south was great because it was a costly, 2-day journey for students from the farthest reaches of Tanzania to attend one of the other campuses. A facility in Morogoro would put pastors from the central and southern regions within a day's journey from training, and it would open with a 2-year backlog of students!

Bishop Eddy presented us with a reasonable plan and budget for the rehabilitation work. Six months later we had a fully functioning Bible College campus with a

dormitory, classroom, dining hall, and bathrooms sized to accommodate twenty students and two instructors. Though some finishing work remained, we held the first 10-day session there in June 2018. Those students will graduate in 2020.

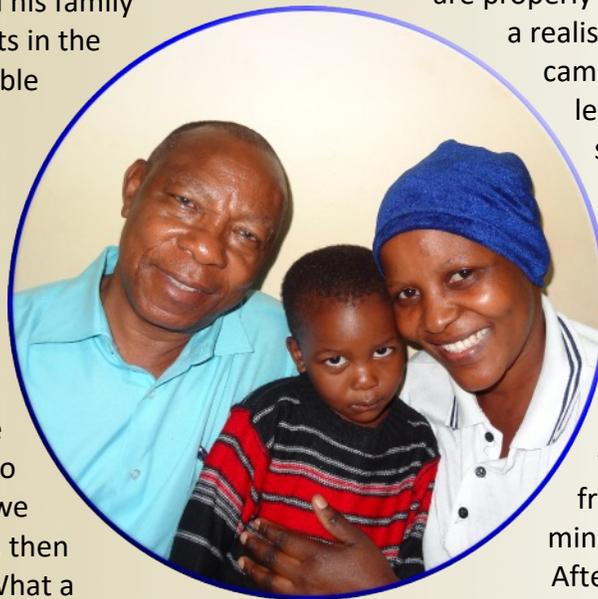
"Ah, Lord GOD! It is you who have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and by your outstretched arm! Nothing is too hard for you."

Jeremiah 32:17

Bishop Eddy serves superbly as the principal (on-site administrator), ensuring the myriad of organizing details are properly carried out by his staff. We create a realistic college atmosphere at each campus to ensure the best possible learning environment for the students. It is the principal who ensures a strict schedule is adhered to which frees up the instructors to focus fully on their teaching preparations. Days start early and go late. The rigorous schedule helps accomplish lofty learning objectives while ensuring that each pastor/student is away from their church for the absolute minimum time.

After the first 10-day session was completed, Bishop Eddy began to work in earnest to smooth out many rough edges and other details to have the campus ready for its planned dedication in November 2018. He had his hands full getting things ready in just a few short months! Jim made the long bus ride to Morogoro for the dedication on November 2. It was amazing to see how the campus had been transformed from the June session. Interestingly, the students had no beds, but were still sleeping on mats on the floor because they had not raised it as an issue from the June session! That wheel didn't squeak, so it didn't get greased! The students were so happy to be sitting under the outstanding

Above: Bishop Eddy with his wife, Neema (Grace), and their 15th child, Eddy Jr. Neema oversees all the cooking and cleaning on the campus.



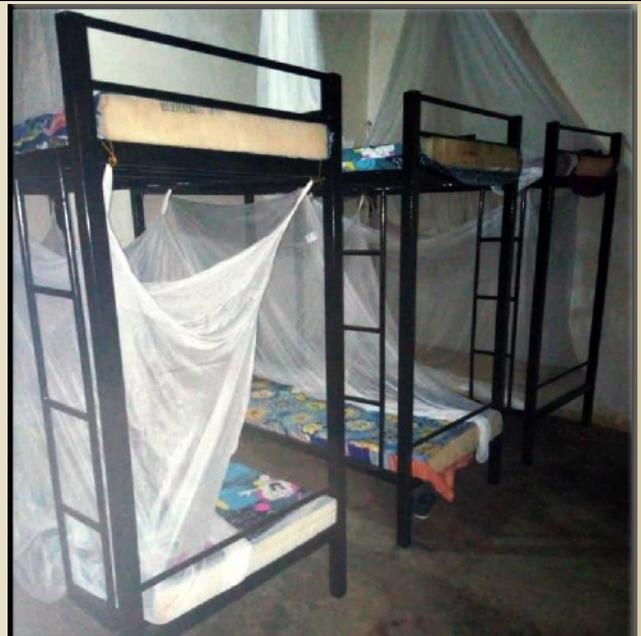


teaching of Pastors Silas and Jeremiah that they were willing to overlook a minor discomfort. Still, we resolved to correct that in short order! Within 30 days Bishop Eddy had 22 quality beds in place.

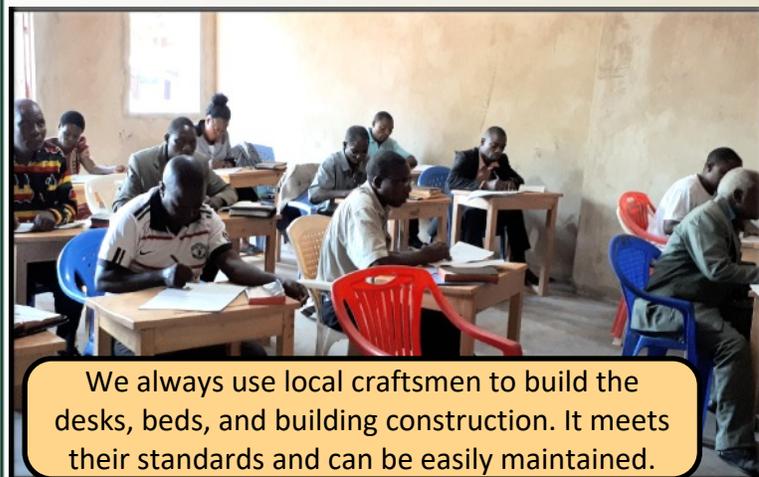
"I AM the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."
John 8:12

The dedication was a wonderful event not just for the college, but also for the village. Bishop Eddy is a man of renown and influence within his village. As we walked around in the evenings, everyone knew him and took the time to exchange greetings with him. Many of them mentioned how the campus would bring the light of God's Word to the village. Interestingly, Muslims from the group who had taken over the property made it a point to stop by and wish us well. Bishop Eddy said they had all made peace among themselves. Maybe the light has already started to transform the village!

"When a man's ways please the LORD, He makes even his enemies to be at peace with him."
Proverbs 16:7



Above: Mattresses on the floor with mosquito nets for early sessions, but nice bunk beds were built and put in place afterward.



We always use local craftsmen to build the desks, beds, and building construction. It meets their standards and can be easily maintained.



The campuses provide jobs for local men and women. A win-win!

Picture of the Month



ICM Board members (L-R) Doug Finlayson, Pastor Tim Anderson, and Pastor Dan Finrock praying over and ordaining Jim on January 6 in recognition of the call placed on him by God to teach His word and shepherd and disciple other pastors around the world.

CONTRIBUTIONS PAYABLE & MAILED TO:

Intensive Care Ministries
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Mentone, CA 92359-0109

Note "LARSON" in Memo of check

On-line giving available through our website



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PRAYER REQUESTS

- Praise that we graduated another class of students from the Meru campus at the end of January!
- We conducted Level 3 & 4 seminars in western Kenya in January, continuing preparations to identify our first class of Kenyan pastors to receive the college training. Pray for discernment and God's timing.
- Pray for Class #3 who has their final session and graduation at Meru 6-15 February. Remember the IBS instructors (men & women) who are doing seminars around the country this month.
- Our other ministries with the secondary school and university-bound students has also resumed. They are both every Sunday. Pray for their hearts to be prepared as good soil to receive God's word.
- We are now teaching a government-mandated religion class to 6th graders at a local elementary school every Monday morning. We are teaching straight from the Bible using expositional methods. Pray for these young hearts as well.