

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

*"Is not my word like a  
fire?" says the Lord,  
"And like a hammer that  
breaks the rock in pieces?"*

Jeremiah 23:29

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We were blessed to have one of the ICM board members join us early this summer to participate in teaching and officiating at two campus graduations. Pastor Tim Anderson has come to teach here at least six times since 2012, and the ICM-TZ staff have a special place for him in their hearts. Here are his thoughts:

In June I had the pleasure of completing the Grand Slam of visiting all four of the ICM Bible College campuses in Tanzania: Moshi, Meru, Mwanza and Morogoro. I like to think of them as the 4 M's!

Our first stop on this trip was Mwanza. I had met the principal of this campus before, Bishop Suleman, and was excited to see the work there first hand. The rocks surrounding this city on Lake Victoria are legendary, but I

had no idea how big they really were. When the Bishop was showing me around the campus, he told me they broke up the giant rocks and used them to build the foundation of the church, classroom, and dormitory. I asked him, "How do they



break up these giant stones?" He said, "With fire and a hammer!" I thought this was hardly possible.

My job that week in Mwanza was to help put the finishing touches on the 52 days (2.5 years) of training by teaching Church History and through the book of Daniel. Those two courses go together nicely as God has given us history in advance through prophecy, and studying church



history alongside that is wonderful confirmation. I taught Daniel with Pastor Silas, and Pastor Loth taught history. This was a special blessing for me because these two men were part of the first class in Tanzania which I taught back in 2012. To watch them teach so effectively now was perhaps the biggest blessing of the trip!

On Friday—after finishing all the coursework (complete with the nightly student preaching - another highlight for me!)—we prepared for graduation and the dedication of the new dormitory. Although the campus opened in October of 2018, there was no housing for the students at that time. But over the last 8 months, Bishop Suleman was able to construct this final component to the campus. As I was praying for what to share on this special occasion, a Scripture came to mind:

*"The prophet who has a dream,  
let him tell the dream;  
And he who has My word,  
let him speak My word faithfully.  
What is the chaff to the wheat?" says the Lord.  
"Is not my word like a fire?" says the Lord,  
"And like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?"*

Jeremiah 23:28-29

I felt led to share with Bishop Suleman on that dormitory dedication day that the Lord indeed had given him a vision to build. The very method of Mwanza construction is in the Bible! Fire and a hammer! But the truth is that it is the Word of God that is *THE* tool with which to build eternally. We are not just building buildings; we are building men up to teach the Word. We are helping to grow pastors who will feed the flock of God.

As I prayed more, I did not just see the rocks, but I saw a giant tree. The blessing I read over the new dormitory was Psalm 1:

*"Blessed is the man who walks not in  
the counsel of the ungodly,  
nor stands in the path of sinners,  
nor sits in the seat of the scornful;  
but his delight is in the law of the LORD,  
and in His law he meditates day and night.  
He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water,  
that brings forth its fruit in its season,  
whose leaf also shall not wither;  
and whatever he does shall prosper."*

Psalm 1:1-3

Now everyone who has taken the ICM inductive Bible study seminar loves this psalm! It felt so appropriate as a blessing to speak over this campus, the new dormitory, and the first graduating class of students! So we prayed, "Lord bless this Mwanza campus. In my spirit I don't see



rocks, but I see a giant tree with roots deep in the Word of God! It is full of leaves to provide shade and full of fruit to feed the people. It is the blessing of the Word of God. May everyone who steps on this campus experience that blessing. We pray this in Jesus' name, Amen!"

From Mwanza, we flew back to Moshi and then caught a bus for a full day's journey to the south which brought us to the Morogoro campus. We would lead another group of students to the finish line studying again Daniel and Church History. I had never been in the southern part of Tanzania before. This particular city is 50% Muslim with a large Muslim University. Sure enough, as Bishop Eddie showed us around the campus, he shared the most astonishing testimony. His church property had once been targeted and taken away by Muslims. He struggled in court for 5 years before it was rightfully restored. My words here cannot do this story



justice. All I can say is that this man has been through the fire and has emerged absolutely filled with joy and committed to raising up as many pastors as possible. This first graduating class is the firstfruits of many more to come

God is doing a great work in Tanzania right now. He is multiplying pastors who are equipped to teach the Word of God. At this stage in the game, He is largely using the Tanzanians who have caught the vision for training and are running with it! The gold standard of discipleship is 2 Timothy 2:2, *"And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also."* I count four generations of faith in that one verse! We go from Paul to Timothy, to faithful men, to others also. It is like father, son, grandson, and great-grandson. Because we are talking about spiritual generations and not physical generations, four generations of faith can happen much faster. We are watching that multiplication happen in Tanzania now. It is a privilege to be a part of it!



**Left Page, Center: The rocky ground that surrounds the Bible college.**

**Left Page, Bottom: Pastor Loth hugging Pastor Tim, trying to keep him from leaving!**

**Right Page, Top Left: Pastor Tim, Bishop Suleman, Jim and Pastor Silas dedicating the dormitory**

**Left Page, Center: Jim and Tim in Mwanza**

**Left Page, Bottom: Graduates and instructors in Morogoro**

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

## An Amazing Victory!

Pastor Victory graduated with the Morogoro group in June of this year. It's been a long, hard road for her, as she began her training in 2013. She should have graduated in 2016, but her husband (beside her) suddenly went blind a few years ago and she had to drop out to care for him. He miraculously regained his sight after a year, and she rejoined the program and became one of our female IBS teachers. Then her husband was injured badly in a car accident early this year, and she missed her scheduled final session and graduation date. But he recovered again and stood by her side for this important moment. Praise God!



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## PRAYER REQUESTS

- Pray for our final week of home assignment in Florida August 1-7. It has gone by very quickly!
- Pray for our travel back to Tanzania August 8-9, as ministry ramps up again on the 10<sup>th</sup>.
- We praise the Lord for the college sessions and IBS seminars that continued while we were away, and those scheduled for this month.
- We give praise for supporters stepping up to meet many of the ministry needs that have been shared over the last few weeks and thank God for their partnership in His work.
- Pray for Jim as he travels to Uganda the 24<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> of this month to train pastors in the northwestern part of the country.