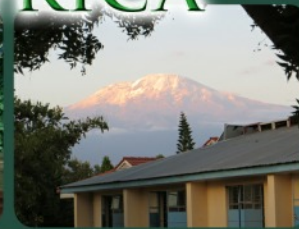


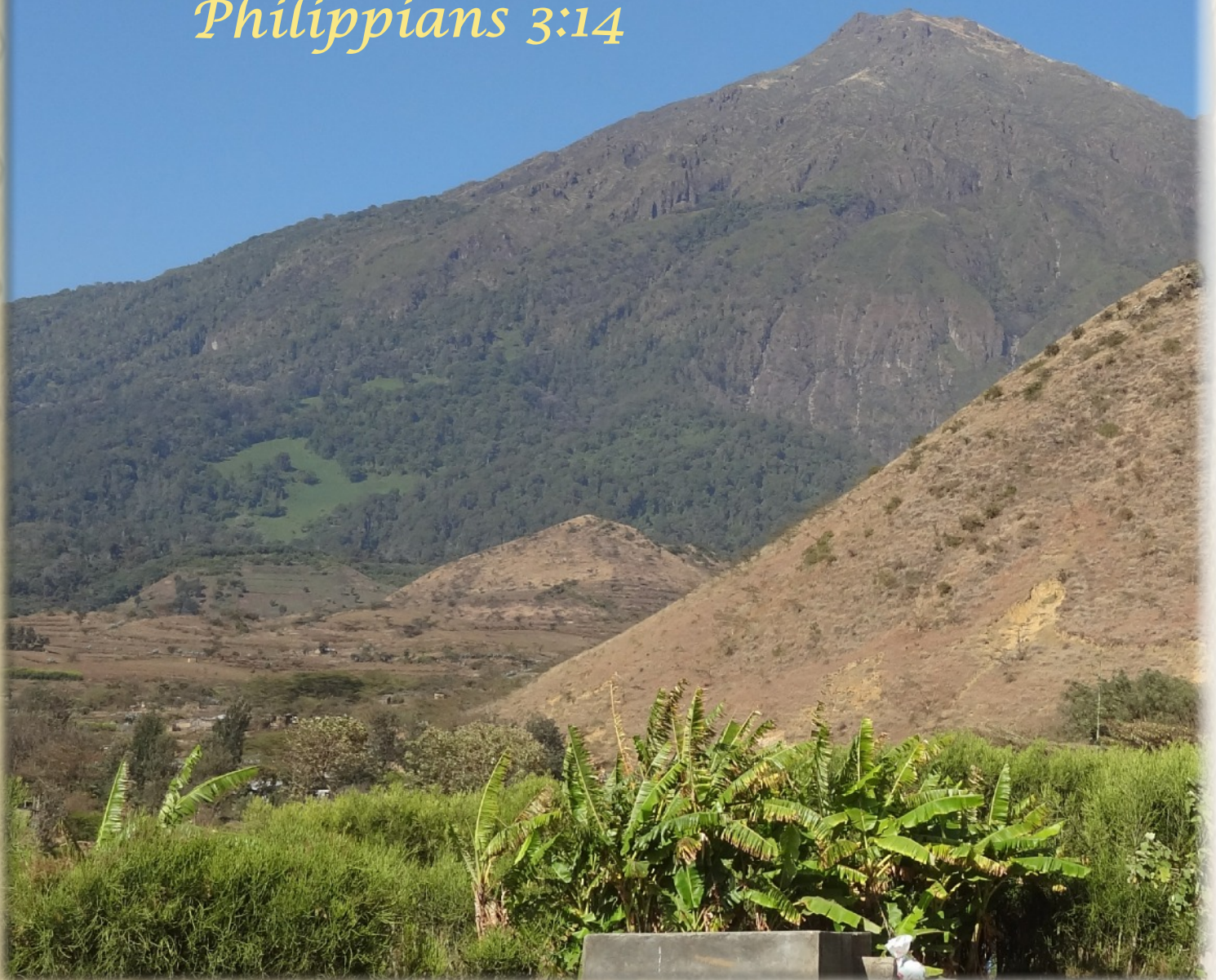
HEART-FOR-AFRICA



October 2016

Larson Mission Update

*"I press toward the goal
for the prize of the upward
call of God in Christ Jesus."
Philippians 3:14*



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The striking cover picture of majestic Mount Meru serves as a vivid picture of how we strive toward the goal...of the upward call of God we have in Christ. Though Mt. Meru cannot boast of being the highest peak in Africa, it does promise a challenging climb due to its steepness and ruggedness.

Mt. Meru will now help our faithful team of ministers remember when they first began an amazing new feature of our seminar program that will help transform pastoral ministry across Tanzania and East Africa. It was over 2 years in prayer, planning, and preparation before its August launch in the Meru area! Let us explain its genesis.

We experienced great fruit from our commitment to teach the expository preaching method to pastors in a way that is culturally relevant and effective. We have found that the more contact time we have with a pastor and the more experience that pastor has with using the expository method, the better he becomes at teaching God's Word to his people.

"So they read distinctly from the book, in the Law of God; and they gave the sense, and helped them to understand the reading."
Nehemiah 8:8

Contact time comes through the various seminar levels we offer, including our capstone 30-day Level 6 seminar (Mt. Kilimanjaro Pastoral Training Center-MKPTC) that is spread over three 10-day sessions. There we teach Acts, Romans, and Revelation to select pastors using the expository method in order to equip them with the tools and knowledge to teach the same books in their church. In addition, survey studies of all 66 books, and numerous practical expository preaching exercises in the program, give each pastor confidence to use the method. We have over 70 graduates from the MKPTC program, and many are now using this method for preaching. Twenty of the graduates joined ICM-TZ, teaching the IBS method throughout the country.

"For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the Law of the LORD, and to do it, and to teach statutes and ordinances in Israel."
Ezra 7:10

A natural consequence of a newfound skill is a thirst and hunger for more, to go deeper and explore more books of the Bible in this way. To meet the need, we created a Level 5 seminar that we just began teaching; this is the new feature we mentioned at the beginning.

We teach verse by verse through an additional 9 New Testament books over the course of 15 days (three 5-day sessions), giving a Level 5 and 6 graduate a total of 12 New Testament books in their pastoral toolbox. These 12 books alone represent 3 to 4 years of Sunday preaching material. The Level 5 also offers condensed book studies and practical preaching exercises.

As we prayed about where we would launch our first Level 5 seminar, the Lord gave us His clear answer—at Pastor Loth's new pastoral training center facility in the Meru region. Though his site was not yet complete, he laid out a plan to incrementally ensure it would be ready to host 12 pastors and 2 teachers in a way that would allow us to prove and validate our teaching solutions in a realistic and familiar environment.

The finished plan will house 15 students and 2 teachers in the dormitory building (left) and will also



include separate cooking and dining facilities for the students and teachers (right), as well as a separate classroom rather than the church that is used now. It will all be ready early in 2017.

"Be diligent to present yourself to God a worker who does not need to be ashamed rightly dividing the word of truth."
1 Timothy 2:15

We selected the 12 students for this first class from within our existing ministry team. This allows us to certify our eight MKPTC instructors to teach the material across Tanzania, and also invite six of our other ICM ministers to attend. Pastor Loth is teaching the nine book studies, and Pastor Elisha teaches the 66 book surveys.

We wrote in April about Pastor Loth's work of faith to use the stipends he receives for teaching IBS seminars to construct this training center. He relies completely on the Lord to provide rather than outsiders like us. To see it all come together for the Lord's glory has been a great encouragement to us. Sessions 1 and 2 of the first Level 5 class have been held here, with Loth continuing facility improvements between sessions. He does not permit us to make even a modest payment for housing the students...we simply render a small gift of thanks to show our appreciation as the culture does! This is the type of fruit Pastor Dan Finrock surely envisioned when the Lord called him to found Intensive Care Ministries over 30 years ago!

"...I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you."
John 15:16

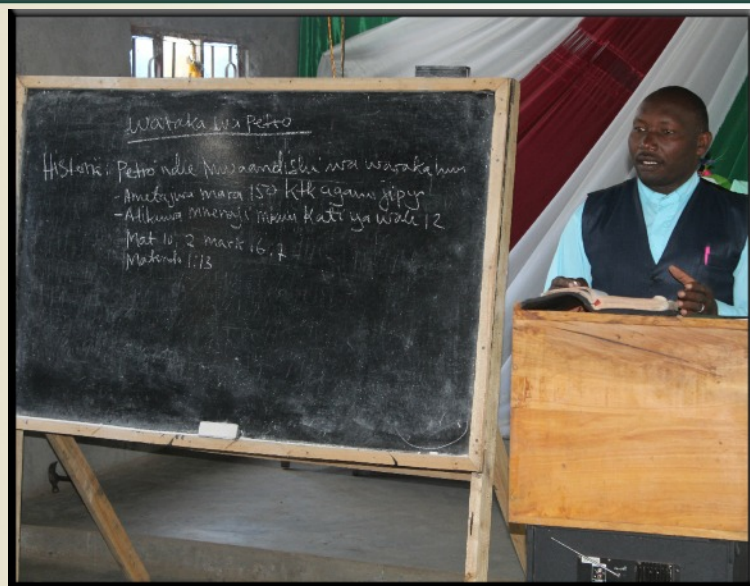
We will see the students of this class graduate in November, and the eight certified instructors will begin scheduling new Level 5 seminars in other regions of Tanzania.



Above: 12 of the current ICM-TZ ministry team who are the first to enjoy the Level 5 training program.

Top Right: Pastor Loth teaching

Bottom Right: Pastor Elipokea drawing strength from his ICM-TZ brothers.



"By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another." John 13:35

In the midst of this uplifting story our team dealt with another loss. Pastor Elipokea and his wife Elizabeth were blessed with a baby boy one morning and then saw him pass away before the sun set. Our ICM family came around the grief-stricken couple, including several who had experienced the same type of loss (Pastors Loth and Joshua). Elipokea was still able to attend our training as he lives close to the facility and has great help at home from his extended family. He gave an emotional testimony of what the ICM family has meant to him and Elizabeth, and how he had personally experienced Romans 8:28.



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

www.JimAndJaniceLarson.com

PICTURE OF THE MONTH



Peek-a-Boo!

These three little boys were fascinated by seeing Jim in their village, but they wouldn't come over and talk. They obviously felt much safer by peeking through the bushes!

CONTRIBUTIONS PAYABLE & MAILED TO:

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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

- Praise for a safe and successful trip to Rwanda and Uganda for Jim. We continue to pray for the Lord's guidance on developing the work in these other countries.
- Continued prayers for the high school worship service we conduct, children's Sunday School (Janice), sports outreach (Jim), and the ICM-East Africa primary work.
- Prayers for the mission team coming from St Petersburg FL for October 8-19 and all the ministry they will be able to participate in.
- Prayers for Janice making a quick trip to Florida Oct 19-30 to attend our daughter's wedding, and for Jim to keep things running on his own.