

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

MAY 2022

Proclaim Him!

"HE IS THE ONE WE
PROCLAIM, ADMONISHING
AND TEACHING EVERYONE
WITH ALL WISDOM, SO THAT
WE MAY PRESENT EVERYONE
FULLY MATURE IN CHRIST."

COLOSSIANS 1:28

JIMANDJANICE.LARSON@GMAIL.COM
WWW.JIMANDJANICELARSON.COM
FACEBOOK - JANICE YOUNG LARSON



PO Box 1870
MOSHI, TANZANIA
TANZANIA CELL PHONE 011 255 78 454-8658

God is love! And there is no greater love manifested in all human history than Him sending His Son into this sin-stained world to willingly die for our sins. There is no stronger power, no greater inner motivation for responding to God in love than the Holy Spirit-empowered gospel of Christ accomplished at the cross. And it goes without saying that this same Spirit-empowered inner motivation gives us strength to respond with love to anything the world brings our way. This power is the true reason Paul resolved to always preach Christ crucified.

“For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified.”

1 Corinthians 2:2

As we explained last month, our ministry is now 3 months into a planned 7-month top-to-bottom transformation process that is already bearing amazing fruit that will remain well into the future. We undertook this arduous process by faith, not knowing where it would take us, but fully trusting the Lord would lead us.

As the church at Ephesus found out, it is easy to wander from our first love, the Lord Jesus Christ. We get busy in life, we chase big dreams and goals, we take on much ministry work, we face family challenges, etc. For us, the ministry has grown significantly, causing us to face all of these “distractions.” When we started to prepare for this



April 4-day transformation training, we numbered 30 faithful male and female Bible College instructors serving the Lord at five campuses. Sadly, the week before the training, we lost one of our instructors, Pastor Filimoni (above), to an

unknown illness. Now we are 29.

With many different church denominations and tribal backgrounds represented in the members of our team, some days it feels like herding cats to keep them all moving in the same direction. We felt it would be very helpful to “re-ground” our people in Christ, collectively and individually, to ensure we ministered with one heart and

“Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.”

Romans 5:5



One of the instructors giving a message to his peers.

mind—that of Jesus. We did this by examining all of our teaching materials to ensure each lesson has a Christ-centered focus with an ultimate goal of preaching Jesus from every passage in the Bible. We even added a preaching seminar dedicated to teaching students this much-needed skill—centering the text on Christ and developing a sermon that engages the audience in a redemptive manner—bringing the power of the cross to bear in their lives. This new preaching seminar has become the centerpiece of our change efforts.

Why take this step for a ministry team that already boasts some of the top expository preachers around? Most can methodically work through a biblical text with great skill, bringing the passage to life with creative illustrations and cultural examples as they explain and apply the text. That is where preaching the redemptive power of Christ and the cross comes in. It unleashes the power of God’s Word through the Holy Spirit’s empowering grace. This can raise a lost sinner to new life in Christ and empower the believer to live an overcoming life that glorifies Christ.

The ICM-Africa team must go beyond showing Jesus as a moral example or a great teacher who desires obedience



Staff and instructors listening attentively.

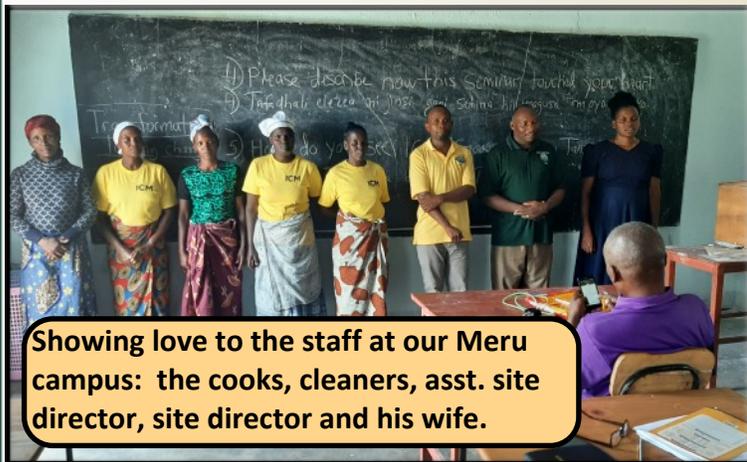
from His people. While true, these ideas lack the ability to bring about life transformation. At best, we produce a bunch of frustrated people trying to do good in their own flesh. At worst, we lead these precious people of God into the bondage of trying to please others, which ultimately fails.

“And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love.”

1 Corinthians 13:13

For 4 days, ICM-Africa devoted itself to preaching Christ from every Bible passage we looked at. Each day the staff would work through passages collectively and individually, perfecting their inductive Bible study and expository preaching skills. Evenings were devoted to prayer and worship. For 11 years we have experienced some of the most amazing worship in local churches, but nothing compared to this. It was like they found something valuable that had been lost—something really worth pouring their hearts out in praise to the Lord.

We wrapped up the day before Good Friday. Churches here have Good Friday services which involve prayer,



Showing love to the staff at our Meru campus: the cooks, cleaners, asst. site director, site director and his wife.

worship, and a Bible message. We heard that all of the ICM-Africa pastors had truly amazing experiences at their respective Good Friday services.

- Pastor Obedi’s actually went for four days—thru Easter and into Monday! People loved his Christ-centered message and implored him to continue. His Easter service grew by 30 visitors from the surrounding villages.
- Pastor Emanuel had nearly the same experience—he brought Jesus from a seldom-used passage, then spent 4 days teaching life-changing lessons from related passages. His people hung on each and every lesson.

- Pastor Loth was ultimately pulled in many directions. Several visitors from other denominations attended his Good Friday service and convinced him to preach at their two churches on Easter Sunday, one after the other.
- Pastor Eliya, Loth’s assistant and an ICM instructor, was pressed into service to preach the Easter Sunday message at Loth’s church! He evoked the same heartfelt response from Loth’s congregation. Amazing!

The ICM-Africa instructors are energized in a very fresh way. We are excited to see how this will impact their own lives and churches, as well as the students coming through inductive Bible study seminars and the Bible college programs. To God be the glory!



Above: Pastor Emanuel explaining about his Easter service
Below: Pastors Enezaeli, Loth, and Deo had a 3-way tie for best sermon!



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

www.jimandjanicelarson.com

Picture of the Month



The university-bound "Training for Life" students whom we just spent 8 weeks working with. Several spiritually strong youth in the group; one wants to be a pastor! And one is a Muslim seeking to know Him. Lift them all up in prayer as they move forward in life.

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 through our website



TANZANIA CONTACT INFO:

Jim and Janice Larson
P.O. Box 1870
Moshi, Tanzania

EMAIL: JimAndJanice.Larson@gmail.com

WEBSITE: www.JimAndJaniceLarson.com

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Praise that our second class of Certificate in Bible Training (women only) which began in April had 24 students, 2 instructors, and 2 teachers-in-training. The room was sooo full of energy! And our first class had their 2nd session and will graduate the end of May. God is doing an amazing work through this.
- We travel to South Sudan 3-12 May to the area of Tonj. We will be training 30 pastors in inductive Bible study and expository preaching. Pray for safe travel and our health. Malaria is high there.
- We have a small team coming 25 May-3 June to do some training with our instructors. Pray for their safe travel and for everyone to have a blessed time.
- Pray for our English congregation as we lead them each week, and for our strength. We want to see the Lord lifted high and glorified, and for His Word to go forth.
- There are many sessions ongoing at other campuses this month which also need your prayers.