

HEART FOR AFRICA

"TRANSFORMING BIBLICAL PREACHING ONE PASTOR AT A TIME"

STIR UP THE GIFT!

(AUGUST 2022)

"Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands." 2 Timothy 1:6

It is truly remarkable that the Lord calls and gifts His servants with special talents and abilities for His glory. He is all-powerful and all-knowing and could easily do the work of building His kingdom all by Himself, but He chooses to use us to build His kingdom—not so much for His benefit, but for ours. Not only do we grow spiritually, we also deepen our relationship with the Lord when we serve Him and His people.

For example, a pastor is given the ability to preach and teach God's Word. The Lord calls the pastor to exercise that God-given, Spirit-empowered ability in order to equip others for ministry and to strengthen the body of Christ (Ephesians 4:12). And the more a pastor preaches and teaches, the better they become at preparing and delivering sermons...as long as they learned a biblical approach to studying God's Word and creating Christ-honoring messages grounded in God's truths.

"Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

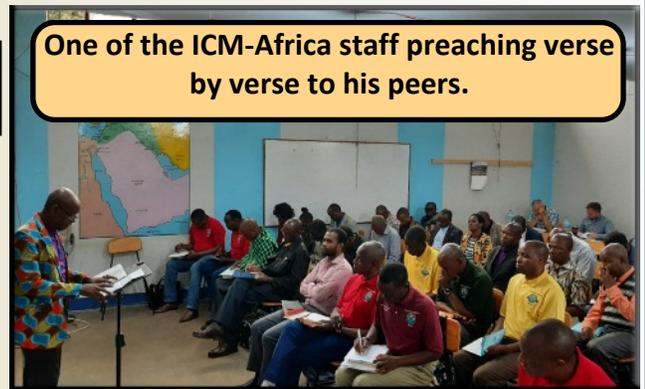
2 Timothy 2:15

Intensive Care Ministries-Africa teaches native pastors how to study the Bible systematically and preach biblically. Then we patiently equip each pastor with biblical knowledge and understanding over the course of the 2 years they are in our program. The pastor who graduates from this rigorous program is trained and equipped to be a skilled Bible teacher.

But, just like any skill or talent, the ability to preach and teach must be developed and honed through continuing education, hard work, and experience. This

is where ICM-Africa comes in as well! To keep our diploma program graduates growing in their verse-by-verse preaching, the Lord gave us the idea of gathering our graduates together at an annual Preachers Conference. Last December, we conducted our inaugural conference. Not only did our people receive excellent expository teaching, a number were able to join in by developing and delivering their own sermons before an audience of their peers.

One of the ICM-Africa staff preaching verse by verse to his peers.



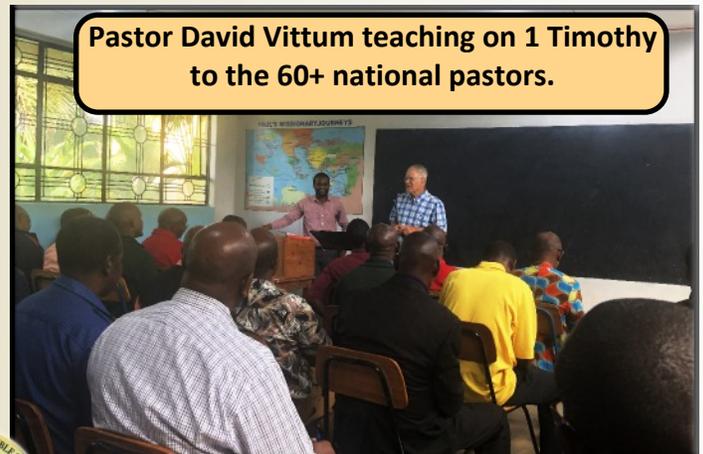
"Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching."

2 Timothy 4:2



Pastor Ryan Marr leading an expositional session on Genesis 1-12

Pastor David Vittum teaching on 1 Timothy to the 60+ national pastors.



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The 2021 version was so successful that we felt called to conduct two Preachers Conferences in 2022—one in June and the second in October. Even more of our graduates could join in and we could also refine and improve on how we conducted the conferences.

Having just completed the June conference, we were blessed in so many ways. The 60 attendees—all senior pastors—were very appreciative of our two guest teachers who completed in-depth studies in Genesis and 1 Timothy. Seventeen of our instructors also preached, with ten taking the bold and courageous step of preaching their sermons in English.

The best finale to the first half of 2022 is that we just received our formal documentation as a registered non-profit ministry within Tanzania. Although it took 3 *years* to receive something that should have taken 3 *months*, we are thankful to God for inspiring all of us to find ways to keep the ministry running by transferring more responsibility to the national staff. Praise God for His hand of provision!



Pastors David (above) and Ryan (right) preaching in local churches during their stay.



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Note "LARSON" in Memo of check

On-line giving available through our website



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PRAYER REQUESTS

- Praise for 40 students attending a diploma class at a new campus in SW Tanzania. This site will make it easy for pastors from Democratic Republic of Congo, Zambia, Malawai and Tanzania to attend the program.
- Praise that ICM-Africa registration paperwork has finally been completed and we are now able to apply for formal work permits. Continue to pray that we might receive them before we return on 4 September.
- Pray for our visits while in the US, and please contact us if you would like us to speak at your gathering:
 - 24 July: The Gathering, Fort Walton Beach FL
 - 10 August: Calvary Chapel Greeneville TN
 - 11 August: Sevierville TN
 - 14 August: Calvary Chapel Asheville NC
 - 17-26 August: St Augustine FL, St Petersburg FL, Tampa FL
 - 4 September: Flying back to Tanzania