



WHAT WE'RE THANKFUL FOR: We traveled to Makindu in southern Kenya to visit the second training center for All Nations College. While there, we had the privilege of joining 2,000-plus Africans as Good News Church of Africa celebrated its 50th anniversary. We delivered words of greeting and encouragement.

Then something happened we will never forget and for which we will forever be grateful to God: Under the late afternoon African sky we heard a choir sing “Glory and Honor” from Handel’s Messiah in Swahili.

Helping Couples Who Are Struggling in Their Marriages

WHO: John Lewis. Director of the Grenada Institute for Theological Education.

WHAT: Invited by ITEM second year in a row to train pastors and leaders in India.

WHEN: July 26-August 9, 2018

WHAT I TAUGHT: The book of Acts, pastoral counseling and a marriage conference.

On Teaching Teachers and an Unforgettable Choir

WHO: Bob Clark, pastor at Christ PCA in Richmond, Indiana, and Jim Roszell, ruling elder at Christ PCA.

WHERE: All Nations College in Kenya.

WHAT WE TAUGHT: Biblical Theology 101 and Living in Grace.

WHEN: August 13-17, 2018

WHAT WE LEARNED: We brought instruction to the “teachers of teachers”—the men who go into surrounding towns and villages and teach the material that was taught by us. The classes were enjoyable, and our time went by quickly. The questions, discussion and interaction with the pastors was very good. Their desire to grow in their knowledge of God’s Word was great, evident by both their attentiveness and questions.



WHY IT MATTERS: Several pastors benefited from this time of interactive and practical training. The marriage conference was particularly beneficial to couples who were struggling with issues in their marriages. These sessions provided an opportunity to fellowship with one another and served as a huge time of encouragement in the challenges they face in their various ministries.

WHAT I LEARNED: My life is truly enriched as a result of my own preparation and delivery of the training. I come away feeling that I am the one who benefited the most. It stirs a fresh passion in my own life and ministry.



The Kingdom of God as the Basis of Theology in the Bible

WHO: John Van Schepen, retired pastor, Salem, OR.

WHAT: Teaching mission to Cochabamba, Bolivia.

WHEN: July 20-29, 2018.

WHAT I TAUGHT: I started with the Kingdom of God as a basis for a Biblical theology of the Scriptures. This included seeing how Genesis 1 portrays God as the Sovereign King and how the Fall has disrupted this relationship between God and us as his co-workers in His Kingdom.

We also studied the “already and not yet” teaching of Scripture as well as the millennium and the error of dispensationalism.

I also taught a course on “Living in Grace.” This course was well received. The students found especially helpful the idea of increasing the cross or shrinking the cross in our lives because we fail to recognize God’s holiness and our own sinfulness.

WHY ITEM’S TEACHING MATTERS: My translator was a young man named Gerson Cruz. Our services were held at the reformed church started eight years ago by Gerson’s father, Pastor Mateo.

Mateo was previously a part of the Christian Evangelical Union, a large church consisting of some 90,000 members and 1,000 churches. However, increasing liberalism and rationalism prompted Mateo and others to search Scripture for truth. What they found there led them to value reformed doctrines such as salvation by grace alone.

Opportunities to Pray for ITEM

1. Praise for successful trip of Will Hesterberg and Norris Lessley with classes of 30 and 90+ in Kenya.
2. Pray for the teaching trips of Cornel Venema to Latvia and Jeff Richards to Ukraine.
3. Pray for continued growth of ITEM's financial base.
4. Pray as ITEM continues to build its Regional Director network.

In the U.S. send contributions to ITEM, PO Box 31456, St Louis, MO 63131 or at www.ITEM.org through PayPal. Email: lwhesterberg@gmail.com.

Contributions to ITEM in Canada may be sent to ITEM, c/o Action International Ministries, 3015 A, 21st Street NE, Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2E 7T1.

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