

INTERNATIONAL TRAINING PROJECT

Update - July 2021

train ONE ... feed MANY



In many places around the world the gospel has taken root and there are a growing number of churches. However, specifically in majority world countries, local Christians often lack access to pastoral, leadership, and Bible training, that is essential to ensure the growth, maturity, and future of the churches. In a number of countries there is the real threat that government legislation will close churches because pastors and leaders do not hold any form of accredited training. In response to this overwhelming need the Australian College of Christian Studies (ACCS) and IBCM Network together with its training arm the Brethren Training Network (BTN) have joined together in a commitment to strengthen leaders worldwide through providing quality training. The work has commenced in Zambia, Kenya, and Uganda, and will soon begin in Ethiopia. Please pray with us as we seek to continue to grow this important ministry.

Dr David Smith
International Director
IBCM Network & ACCS



ZAMBIA

The International Training Project commenced at the GLO-Zambia centre in Ndola in 2020. Around 22 students have already taken 3 of the 8 subjects required to receive a Diploma of Theology: Critical Thinking and Writing, Old Testament Introduction, and New Testament Introduction. The GLO-Zambia centre is now recording their contextualised teaching sessions to be used as a resource for the other African centres. David Power, the Principal of GLO-Zambia says,



“For many of the leaders who have enrolled for the ACCS Diploma in Theology course, it is a new experience to be involved in academic study. However, the response has been so positive; they have been stretched not just regarding their personal understandings but also about the input they can have in their local churches. **NOT ONLY ARE THEY GROWING IN CONFIDENCE TO CHALLENGE SOME OF THE UNBIBLICAL TRADITIONS THEY FIND THERE, BUT ALSO TO STAND FIRM ON THOSE WHICH ARE BASED IN SCRIPTURE.**”



VISION

To provide and facilitate quality contextualised ministry training that is accessible, affordable, and accredited, to the majority world nations in our network.

train a **LEADER** | strengthen a **CHURCH** | change a **NATION**

UGANDA

In 2016 Johnson Mwebembezi and Reuben Tumuheirwe travelled 8 hours in a bus from southern Uganda to spend time over a meal discussing the possibilities of training the leaders in Uganda. Three leaders' conferences and many conversations later the training commenced in May, 2021. Due to Covid-19 restrictions only 13 of the planned 20 students were able to make it to the training. The local facilitated training was offered through Emmanuel Mission Uganda and led by Johnson Mwebembezi using the resources provided online by ACCS and the recorded material from GLO-Zambia. One of the students said,

"I discovered a lot of mistakes that have become normal to us as servants of God. The training has improved my understanding of the Biblical approach."

Regarding the commencement of the training Johnson thanked all the supporters saying,

"FOR MANY YEARS WE HAVE LIVED WITH THE CHALLENGE OF POORLY TRAINED LEADERS. This leave gaps in people's understanding of God's Word and how it is handled, affecting the efficient growth of the churches. The intervention of this ACCS training has helped bridge that gap. This was our first structured training since our ministry in Uganda commenced in 2008. Thanks to ACCS management and all who are supporting us."



PARTNERS

In addition to the contribution of ACCS, IBCM Network, and BTN, the International Training Project is currently supported by AMT (Australians in Mission Together), Echoes International, Opal Trust, and a number of churches and individuals.



KENYA

Daniel Ochieng, the Principal of Voice of Hope Bible College is leading the training project in Kenya. It is planned to offer the training in three centres: Rongo, Nairobi, and Butere. The training commenced at Rongo in May, 2021, with the cutting of a cake to commemorate the occasion. During the one week intensive there were 26 students who commenced the training using the ACCS online and Zambian recorded teaching resources.

One man (pictured) rode his old bicycle for more than 30 kilometres to attend the training. The hunger for God's Word and for leadership training is immense. The new training has also proved to be effective in unifying the churches in Kenya. Following the week of training Daniel commented,

"We are together rejoicing in the Lord's faithfulness. This Bible School has started to bring us together. **LEADERS FROM ACROSS KENYA GATHERED TOGETHER FOR THE FIRST TIME** to experience the training. We are together again rejoicing in the Lord as we study the Word."



**BRIDGE
THE GAP**

Each student is required to contribute to the cost of their training according to their ability. However a funding gap remains. It costs around an extra A\$250 to offer each accredited subject to a student. Each student takes 3-4 subjects a year costing around A\$750—A\$1000. Please consider partnering with us to bridge the gap.

**A\$250
subject**

**A\$750
per year**

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TODAY**

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