

IN TOUCH MISSION

international

Monthly

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“...Do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’, ‘What shall we drink?’, ‘What shall we wear?’
...For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.” - Matt 6:31,32

More Powerful than Dark Spirits

“...Kawede says 95 percent of men become pastors for the wrong reasons.”

Uganda



Uganda Needy

PROBLEM - FEAR

When ITMI's **Muhindo Kawede** was a boy, his mother told him to behave or else the ghosts of his ancestors would get him. Instead of using “monster spray” to calm children's fears of imaginary goblins hiding under the bed, as in America, Kawede's mother told him and his siblings their ancestors would eat them. And she meant every word. He was constantly afraid of the dark and of the ever present ancestral spirits who were purported to inhabit his and every other African home.

Throughout Uganda and much of

the African continent, ancestor worship (animism) is the predominant worldview. It promotes sin of all types, along with diabolical cruelty, extreme violence, abject poverty and above all, individual fear. The courses of entire nations are determined by how people think. This is true of the whole continent of Africa under the influence of animism.

When Kawede learned that Jesus said, “Fear not, for I am with you,” and “greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world,” it changed his life and altered his course forever.

Northern Africa is overrun with misguided Moslems, who are constantly marching southward on the African continent and instilling Sharia law, resulting in physical brutality, starvation and slavery for non-Muslims, and Muslims alike. Muslims believe Allah, a moon god, cannot be known. Therefore Islamic life is focused on trying to please Allah and curry his favor.

One does not really know if he is secure in this relationship or not. The phrase “For God so loved the world...” is earthshaking to Muslims. Converts from Islam are comforted to know Jesus “is a friend who sticks closer than a brother,” and that they can have a life “not of confusion, but of peace and a sound mind”.

Poverty is one of the most covered aspects of Ugandan life. It leads to street children, nine-year-old mothers, abandoned children, HIV/AIDS, drug-resistant sexually-transmitted diseases, little to no sanitation, highly contagious diseases, pros-



Muhindo and Lillian Kawede

titution, child armies, human sacrifice, drug use, robbery, murder and financial fraud.

Life is hopeless for these people, and they feel helpless to change their situation. What a comfort when poor Ugandans learn God will provide for them just as He feeds the sparrows and clothes the lilies. “Your heavenly Father knows you have need of these



Kawede Family

(Continued on page 2)

Poland

Piotr Zaremba was recently interviewed by a Polish national and international publishing group, *Gazeta Palmorska.pl* who were interested in his new translation of the Bible. Piotr had a wonderful opportunity to “preach” God’s truth as he explained the whys and hows of the new Polish Bible translation that everyone is talking about. You can see his interview at



<http://www.pomorska.pl/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20140419/REGION/140419264>
Google can translate the article for you.

South Sudan

We can not mention his name, but one of our valued South Sudan partners is fearing for his life after he followed God’s leading and took spiritual and physical food to widows and orphans of one of the warring tribes’ refugees. Most of you know who we are talking about. Our partner, Mr. J. has been told during middle-of-the-night anonymous phone calls that he is being watched and his phone and emails are being intercepted. We need all our “family” to stand with him in prayer.



Zambia

John Jere was so excited that he was called to come to Nigeria to preach God’s truth to the hungry and fearful souls who are in chaos from militant Islamic groups. John also shared that Joyce was taking Sarah Phiri (eye disease) to the hospital when their vehicle broke down. John wants to thank everyone who helped him purchase the bags of food that has been carried into the slum areas around Lusaka and used to meet both physical and spiritual needs.



things. Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness and all these things will be added to you.”

In all of these cases, Ugandans live in a perpetual state of fear.

Though Africa has been evangelized for centuries, discipleship has been sorely neglected. The weak link in African ministry is a great shortage of well-trained, mature Christian pastors and teachers.

Many people trust Christ in order to become spiritual leaders, to gain community status and provide themselves an income stream.

Kawede says 95 percent of men become pastors for the wrong reasons. Some of the most well-meaning pastors were saved one day and in charge of multiple congregations a short while later.

Most of them have no idea what to do as a pastor. They don’t know their Bibles, so they frequently teach heresies, often a mixture of biblical doctrine and animism.

Such views on life cause people to do strange things. One pastor needed some money, so he “sold” his congregation for \$300 to another man who wanted to be “somebody.” Neither of the pastors realized - the church is not for sale.

Finding good Christian character among pastors is sometimes difficult in Africa. ITMI and Pastor Kawede are committed to changing this situation.

Thus we see the extreme need for discipleship and Bible training for all pastors, teachers, evangelists, missionaries, family counselors and church planters in Africa.

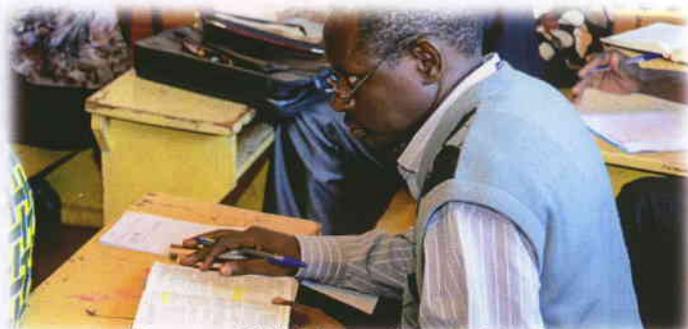
Solution – Discipleship

There are hundreds of millions of people in Africa. What can one person do?

One person can obey the Great Commission to preach the Gospel *and* make disciples.

Muhindo Kawede understands the solution is “building men of God to reach the lost” by being rooted and grounded in God’s Word. He knows that if Ugandans are to change their situation, it will come through evangelism and discipleship. That is why he founded **International School of Missions (ISM)** seven years ago in Kampala, Uganda’s capitol city of 20 million souls.

Kawede’s ministry focus is entirely in response to Jesus’ Great Commission, “Go therefore and make disciples of all



Former ISM Student, now Pastor

10 Things You Should Know About Harvest India



We need your prayer for these ministries as this is how God grows our church--even in the crisis or heart ache--this softens the soil of hearts to prepare the way for His gracious seed of truth.

1. ITMI partners, Paul and Molly, work along-

side Paul's parents and siblings to reach their city at multiple points of need. Paul is now the pastor of Harvest India Church plant. Paul and Molly, whose name we don't disclose for their security, have (3) young boys, ages, 1,2 and 4.

2. Paul and Molly accepted responsibility for a precious group of 19 little girls in 2011, all of whom were saved by mid-wives instead of being put to death at birth. This is a common occurrence in their region due to the dowry system and poverty level. Paul and Molly, without fretting over the increased responsibility and living costs, joyfully stepped in as their parents. The girls are often referred to as the Ashraya Daughters. They are now about 8 years old, attend school and call Paul and Molly "mum" and "dad". They love dressing up, playing and outings with the family.



3. Harvest Bible Chapel India launched in October of 2013. Paul and Molly specifically chose to reach out to a class of people in Southern India that have not previously been effectively reached...the middle class. They continue to support their original church which reaches out in a densely populated slum area.

4. In the first two months of the church plant, Harvest Bible Chapel has ministered to over 5,049 people from all over the city coming through the church.

6. The new church plant had Christmas outreach services at the end of last year. Five hundred from the surrounding community participated. At least 14 people gave genuine faith professions and 6 were baptized at the end of 2013.

7. The Indian church in general has not had much experience with expository style preaching, as very few pas-

tors have much formal training. Currently, Paul is preaching through Nehemiah. Paul's teaching about building the church together, taking ownership and using your gift for His glory is hitting home. Their humble congregation, who struggle with daily wages of just a few dollars a day, have been giving to others even less fortunate than themselves. Molly says, "[It's] a great joy to see believers stand up and help build their church. God is blessing Paul's expository deliveries... we have had the most generous turn-outs in the history of our church."

7. Many young people have come to Christ through Harvest India. New Muslim families are joining and ready to be baptized. A few young men live nearby who never want to leave the church because they are so on fire for God. Six young men were recently baptized and more are ready. Showing great wisdom, Paul and Molly are insisting they learn basic doctrines of the faith and then discipling them one by one before they are baptized.

8. Harvest Chapel India runs Sunday School in 12 small, yet strategically located centers-reaching 250 children weekly. Their 14 sports cell groups reach 350 youth a week, plus additional family members who are convinced slowly to join them. There are 7 after school tutor centers for children, helping roughly 220 children in a week. They'd like to expand to offering tutoring in all the centers where Sunday school is also held. Additionally, each week about 350 people are blessed by the church's various community offerings.

9. Paul's brothers, Xavier and John, oversee separate and thriving sports ministries, reaching out to boys from all caste levels. Some of the boys who played in their youth and received Christ and who were discipled through the Sports ministry are now coaches, discipling the next generation of youth.

10. Molly recently had an MRI showing two herniated disks in her lower spine. Paul is hopeful that with a diagnosis, anti-inflammatories, therapy and slowing down (how will she do that???) will help enough to avoid surgery. Imagine keeping up with her three young boys, her ever moving husband, 19 growing and blossoming little girls, and the duties of an Indian pastor's wife, with this physical limitation! But we've never heard Molly complain, in fact, she's more likely to praise God for the constant thorn-in-my-side reminder to rely on Him and not her own strength.

- Summer Kelley





ISM Students meet in tent

nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19).

Among the ISM students are Ugandans, and men and women from the neighboring nations of Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya and Rwanda. Founded seven years ago, ISM has enjoyed the blessings of two graduating classes totaling 21 students, and a current student body of several dozen more. Kawede's vision is certainly to train Ugandan pastors and church leaders, but also to help Christian leaders throughout Africa.

Students may earn a Bible certificate, a diploma or even a bachelor's degree in missions. These are not wimpy classes either. Given that the situation is serious, students' studies must also be serious. Courses include Old and New Testament survey, systematic theology, evangelism, church history, missions, expository preaching, biblical marriage, counseling, Greek, Hebrew, English, hermeneutics and research methods.

But because people are so poor, 90 percent of ISM's students can't afford the minimal, per-term tuition of \$100-200, and \$400 for room and board. Kawede allows them to attend anyway. He and his family have agreed to limit themselves to two meals per day, reducing their own lifestyle to save money and help the students. They don't even own a vehicle, sav-

ing the expense of fuel, tires and repairs. However, a motorcycle would help Kawede minister to more people, faster.

As his ministry has expanded, ISM has outgrown its facilities. A new, larger building is in the works. Kawede and others made 45,000 handmade and hand-fired bricks for the construction of the building on ISM's acquired 11 acres, which lies across a portion of Lake Victoria from ISM's previous location in Kampala.

He also has four pigs and hopes to raise other animals and some fruit and vegetables on ISM's land to feed his students.

BENEFIT -- TRANSFORMATION

The first person to benefit from solid Bible training is the disciple himself or herself. In Kawede's life, he hides God's Word in his heart. He treats his wife and children well. He is a servant, not lording his position over others, and he works hard, as unto the Lord. He adheres to Paul's admonition to the Thessalonians to work if he wants to eat. So Kawede is an example of industry and enterprise. And ISM students learn to live as godly men and women, forsaking their former habits and putting on a new, biblical life.

The second to be transformed are the immediate family and local community of committed disciples of Jesus. Kawede's wife and children are being led by the Spirit of God, Who changes their behavior and priorities in daily life. When they begin to display the fruit of the Spirit, neighbors and coworkers notice. For example, Kawede loves his wife and treats her well. In African culture, this is rarely so. Other people notice Kawede isn't a charlatan, scamming

people for an income stream, but a true servant of God, transformed as a new creation.

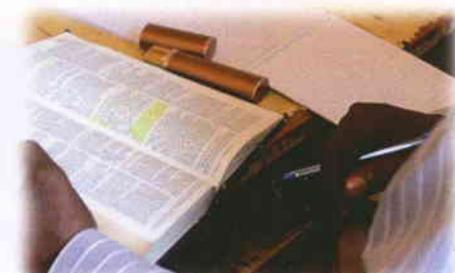
Finally, the worldview of any nation is changed through the influence of well-trained, godly Christians. For example, the culture of the early United States of America was blessed because its people obeyed God. Likewise, African countries such as South Africa and Rhodesia were also greatly blessed by God in the past when Christ was worshipped and His word was studied and obeyed. But no sooner did these African countries fall away from God, than the blessing of God came off, and the culture degenerated. The suffering of the people increased. These countries were "Icabod," meaning "the Spirit has departed."

WHAT WE CAN DO?

Prayer is always needed. Kawede needs God's provision to support his family. ISM needs many types of resources to help its students stay in school and to expand its facilities. Ugandan pastors desperately need training to be grounded in God's word.

Contact us at In Touch Mission International, where we have many ways for you to get involved.

- Steve Lee, Muhindo Kawede, Steve Evers



For Praise ...

1. Nigeria - John Jere's (3) week preaching and teaching trip to Nigeria. First time ever in Nigeria and John was very excited.
2. South Sudan - Our partners were able to attend a "Mending the Soul" training and learn how best to minister to trauma victims.
3. South Africa - Charl van Wyk's recent trip to the U. S. - great success as Charl ministered to all age groups from East to West Coasts.
4. Zambia - John Jere reports their compound's water pump was broken. They now have water after an almost three month absence.
5. South Africa - Kelly and Cherise Smith - Orphan Andile - 6 yr. old Zulu boy, born with Spina Bifida, will get his real wheelchair.
6. Poland - Piotr Zaremba - *Gazeta Palmorska.pl* - Polish press giving the Bible project national and international exposure.

For Prayer ...

1. Uganda - God's provision for Kawede, his family, International School of Missions as need for teaching truth grows each day.
2. India - Paul and Molly's (19) little orphan girls are starting another school term and school fees times (19) are now due.
3. South Africa - Gerhard le Roux and family seek prayer for their garden to produce the much needed crop.
4. South Sudan - Our (un-named) partners' life being threatened due to a serving ministry to all widow and orphans of other tribes.
5. USA - Nungessers take their family of five and a large container back to Poland at the end of May.



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