



PAN·AFRICA
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY



Training Leaders for the Great African Harvest

For a more detailed report,
send an email to:
Bill.Kirsch@agmd.org and
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Africa Update

Bill & Judy Kirsch

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West Africa is a unique place. There is a diversity of cultures, languages, and people groups. French is the language of most of the countries here. In May, Bill was in Lomé, Togo, for a month long session of PATHS.

This session is very full with registering students, leading chapel, counseling and praying with students, giving & grading exams, coordinating kitchen staff, fielding repairs issues, working with faculty, etc. Long tiring days, but it is a good feeling to know that PATHS is impacting a continent through these student's lives.

One of our students gave a testimony in chapel of the vision their church has to plant 2,000 more churches in Cameroon by 2020. This one student is working with 15 of those church plants. Many of the church plants are in the Islamic north, reaching unreached people groups. While Boko Haram is burning churches in Cameroon, the AG is planting them!

During the month the students completed three courses. These students are leaders from across Africa... Ghana, Kenya, Cameroon, Gabon, Togo, Nigeria, Ivory Coast, a missionary from Malawi to Swaziland and a AG USA missionary. They are national church officers, Bible school principles and teachers, as well as leaders of various national ministries in their countries. Most pastor churches as well. They are the cream of the crop, the influencers of influencers. It is a great privilege and responsibility to train them!

Tokunboh Adeyemo, a well known African scholar, once said, "The church in Africa is a mile wide and an inch deep." While some have countered that the same could be said of the church in the US, with some polls showing as high as 85% of Americans claiming to be Christian, in Africa, there is a great lack of opportunity to deepen one's knowledge of their faith. In the A/G across Africa, less than half of the pastors are trained to lead their congregations. Many are lay leaders who are acting as a pastor but lack even a basic understanding of the Bible. They are leading only because there are no trained pastors. The preaching is often full of enthusiasm but lacking in content.

At PATHS we are training leaders from countries across Africa who return and train their trainers for more than 300 Bible schools and extension programs. This is a strategic ministry. PATHS is working to put a foundation under the growth of the church here. Everything we do in missions relies on the local pastor who is equipped to lead his people and the local community.

In August, we will take in a new cohort of 16 in Togo. Then in September, we will begin a cohort of 12 or more in Kenya. This is 2 Tim. 2:2 in action... entrusting to reliable men who are qualified to teach others. Thank you for your support!!!

Sincerely,
Bill & Judy Kirsch

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