

PAN·AFRICA



Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another... And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Col. 3:16a & 17

To be added to our digital newsletter, email me at Bill.Kirsch@agwmafrica.org.



Africa Update Bill & Judy Kirsch

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During this season of thanksgiving and remembering Christ's astonishing gift to us, I give thanks to the Father for all of you who faithfully support our work of raising up leaders at the highest level for the deepest impact.

As evidence of the impact you are having through your partnership, I want to share the feedback from one of my students to an assignment for my *Biblical Leadership* class. This has been edited so that the student's identity remains anonymous.

Personally, entering the doctoral program seemed like a wrong spiritual move. My life felt stagnant from spiritual growth. Things were bad with family, friends, financially, health wise, and my spouse. Though everything was not making sense in my personal life, all the pieces fell in place to provide the possibility of entering PAThS. The personal question to God became "Will it be necessary to keep learning about you when all the previous knowledge from the bachelor and master's programs had not fared well with personal spiritual growth?"

The leadership [class] has undoubtedly been a transformative course. Everything began falling into place from the onset of reading the books. The class amplified personal life structuring... God had placed me where it was necessary to understand what I needed to know to apply all other previously gained knowledge. The church is working way better in the past one month than many months before and my marital relationship excels as we work in our respective roles complementing each other.

Through the time at the doctoral program, many more doors opened... that were not available before. I had long since developed what God had for me as a vision... the problem had been lacking the moral grounds (due to the constant fighting) and knowing how to get others to work along because of the inability to effectively communicate when going public. However, since the beginning of this school year, the vision is advancing, and people are getting onboard to work toward accomplishing [the] vision.

This account of one student's life changing experience is not an anomaly. Similar stories of transformation are abundant at PAThS. Our faculty and programs are focused on receiving the highest-level leaders from around Africa and helping them to be discipled for even greater usefulness to their families, and the local church as well as national and international platforms of ministry. If you had the opportunity to have a conversation with any one of our graduates, you would be blessed to hear what God has done in their lives through their studies at PAThS. They are doing significant things through the Kingdom building work they are involved in. But even more important is who they *are* as men and women of God in a world that desperately needs godly examples of a sound biblical faith and integrity.

'Thank you' seems almost trite measured against the significance of what your faithful prayer and financial support is accomplishing. But nevertheless, we say 'THANK YOU" for your investment in the church of Africa. You are making an impact and a difference!

Sincerely, Bill & Judy Kirsch

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