

Impact!

INTERNATIONAL TRAINING & EQUIPPING MINISTRIES

ITEM'S FUTURE IMPACT

As we begin to build the ITEM Youth Ministry using apologetics as a platform, I asked Nathan Chiroma, ITEM special assistant, and Kevin Muriithi, Apologetics Kenya founder, to answer the question, "Why is youth ministry in Africa so critical." Here is their reply.

First and foremost, youth ministry in Africa is critical because young people comprise the majority of the African or Kenyan population. Thus, if effective ministry today means engaging the people around us, involvement in youth ministry is strategic. However, this demographic is also very diverse. Therefore, ministry to young people must be sensitive of these varied portraits of young people in the continent.

Second, youth ministry in Kenya or Africa is complex precisely because of these plural contexts. Young people straddle traditional, modern, and postmodern worldviews, wrestle with family breakdown and parental neglect, and are a part of complex political nations and situations.

"...youth ministry is the foundation for healthy and vibrant ministry in the coming years."

Third, youth ministry is the foundation for healthy and vibrant ministry in the coming years. By pouring our lives to young people today, we are able to build a healthy foundation for the local and global church for today and tomorrow. This ensures that the transformative message of the gospel is passed on from one generation to the other, while building on the strengths of what today's generation has learned from the Lord.

Fourth, with the missiological dynamics whereby the biggest chunk of Christianity is in the global south, by investing time, resources, and education within youth ministry efforts in Africa, you (we) are participating in God's mission in a way that honors how God is working today.

Continued...



ITEM Impact!

| Opening of the second ITEM resource center. This one in Lumino Town, Uganda, complete with internet and video conferencing capabilities |

| Nathan Chiroma is receiving much interest from a group of bishops in the Nairobi, Kenya area who are very interested in seeing the pastors under their supervision become examples, equippers, and expositors |

| Plans for ITEM's first apologetics seminar are moving forward. |

OUR PURPOSE:

Transforming churches, one pastor at a time.



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Muslims in Kenya use this kind of deception to attract unsuspecting, untaught youth who will be led to think Islam and Christianity worship and serve the same God.

On the Horizon...

- Aug 6-8;11-12 Mentoring meetings in Tanzania and Burundi
- August 8 – 23 Steve in Cameroon, DRC, Kenya
- Sept 3-5 Steve will update a supporting church WY

Please Pray...

- for Steve's health and safety during the trip, given the news about the "breakthrough" infections due to the Delta V
- for the mentoring that continuing transformation will take place



This resource center is in Lumino Town, Uganda, where ITEM Coordinator, Hillary Wafula is the pastor. Besides providing books, we are having the internet installed and providing Hillary with video conferencing equipment. We will be using this center to test the possibility of doing training remotely over the internet. If this proves to be a worthy investment, we will begin to look at other possible locations around Africa where we can do the same thing.

FUTURE MINISTRY... (CONTINUED)

Fifth, youth ministry is the primary pipeline for raising up the church's future ministers. Within the African context, youth ministries, even within local churches, are usually allocated the least budget while more resources are invested in other ministries.

Sixth, young people are continuously being the target of other religions especially Islam. They are going an extra mile to commit finances and whatever resources available to them to ensure the conversion of young people. Many young people are becoming gullible because of the incentives that attracts them to such religions. We are expectant that God is still at work among the young people of Africa. There are countless stories of young people who are coming into the Kingdom, finding transformation, and leading God's church today and who need further equipping, mentoring and commissioning as we continue to serve God's work in the different spaces God has called us. As those who engage in theological education, church ministry, youth and campus ministry, we have no doubt that investing in young people today is how we safeguard our ministries for tomorrow.

What makes an apologetics ministry a key towards reaching African youth"? Young people in Africa need to be helped with their doubts, as they are confronted daily with no Christian worldviews. Many of them are beginning to question their faith, they are constantly asking questions about God, about Christianity and other related issues facing them today. Apologetic ministry will meet young people where they are and give them the evidence for whatever it is they are looking for that may be hindering them from getting close to God.

Volunteer opportunities that help ITEM advance! | If you have talents in making short videos, social media management, or other gifts that would contribute to our focus on using technology to the max, please contact us and join our team! Together we can move mountains for Christ!