



Impact!

MARCH 2024

INTERNATIONAL TRAINING & EQUIPPING MINISTRIES

A WIDE-OPEN DOOR IN ASIA

It is estimated by Bible scholars that the apostle Paul traveled 10,000 miles by foot during his missionary journeys. That is the equivalent of walking from New York to Los Angeles four times. Thank God for airplanes! The question over whether Paul had an overarching strategy for his missionary endeavors has been debated for years by missiologists. However, it seems that Paul's strategy was simply to follow the leading of the Spirit and look for open doors (1 Cor 16:9).

Historically, ITEM has been exclusively focused on training leaders on the African continent. While our work has been fruitful and doors continue to remain wide open in Africa, God is also beginning to open doors in Asia. To that end, in January I traveled to the northeastern peninsula of India to continue training with our inaugural leadership cohort there and to explore a potential opportunity in Nepal.

In India thirty-five pastors from all over the region came together for three days of intensive training and encouragement. Many of these leaders serve in areas that are hostile to the gospel. While there, I received a visit from a bishop who oversees seventy-nine tribal churches along the Andhra-Pradesh border. After sitting through the morning session of our first day of training, he pleaded with me to bring our training to his leadership network. Additionally, just a couple of days before I left for the trip, I was contacted by an Indian man in Los Angeles who put me in touch with the pastor of another large network in Hyderabad who requested training. So, it seems as if the Spirit is leading us to invest in India.

While in India, I was particularly excited to visit several unreached villages where pastors from our cohort have planted new churches. These churches serve as the first gospel presence in the history of these villages. What a humble privilege it was to hear the testimonies of these dear brothers and sisters and to encourage them to remain true to the faith.

In Nepal, I was hosted by a dynamic young pastor who has planted forty churches in his surrounding villages since 2020. My initial plan was to merely come and do a one-day training event for aspiring church planters. However, the training was received so well, I was asked to begin a leadership cohort. During a conversation with my host, he asked me a question that still echoes in my soul: "Why do missionaries go to Africa and not Nepal? Why not Nepal?" Indeed, why not Nepal? I can only conclude that the Spirit is leading us to begin training there.

Thank you for standing with us as we empower and equip frontline leaders for gospel advance.

Chris McMillan ITEM President

ITEM Impact!

| DAN PACKER IS PREPARING FOR HIS UPCOMING TRIPS TO MALAWI, BURUNDI, AND RWANDA IN APRIL |

| THE 2024 EAST COAST GALA PLANNING HAS BEGUN!! JOIN US ON APRIL 18, 2024 @ TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH IN NEWPORT NEWS, VA |

| STEVE WILL BE TRAVELING TO KENYA, UGANDA, & NIGERIA FOR THE NEXT GEN MINISTRY FROM APRIL 16 to MAY 6 |

OUR PURPOSE:
Transforming
churches,
one pastor at a time.



Stay connected with ITEM via Facebook, Instagram, and our YouTube channel (search ITEMministries).

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TESTIMONY FROM REV. ALLEN IN KILIFI, KENYA

ITEM's mentorship program began with a study of the book of Ephesians, which continues to progress, currently in chapter 6. This study has allowed participants to gain a deep understanding of the teachings and principles found within the book, enhancing their knowledge and application of the Word of God. The mentorship program has had a positive impact on family relationships, particularly in terms of good husband-wife relationships. The participants have learned valuable biblical principles and teachings from Ephesians that have helped them build stronger bonds and maintain healthier family dynamics. The mentorship program has nurtured and promoted a sense of responsibility among its participants. It has empowered them to take ownership of their roles and responsibilities within their families and the community. The program has instilled values such as leadership, accountability, and active contribution, leading to a positive transformation in the participants' lives. One of the significant achievements resulting from the mentorship program is the development of a prayer point regarding the construction of a new church. This project indicates the progress and growth of the church community fostered by the mentorship program. The participants are now actively pursuing the construction of a new church, signifying their commitment and dedication to their faith.

STEVE'S NEXT-GEN MINISTRY UPDATE

I am currently finalizing plans for my April 16 – May 6 trip when I will be conducting apologetics (i.e. Truth-Defending) events in Nairobi, Kenya, Kampala, Uganda, and Lagos, Nigeria. In addition, I am finishing up an online series of talks for Apologetics Kenya on NT Survey and Apologetics, and Bible Interpretation and Apologetics, and am putting together new talks on Progressive Christianity, which is a major issue here in the US that is leading many to "deconstruct" their faith, and is starting to show up in the more developed parts of Africa, and A Christian Response to Islam, which will certainly be needed as we move forward with this ministry. As you think of this, please pray for Nigeria visa process, which can become complicated and therefore delayed, and the talks I am putting together that the Lord will give me wisdom.

INTERNATIONAL TRAINING &
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Celebration Gala

April 18, 2024 @ 6:00 pm

You are invited to a special evening of inspiration
and vision as we celebrate God's work
around the world through ITEM.

Temple Baptist Church
235 Harpersville Road
Newport News, VA 23606

DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 PM

WAYS TO RSVP

RSVP by March 31, 2024

- Go online to iteministries.org
- Email us at item@iteministries.org including the name(s) of those who wish to attend.
- Call us at 503-648-4836.
- Scan the QR code to Register



SCAN ME

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