



Photo by Bady Abbas

GLOBAL TRAINING NETWORK

The Flow of Influence

From the desk of Paul R. Madson / May 2024

Snapshots from the Field



A Light to My Path

MOZAMBIQUE

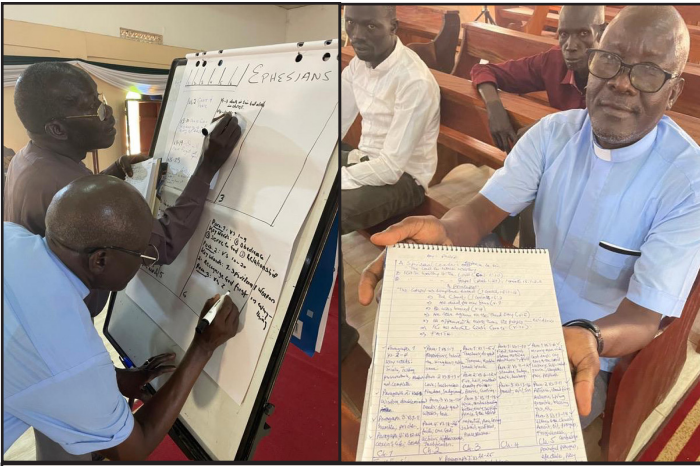
Victoria (pictured above) was an inspiration to the whole class in Gorongosa during a training led by Josh Kienzle and Everett Douglas. Growing up in a rural area, she didn't learn to read until adulthood. Despite her limited reading skills and poor eyesight, she jumped in to help her group read the Bible. With the help of a cell phone light, she led her group members (women leaders who had never learned to read) in completing their classwork with clarity and excellence.



A Historic Gathering

CAMBODIA

Above, GTN Vice President Joel Madson was honored to be a part of a historic gathering of pastors and key-leaders in Cambodia. 180 participants from all 25 provinces came together to work towards Vision 2033 – bringing 1.7 million people to Christ. Joel wrote, *“It was truly amazing! On the final morning of the summit, I had the privilege of speaking to the whole group, and we ended with a powerful time of prayer. There were many tears of great joy! My heart is filled with gratitude.”*



Charting the Course

SOUTH SUDAN

GTN Vice President Carl Green, Phil Paulsen and Tom Walsh recently had the privilege of ministering to the suffering Church leaders of South Sudan. During the portion of class focused on Hermeneutics (How to Interpret the Bible), each pastor learned how to chart a book of the Bible. The poster above shows their work on Ephesians (left photo), as well as a detailed handwritten outline (right photo). Pray for the many displaced peoples now living as refugees in this hard-hit region.



Following God's Way

TANZANIA

Staff members Scott & Sandra Bauer, Miles Fagerlie, and John Lasley (pictured above) recently completed a training of 65 students in Tabora. After a training on Biblical Marriage, pastor Joseph said, "It was as if we were riding our bicycle off God's path. Things were not good in our marriage relationships. We were not following God's principles for our own marriages. Now, because of these biblical teachings, we will ride our bike on the main road following God's way in our marriages."

Introducing Paul and Mary A.

In 2008, Paul was in East Asia training pastors, and Mary translated for their team. Encouraged by ministry associates around them, they developed a long-distance relationship and married two years later.

For 16 years prior to joining staff with GTN, Paul served with a fellow pastoral training organization - WordPartners - and Mary used her language skills to translate training materials and to be a liaison for partnerships.

Now with GTN, they are focused on training pastors and church leaders in Mary's home country, as well as other training and discipleship opportunities.

Paul and Mary love to see people discover the message of God's Word and come to know who He is through it.

With the gifts God has given them, they're eager to help pastors and church leaders help their congregations do the same as they study the Bible together.



Due to their work in restricted-access nations, Paul and Mary's last name and facial details have been kept anonymous.

Paul and Mary have a son named Isaac and live in South Carolina. They enjoy playing at the park, doing yard work, and growing fruit trees and vegetables in their backyard.

Join us in welcoming Paul and Mary to the GTN family!

Update from the President

I've said it so often over the years that I've lost count:

"When you train a pastor, it is like dropping a pebble in a still pond. The ripple effects radiate outward for years, decades, and, if not, generations to come."

"When you impact a pastor, the impact doesn't just go 'to' them, but 'through' them to all of those they lead."

Having served as a pastor and church planter for 25 years, I've witnessed this reality firsthand. The individuals who impacted me throughout my life were being used to impact those that I was leading – both inside and outside of my church family.



I remember when it 'clicked' one day. I was about 20 years into my 25 years of pastoring. We were holding six weekend services—I was preaching four live, and we had two video venues. In one of my sermons on this particular weekend, I quoted a variety of leaders and authors who had influenced me deeply.

While I was speaking, I had another train of thought simultaneously running through my mind that said, *"All these people who have invested in your life are coming 'through' you now to this church family."*

After that weekend, I made a commitment to look up those who had impacted and trained me. I needed to share my appreciation for their investment in shaping my life—both spiritually and intellectually.

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Legacy Corner: Blended Gifts



» Beneficial Giving Options for Today

Consider enhancing your giving by including non-cash assets such as a gift of appreciated stock or a gift from your IRA. Explore giving and receiving income for life through a charitable gift annuity or charitable trust. These strategies amplify your impact while offering you and your loved ones tax advantages.

» What is a Blended Gift?

Your generosity can create a lasting impact today and in the future. A blended gift, which combines a current gift with a planned gift, is a powerful way for you to achieve your financial and estate planning goals while supporting the mission of GTN. By combining your gifts, you are playing a crucial role in shaping the future of Global Training Network.

» Powerful Giving Options for Tomorrow

Whether through a bequest in your will or a beneficiary designation from your retirement or life insurance plans, your blended gift ensures that your support continues to make a difference for years. Start seeing the results of your generosity today while sowing the seeds for impact tomorrow.

Update From the President... continued

This is why I am so passionate about the mission of Global Training Network—to equip and encourage indigenous church planters, pastors, and Christian leaders throughout the Majority World. The training that these pastors receive doesn't just go 'to' them, but 'through' them to those inside and outside of their congregation.

Our staff (of almost 200 now) travel to over 80 countries across Asia, Africa, and Latin America (where the need is the greatest) to equip and encourage pastors and church leaders so they can more effectively equip their congregations to evangelize and disciple their communities, cities, and nations for Christ.

It is because of your faithful and gracious partnership, through your prayers and generosity, that GTN has been able to impact over 330,000 indigenous pastors and leaders around the world in our first 20 years. Prayerfully, through your continued partnership, we will be able to impact pastors and leaders together for another 20 years and beyond.

With Gratitude for God's Grace through You,



Paul R. Madson
Founder / President
Philippians 1:21



This is a photo of Lisa and I before church on Easter Sunday. We didn't plan to match, and just had to laugh together when we realized that our outfits were coordinated without even trying. I guess this is what happens when you've been married for 43 years... you accidentally start dressing alike!

P.S. Also, I would deeply appreciate your prayers as I come to the final stretch of completing my PhD in Organizational Leadership from Columbia International University (Columbia, SC) this next year.

My research on "The Steward Leader" has been immensely encouraging so far, and I believe it will serve GTN and the global body of Christ for God's glory for many years to come.

Thank You!



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