



Newsletter

MAY 2017

PTI strengthens the church in many of the poorest places in the world, by teaching pastors to expound the Bible more effectively. Our fundamental purpose is therefore to *Teach to Preach*.

WELCOME to the May edition of the **P** newsletter. We welcomed almost 100 delegates to the recent conferences in Uganda and new trainer Steve D reflects on his first set of conferences, in India. Altogether, much to give praise and thanks for. And PTI is now planning its first conferences in the Caribbean this September. Please pray for Simon and Gareth as they prepare for them.

- Existing countries
- Potential new countries
- Conflict is preventing training

Uganda, March 2017



Simeon Woodcraft and I hosted the conference, for military and police personnel, which was held at Living Hope Church in Kiterede neat Bombo. The church was planted by army officers, who have also established a church in Mogadishu, Somalia, where they do peace-keeping duties.

The 41 participants were thoroughly committed to the training and engaged well with the material on the Bible Overview, Interpreting the Bible and 'What is a Christian?' We were greatly encouraged that local leaders had already promoted a Bible Reading scheme. They were keen for us to return to continue the training. The conference was well run considering the building was incomplete and facilities were basic.

The last day included a Sunday service at Living Hope Church, where Gerald preached. At the end we gave them certificates and copies of three books - 'God's Big Picture', 'God's Big Story' and 'What is a Christian?' It was a great joy and privilege to be with these faithful men and women of God.

Moroto 15-18 March

We flew with MAF, over most of northern Uganda, which gave Simeon a much wider perspective on the country.

The northern terrain is much more arid and the living conditions - in special enclosures called Manyatas - primitive. The conference was held at the Diocesan Centre and went well, with lively participation from the 28 eager participants.

Most of the delegates had travelled great distances to Moroto. We heard tragic and heart-breaking stories of famine, serious poverty, abandoned children, demonic activity and polygamy.

We covered the same teaching material and distributed the same books as at Bombo. The Moroto participants want us to return within a year!

Soroti Report—20-23 March

Although attendance was affected by issues including burials and ill health, the 27 participants engaged seriously with the material on Psalms and Wisdom Literature.

The core group completed the training and received completion certificates, having covered the entire Project Timothy curriculum. They received a commentary on Job and 'Out of the Depths' by Dr. Martin Lloyd Jones.

■ by Gerald Tanner, PTI Trainer

For more information about us, our vision under God, and our plans to considerably expand the current work, please visit our website www.pastor-training.org follow us on Facebook

If you would like to give to support us, either through prayer, financial giving or volunteering your time, please contact **Simon Percy** on 0208 504 0709.



“Why I am enthusiastic about PTI's ministry”

In February 2017 I went on my first trip with PTI to India, at Mumbai and Kachhwa. I found it a great early experience, in five key ways.

Firstly, the focus is on the Word of God. Not only is this in line with my gifting, but the Word is the best way to make disciples and mature believers. Knowing there is the freedom to teach the word of truth and to help others to handle it correctly was what first attracted me to PTI. I was also edified personally from Merv's teaching.

Secondly, going to the places on the planet where physical or spiritual poverty most abounds has always been my passion. Two verses have stayed with me from my conversion, Romans 15:20 and Galatians 2:10. They show Paul's eagerness to preach the gospel where Christ is not known and to help the poor. PTI holds them together, which I find most encouraging.

Thirdly, getting sending churches fully on board with mission is also very important, as they too need the blessing of sacrifice and serving. Too often they miss out on many of these blessings. We want to build the kingdom as a body, not just individual parts, and I think PTI has just the right focus here.

Fourthly, I loved the help with all the administration, which was excellent. Other PTI people used their organisational gifts in preparing and planning, which freed me up to study and teach and was a massive help. I believe we have a God



of order and who does all things well (Mark 7:37) and I have experienced this at PTI.

Finally, I am enthused that this is a five year commitment which will probably create lifetime relationships. To see people grow in faith and joy (Philippians 1:25) and their teaching gift takes time. This timescale will let me get to know those we are teaching, love them and encourage their development in preaching. This longer term focus and commitment was another drawing factor and I am really blessed to be part of the team!

■ by Steve D, new PTI Trainer

Prayer points

Everything by prayer... with thanksgiving (Philippians 4:6)

MAY 2017

Thank God for:

- The five conferences already held this year – two in India and three in Uganda
- The encouraging report from Steve D on his first conferences in India
- That Simon's replacement knee operation went well

Please pray for:

- Simon to make a full recovery and be able to fulfil his planned commitments from May on
- The PTI administrative team, - Portia and Richard
- The Trainers Day on 24 May at East London Tabernacle
- The Ministry Board meeting planned for 15 June
- The strengthening of our partnership with the churches of our Trainers and our financial support
- For exploratory visits later this year to potential new countries

Proposed conferences for 2017, God willing

May 21-26

May 27 – June 2

June 5-9

June 26-29

July 3-6

September

Dharan, Nepal

Pokhara, Nepal

Surkhet, Nepal

Morogoro, Tanzania

Arusha, Tanzania

Caribbean

Merv N, John W

Merv N, John W

Merv N, John W

Peter Maclure, Simon Moore

Peter Maclure, Simon Moore

Simon P, Gareth J

