



Newsletter

May 2015

Introducing Pastor Training International

WELCOME to this latest edition of PTI's bi-monthly newsletter, which is now received by over 1,000 people. This month we bring you news of a major new strategic initiative in East Africa, in Tanzania, and also a further encouraging report of a recent training conference in Myanmar. We hope you enjoy reading about how God's Kingdom is moving forward in these places.

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

First PTI conferences in Tanzania a huge encouragement



Explaining God's word almost under Kilimanjaro

In a major strategic leap forward, PTI visited Tanzania for the first time, to hold conferences in Arusha and Morogoro, north and west of the capital, Dar Es Salaam.

In Arusha we used a Baptist church that was being enlarged. Some of the 70 or so (mainly Baptist) pastors had travelled considerable distances to be there. Peter traced God's plan of salvation from Genesis to Revelation and Simon expounded Philippians. Delegates received notes on how to prepare sermons and they were shown how to preach Christ from the story of the Passover (Exodus 12).

Most of the pastors had only primary-level education and were from the Maasai tribe, who tend to be neglected and exist on the margins of society. Our car journey to Morogoro took over ten hours, but it included a spectacular view of Mount Kilimanjaro.

That conference also took place in a (Pentecostal) church under construction. The lack of windows and doors was good because it often reached 37 degrees and the afternoon sessions

needed passion to maintain delegates' attention. One pastor was leading a church having had no training whatsoever and this was his first-ever conference. We taught much the same as we did at Arusha. The general educational level was slightly higher and many more denominations were represented.

Some bizarre incidents occurred, indicating spiritual warfare. One pastor was arrested for attacking intruders who entered his house, but who later turned out to be police officers. The son of another broke his arm playing football and there was a car accident.

One delegate said he felt washed clean, having had a week immersed in God's Word. Several pastors texted their friends elsewhere in Tanzania about the conference, resulting in requests for more conferences there.

Overall, it was a great privilege and joy to be able to visit Tanzania for the first time and to teach and encourage these pastors.

by Peter Maclure, 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.



Return visit produced fruitful times of training and ministry

We were again able to hold two conferences together, in Myitkyina and Mandalay, which are located in the north east and south of Myanmar (formerly Burma).

This was our second visit to Myitkyina, following the successful conference last year. Myitkyina is in Kachin State, and is one of the more restricted areas of Myanmar, due to the ongoing fighting between the Kachin Independent Army (KIA) and the Government. Many parts of Kachin are forbidden to visitors so the needs there are more acute. As a consequence, perhaps, their gratitude for the training we provide is also very apparent.

We aimed to teach preachers using PTI's new curriculum, at Level One from Philippians. We preached ten sermons through most of Philippians, completed four Bible Overview sessions and four practical workshops. The question and answer sessions at the end of each day helped both trainers and delegates, since we could understand where they were at spiritually, the various key issues they faced and the Biblical wisdom needed to deal with them.

Delegates were each given Burmese editions of Philippians, God's Big Story and What The Scriptures Teach. They were encouraged to work through them and to register for the mentoring programme.



Reinforcing "Teach to Preach" in Myanmar

This was the third PTI conference held in Mandalay. But this time we used the new PTI Curriculum – Level 3, which focuses on 2 Timothy. It comprised six preached sermons covering much of the epistle. Two practical workshops were held after lunch each day and Paul taught "Bible To Sermon" in one session. Again, very insightful Q & A sessions were held at the end of each day and every delegate received a Burmese copy of Foundations of the Christian Faith and of the PPP edition of 2 Timothy.

These conferences were both fruitful times of training and ministry, and singularly blessed by the Lord, to whom we owe all praise.

For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen. Romans 11:36

■ by Paul W, PTI Trainer

Prayer points

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

MAY 2015

Thank God for:

- The two excellent conferences that took place in the new location of Tanzania
- The way he has opened up opportunities to do training in Nepal
- A number of new churches who are willing to send their pastor to assist with the in-country training
- Simon Percy and Bruce Jenkins as they prepare to visit the new location of Serbia in June

Please pray for:

- Gerald Tanner as he leads conferences in Uganda
- Ivan Watson and Daniel Grimwade as they take conferences in Ghana
- Merv M and John O. as they lead conferences in India (delayed from April)
- Simon Percy as he does deputation work in Wales and Suffolk

Proposed conferences for 2015, God willing

May
May
May
June

Darjeeling and Namchi, India
Soroti and Kasese, Uganda
Sunyani and Ho, Ghana
Nis, Serbia

Merv N and John O
Gerrald Tanner
Ivan Watson and Daniel Grimwade
Bruce Jenkins and Simon Percy

Date for your diary: 26th September
Annual Supporters day! - Full details in Next Newsletter

PTI strengthens the 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*.



Pastor Training International
1 Towson Field, East Leake, Loughborough, Leicestershire, LE12 6RY UK
e: info@pastor-training.org
www.pastor-training.org

