

# lesotho letters

Glenn, Stephanie, Kaitlyn, Kristell, & Caleb Gault  
Hope International Missions

## Prayer and Praise

- **Praise** God that more than 550 children heard the gospel through VBSs this year! We are also **praising** God for the children's ministers in each of HIM's churches.
- Glenn, Kaitlyn, and Maricka Herrer will be traveling next week to Dodoma, Tanzania, to assist Dr. Steve Gibson and Dr. Randall McElwain as they train pastors to use Shepherds Global Classroom. Please **pray** for this trip and the sixty pastors who will be attending!
- Continue to **pray** for Sister Hester Marais' health. She is struggling with several issues, including neuropathy.
- **Praise** God for a fruitful evangelistic tent meeting in Ha Tsane, Lesotho! **Pray** for the chief of this village who is a born-again Christian. **Pray** for Rev. Liau as he disciples the new converts.
- **Pray** that we will be granted permanent residence permits for Lesotho.

**Sister Hester Marais is so grateful to everyone who is giving for her personal support.**

**Would you like to remember her this Christmas with an extra gift?**

## September to December 2022

**“Anyone familiar with the Church around the world recognizes that one of the greatest crises within Christendom right now is the crisis of untrained and under-trained pastors and leaders—men and women without access to formal theological training.” —Rev. Tim Keep**

We have seen the results of this crisis over and over. Here are just a few examples we have encountered among deceived but earnest-hearted Christians:

- The holy water my pastor sells will protect me from the power of witchcraft.
- I am unable to fast for more than two weeks, therefore I am not sanctified holy.
- The Old and the New Testaments contradict each other, so our church only uses the New Testament.

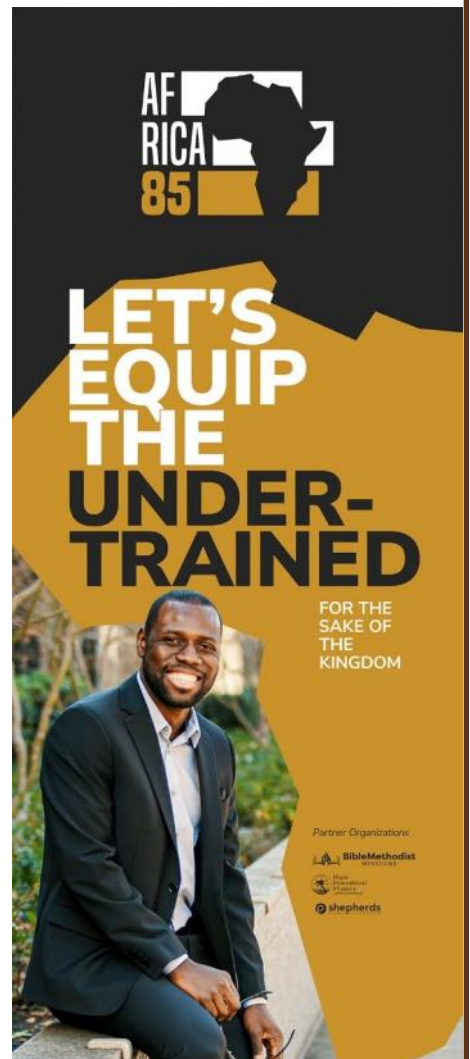
In his book *Serving with Eyes Wide Open* David Livermore notes that 85 percent of the world's churches are led by pastors who have no formal theological education. Satan takes advantage of this and works overtime to exploit the lack of clear theological understanding.

In response to this crisis, Hope International Missions and Bible Methodist Connection of Churches have formed a partnership to provide training and resources for Africa. This partnership or initiative is named Africa85 referring to the approximately 85 percent of pastors in need of training in Africa. Bible Methodist missionary Maricka Herrer plays a major role in this initiative, using her administrative and teaching skills full time. As director of HIM Africa Glenn is helping to lead and coordinate the work.

Our goal is to change the statistic of under-trained pastors on the continent, but we recognize there is no way two missionaries can personally train enough pastors to make a significant difference. To multiply our effectiveness, we have two strategies. The first is making an excellent training tool available—the Shepherds Global Classroom. This simple, thorough, Christ-centered curriculum is available as a convenient smartphone app, as well as courses which can be printed by users in a growing number of languages.

The second part of the strategy God has given us is training and equipping leaders to set up their own grassroots-level Bible schools in churches, homes, and even under shade trees. Since HIM and the Bible Methodist Church started working together, God has been leading us to passionate, God-fearing pastors who recognize the need for systematic theological training and share our vision. We are helping them set up training programs to equip their people.

For example in 2021 Africa85 missionaries and leaders from America held a leadership seminar and training program in Douala, Cameroon, to help Pastor Timothy Abah and some of his friends learn the basics of opening a Shepherds Global Classroom training institute. Since our







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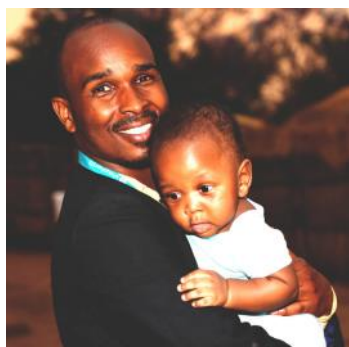
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visit, these men have worked tirelessly and have invited us to come back and speak at their first graduation ceremony in June 2023!

In September this year we visited Pastor Allegri and Pastor Angel, as well as other pastors in Zambia. Besides holding two pastors' seminars, we focused on training these leaders to teach Shepherds Global Classroom and to start grassroots-level Bible schools in their churches. The highlight of this trip was the time we spent at the Mayukwayukwa Refugee Camp.



Pastors and missionaries at Mayukwayukwa, Zambia



Rev. Allegri and son, Eshi

Pastors from thirteen denominations gathered for a seminar focused on foundational doctrines. At the end they asked Pastor Allegri and Africa85 to help them start a Bible school in the refugee camp. Some who will be trained will continue to minister in the heart-wrenching poverty of the camp. Others will be resettled by the UN High Commission on Refugees all over the world. The goal of this Bible school is to ensure that wherever they end up in the world, graduates will effectively reach people with the gospel and build God's

kingdom here on earth.

Besides Cameroon and Zambia, Africa85 is helping in eleven other African countries. From coordinating translations to assisting established Bible schools, the Africa85 initiative is helping "equip the saints for the work of ministry" in Africa.

To be truly effective, theological training involves more than textbooks and diplomas. Leaders must become disciples of Christ. While technology makes it possible to help many pastors remotely, we are finding our most effective ministry happens face-to-face.



Relationships lead to discipleship

## Would you consider supporting the Africa85 initiative financially?

Travel around Africa is not cheap or easy, but it is essential for this ministry. In 2023 we are scheduling trips to Ghana, Cameroon, and possibly Burkina Faso or another country. Our goal is to raise \$10,000 to cover travel, seminars, and training material. A part of this budget will go to help train refugees in Zambia. **You can help by sending a check marked "Africa85" to HIM.** Or maybe God is calling you to join us in this ministry. We would love to talk to you!

## The Holiday Season

We celebrated Thanksgiving with the Peterson family. Kaitlyn and Glenn will be traveling with Maricka Herrer to a pastors' training seminar in Dodoma, Tanzania, from the 8th to the 17th of December. While they are away, Stephanie, Kristell, and Caleb will attend a weekend church conference in South Africa that includes a wedding. We are looking forward to spending Christmas Day with the rest of the HIM Africa missionary team on the van der Merwe's farm in South Africa! Our whole family is also excited about celebrating New Year's Eve at Matukeng with the youth who attend the Reach4Life classes.

### We're Thankful For...

Glenn: excellent interpreters

Stephanie: a week at the sea

Kaitlyn: learning to ride

Kristell: friends at the music academy

Caleb: Chinese dumplings



**Wishing you a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year! Thank you so much for praying and giving!**

*Glenn, Stephanie, Kaitlyn, Kristell, and Caleb Gault*