Rapidly Winning Communities for Christ through Indigenous Disciple Makers

Report Back on Needs Expressed & Donor Response leading to Field Testimonies

In our last newsletter we shared about God’s favor on accomplishments and at the same time shared what needs for the Summer Outreaches. Now we are in the midst of the summer program and we share our thanks with you as witnesses of God’s blessings. We also mourn over events in the field. Firstly, we want to express appreciation to our donors and prayer partners.

- The Prayer Letter that Lida emails on a monthly basis to persons who specifically enrol for it, is bearing much fruit (Lida@hbmin.org will process your request for it). Answers to the prayer requests affirm the above — become part of the team of intercessors.

- Lida and Beverly are experiencing great blessings at venues on their Life Conferences trip. Devine appointments and guidance into what lessons are to be taught at the 10 different venues (types of communities) have made this year’s trip “one of the most significant we have had to date” said Lida after the first 3 Conferences. This stems from 15 ladies at 1 conference said when introductions were made at the particular conference. It was near where a conference was presented some years back) said, “My name is ** from church and I have brought my disciples with me.” This has been another confirmation of dream for HBM to see the second, third and forth generations of Disciple-Makers engaged in actively living out their calling.

- Donors responded to the urgent needs expressed in the newsletter, namely:

1. The cost of roofs at two Dignity Project facilities has been covered to about 80% - we also need more help with garden tools, good seed and some irrigation piping to make this project more self sustaining.

2. The first 1,200 English Bibles (designated to be given to Graduating students), of the 5,000 HBM plans to deliver this year are on their way to Zambia as this is being written. Two thousand Picture Bibles and Bibles in local languages have already been supplied to the Disciple-Maker program.

3. Training modules are all important in Equipping and Empowering indigenous leaders for their calling to “make disciples of all nations” — the 15,000 modules required for the 2018/19 student enrolment that will take place (mostly) at graduations in the next quarter have been delivered.

4. Out of the 4 motorcycles and 8 bicycles we need in August at Graduations, we have received 1 full sponsorship and another is at 60%. Three bicycles have also been sponsored. These “tools” enhance the performance capacities of the leaders who receive them by between 12 and 20 times compared to their current status. Please help us make the investment in leaders who are ready to “go” in answer to God’s call.

These are crucial areas where we need your help to realise all the available indigenous potential by being stewards of all resources.
5. The van for the Congo outreach has been sponsored to about 60%. It served its first short-term missions group to the Musenga Conference Center very well. The Illunga family, who oversee the use of the Conference Center (where, in Zambia, the training of Congolese leaders is done because of the politically challenging climate inside their country), are doing well in upgrading the facility that makes it possible to serve the brothers and sisters in leadership in southern DRC.

Blaine reports that visiting members of the group presenting the leadership development training also spontaneously used the opportunity to minister to local school children who came to the soccer field on site at the facility. Using vegetables from the gardens on the property orphans are fed daily. Both groups, Congolese leaders and the American visitors left Musenga knowing that God had “touched their lives—multiplication of Disciples is now understood.” The 8 key leaders and their wives who participated in the 4 days of “Two ways to live” teaching seminars (“How to share your faith”) was eagerly received with enthusiasm to go and teach it to their congregants also.

6. Every time Pastor Gerald comes back from a trip to the Makua Outreach to invest in developing the top leaders so that they can assist Disciple Makers under their leadership in being more effective in sharing the gospel of Jesus with their communities, we are astounded at the growth in ministry impact God has given in this secluded, rural area. On the most recent trip Gerald and his team of trainers were invited to minister in local prisons. The impact of the Gospel moved prison authorities to ask for more regular ministry to be directed at their inmates. Many new believers are baptized, sometimes in dangerous waters.

7. Carl, Ilne and family have just returned from South Africa where they went to plan for the future. With it becoming clearer that little Isabel’s illness from birth has had a major impact on her cognitive development, the family went to evaluate what they need to start getting in place for 4 to 5 years in the future—when formal education in a special school would become a requirement. Inevitably this will mean that HBM will have to plan for the days when Carl and Ilne make such a move (in the next section this is discussed further).

Please pray with us for the Paalman’s as they contemplate their path forward.

HBM’s medical/funeral support funds are very low—please help with support.

Hope Builders thanks God for the privilege of serving alongside two very special people in ministry, who have passed away in June, 2018: Pastors Sinoya Sakala (Zambia Board member) and Paulo Roberto (from Brazil who served alongside Gerald in the Makua field). Both these men will be sorely missed as they were particularly gifted in their knowledge and ability to apply scripture to LIFE. This made them exceptional, mature and effective soldiers who never shrunk from being Ambassadors of Jesus.

Although we mourn their passing we all look forward to reunification in Glory.
Planned activities for the next quarter and beyond .. Please pray with us!

**The quarter ahead:** Pastor Steve has just left on a 5 week trip to further equip regional and district leaders for their role in equipping their local church leaders in the Disciple-Maker movement.

His companions will be Matthew, HBM’s country administrator for Zambia and Joseph (coordinator for the South-eastern sector) when he presents the training seminars and graduation ceremonies in their respective regions.

This year the seminars will take them to the western border (with Angola) which is extremely sandy and dusty. Both present a challenge, for getting stuck with the vehicle and when the wind blows. The first Reports coming back from Matthew express enthusiasm of the pastors (who many times feel left behind since not many people visit that area because of distances, the harsh climate and sparse population density).

Mulenga & Lydia have many invitations from local congregations to present the Life Conferences (on a smaller scale) at their churches. HBM is blessed to have such a highly trained/motivated couple available to duplicate the places where lay leaders are Discipled for their local works of service. The Nkole’s serve as organizers and translators at the annual Life Conferences and as presenter/teachers at the congregational events. Their monthly support and travel costs are still not fully subscribed—please help.

With political instability and religious intolerance on the rise in Zimbabwe we request your partnership in prayer and support to defray the “extra costs” associated with enabling and supplying Tafara and Knowledge with what they need to “do their work of in ministry”, God has called them to do.

They are our hands and feet in places where we cannot go.

**Nongo Farm:** As part of plans going forward the Paalmans have moved the pace of preparing locals to “take over the vision of the farm” up considerably by bringing local (potential) workers on board and training them in running a type of cooperative farm. In this process emphasis is placed on:

- Strengthening the Gospel outreach team that use the farm as the base to Evangelize in the local area through pastors Justine and Bryan.
- Increase the amount of compost production to further enhance the garden soil quality (plant materials) which will boost produce yields. The market for fresh garden products is expanding.
- Build new chicken runs to facilitate growth in egg and broiler chicken production.
- Construct a facility to process and package produce for sale at the farm store or village market.
- Build a structure from which to do direct farm sales of the produce. Profits are used to make up packages of produce to help with feeding widows and orphans through the local churches that we work with.

As local small farmers learn new skills and produce more their ability to serve one another and thus the community as a whole is impacted through relationships emanating from Nongo farm’s growth further afield.

Two of most pressing church needs in Africa relate to church leadership issues: Practical Training and resources to effectively serve communities. These aspects form the central focus of Hope Builders Ministries:

- **Practical Training.** Both the 3 year Diploma Course and the 1 year Disciple Maker Program rely on indigenous leaders to serve their people in their own languages. The return on investment numbers for empowering nationals to reach their own people and multiplying the “workforce” to do so are extremely impressive. Thus much more can be done with much less input!
- **Resources:** Providing the training curriculum, Bibles, motorcycles, bicycles, garden tools, seed & fertilizer is HBM’s largest expense budget post.

HBM’s appeal is from 3 John vs 8, “.. support people like these, that we might be fellow workers for the truth.”
Pastor Joseph reported, “Mamas Lida and Beverly awakened the sleeping giant in churches here in 6 rural chiefdoms of Chipata District, Eastern Province of Zambia. The Life Conferences have ignited understanding of the Great Commission and created momentum in many different denominations (some already participating) in the Disciple-Maker Program — new churches have joined in the program in all the chiefdoms. Through these Life Conferences Hope Builders is mobilizing local leaders to Encourage, Equip and Empower the saints to do the work the Lord our God has commanded all believers to obey.”

Pastor Zimba in Chief Mshawa’s area (35Km north of Chipata) said “We are now awake. The word ‘Go’ is not only for missionaries from overseas, I am now encouraged, I can teach members of our church ‘Go, Make Disciples.’ I am well equipped, I have been empowered, come next year our church will not be the same.”

From Pastor Godrick, “Surely we need more Bibles for our people. This is a picture of a lady brought to the Conference in Sinda! The unfortunate part is that Mama Lida gave them homework from Genesis 3 which she could not do because her Bible starts at Genesis 10.” (This is not from abuse, it is from use. This lady [and a few others] received new Bibles at the end of the Conference — a Youth disciple-maker who was given his first Bible hugged it and held it with such reverence that someone commented, “it looked like he was scared it would break” — explanation by Johan.)

“By God’s grace and His mighty arm HBM is saturating Telangana State with the Gospel of Jesus Christ as it multiplies disciples”, said Prabhukiran, HBM’s indigenous missionary partner. He, his wife Swarna (seated front center), along with their team continue to penetrate deep into areas long considered off-limits because of the danger from radical militants, wild animals and sickness. Many different tribal people groups are hearing the gospel as the church is mobilized to make disciples in obedience to the Lord’s final command.

Pastor Domingos shared, “We were locked in on a system that was not reproductive. We were growing by simple addition rather than rapid multiplication. However, today we have experienced a major paradigm shift. For the past 12 years we have be focusing on major discipleship and church multiplication. The results have been staggering. A movement that began with the training of 50 pastors has resulted in a disciple making movement of 75,547 disciples and 1,267 churches.

“A recent story illustrates what God is doing. In the province of Cabo Delgado in a village called Miravoni a man by the name of Armando came to Christ and was discipled. In just 3 months Armando led to Christ 27 new believers. To God be all the glory!!!

“Great, easy to use, fast, effective and simple” are descriptions used by people who were asked to evaluate our new website just before its roll-out. Thanks to all who have been instrumental in getting it done.

Please go to hbmin.org to see more details on what HBM stands for and the methods used to approach missions in a unique manner — also, please recommend the new website to friends, colleagues and peers — we need new supporters as the ministry grows.

Johan, Lida and the HBM team.

Please pray with and for us as the summer travels, training opportunities and supplies are deployed. Our prayer is for a great harvest of souls to come in. Thank you again for your faithful, continued support.