

Again God Grows ATA

Zambia has just joined ATA. God continues to amaze us by sending qualified volunteers to join ATA. Below is a photo of our newest country coordinator.

This is Pascal Silungwe a Zambian living in the central part of Zambia. He is currently pastoring a church under Pentecostal Assemblies of God Zambia. His passion is to teach the undiluted word of God. He is married with three children, one girl and two boys. Pascal completed his first theological training at Chreso University where he earned a Diploma in church planting and world missions. Currently he's a student and about to finish at Worldwide Evangelical Seminary in Canada where he is studying for a Bachelor's Degree in bible and theology.



Pray for Pascal's safety, successful ministry, his family, and his country which is suffering from famine caused by a severe drought. Pascal expects to start his first ATA class this week.

Pictured on the right is Moses George, ATA country coordinator for Nigeria. The man on the left is Pastor Abraham Mshelia Damboa our area ATA supervisor.

Read what Moses says about a recent trip to northern Nigeria; I have edited his statement.

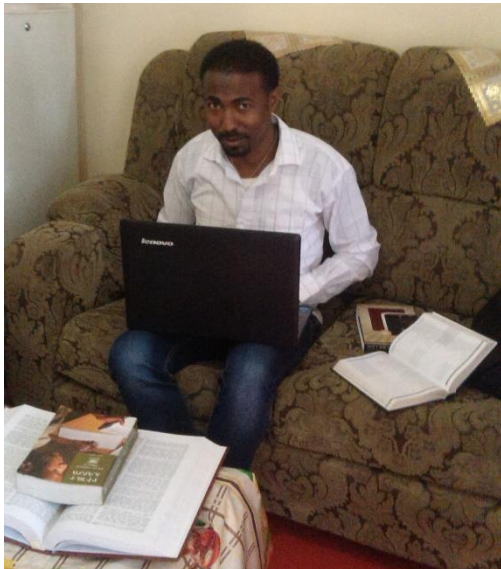
“Nigeria, especially the northern parts where I reside, is extremely dangerous for any kind of Christian activity. As you are probably aware, the Boca Haram insurgency has constituted the greatest threat to the security of lives and properties in these parts. Tens of thousands of people, including members of the military and other security agents have lost their lives in this Islamic onslaught.

I recently returned home from a couple of days in Damboa, a community located in Borno State in the northeastern parts of Nigeria. I went there in response to some requests for ATA Centres to be established there. Two days after I got there, I was able to open three classes with a fairly large numbers of students, including some pastors.



On the fourth day, at about 10:45 am, I set out to visit another community called Buni-Yadi in neighbouring Yobe state. Some 40 minutes or so into the journey, about 30 to 40 (I am not sure of the number) dangerous looking insurgents, wielding machine guns and other dangerous weapons, like improvised explosive devices ambushed our vehicle along with other vehicles and started shooting. They left, thinking we were all dead. Quite a number of people lost their lives. We lay there motionless, until sunset before we trekked the long distance back to Damboa. It was a horrible experience. I lost my Canon camera, an HTC phone, some money, 23 Bibles, HP lap top computer and my pair of shoes. But God miraculously saved my life. I give him all the glory.”

Africa presents many challenges to our workers as they spread this teaching across Africa and India. However God continues to surprise us by rapidly expanding ATA. I wrote all the above last week before God surprised me by adding another country to our ATA ministry. Last Tuesday I received news that a man in Ethiopia wanted to become country coordinator for his country. By Saturday we had exchanged enough information so that I was able to accept him to join ATA. Following is a photo and some biography about our new Ethiopian coordinator.



“My name is Biniyam Fikadu Geleta. I live in Ethiopia. I graduated from Mekelle University in the field of Pharmacy on July 2009 and I worked in government Health Center, Omega Medical College (as lecturer) and Lem Community Pharmacy. I have been in communion with the Holy Spirit since my childhood. Since 2010 I have been serving in Ethiopian Full Gospel Believers Church as a Youth Bible Study Team leader and teacher. During those times I graduated from World Bible School with Diploma, from Christian Leaders Institute (CLI) with Commissioned Pastoral Diploma, Advanced Diploma of Ministry, Diploma of Divinity and Ordained by CLI. I also got Bachelors in Theology from WWES & TGSAT, and now a student of Master in Theology in WWES. At the moment my friend who lives in Dessies (he got BTh and is a teacher especially

on Muslim Evangelism) and I are working to launch a new ministry (The King's Table Partakers International Ministry) which started 2 years ago as a small cell group.”

I (Bob) am absolutely amazed at how fast God is expanding ATA. In the last six months God has added ATA coordinators in six new countries. ATA now has coordinators in eight African countries and also one serving with ITI in India. These men have opened training centers in twelve African countries plus India. As I have said before, it appears that God desires the truths of the Bible to be preached and taught in Africa and India, and that is the reason ATA/ITI exist.

We do have some growing pains with this rapid growth. These new coordinators are all volunteers and they need money for travel expenses and occasionally for Bibles to be able to help some of their poorest classes. We are looking for people, or maybe a church, to adopt a country. You could pick Zambia, Malawi, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Liberia, or Ghana and support the

ministry expenses there of ATA but not the living expenses. Pick your country and let me know while they are still available.

I believe that, in many cases, the best way we foreign missionaries can help spread the gospel across many parts of the world are to assist qualified indigenous Christians to do the work. ATA is spread across parts of two continents, and the only westerners involved are my wife and I. Meanwhile there are more than 300 indigenous workers teaching more than 5300 students, and all but three are volunteers.

We are still praying for replacements for ourselves. If you have a heart for children you could come to Uganda and take over our children's ministry, and expand it. We provide both physical and spiritual nourishment for many children.

We are also looking for someone to help ATA/ITI. This could be a person living in India, another one living in Africa, or even someone living in America. Mainly we need someone who could raise some money for the ministry and give a little advice from time to time. Our men are very capable and motivated so they don't need much advice.

We are doing all right except that our age is slowing us down. Uganda is often a difficult place to live. Last Friday while Bob was walking his faithful dachshund they were attacked by two large and aggressive guard dogs. Fortunately the dachshund only suffered a few skin punctures and Bob is healing from his bruises suffered when he was knocked down.

Please keep us in your prayers for the things mentioned in this newsletter. I don't believe Satan is happy with the work of ATA, and our workers and students need your prayers. Remember we always love hearing from you, and we do pray for you. Please keep praying for us.

Bob and MaryLee

If you would like to donate to our ministry, send your tax deductible donation to: IGO (International Gospel Outreach) PO Box 161295, Boiling Springs, SC 29316 (Designate for Bolitho)
Website: www.africansteachingafricans.com



The children are gleaning grain from the field just as Ruth did. Teaching at the orphanage is a blessing.



Christopher is smiling because he received his own cane. This is the first time we have ever seen him smile.