

GRACEWAY BIBLE MINISTRIES

AFRICA

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1 Corinthians 12:31
... and yet shew I unto you
a more excellent way.

January 2025

Another year has passed, and we have entered 2025, but not without the eternal hope that is laid up for us in heaven (**Colossians 1:5**). This hope is given to us by the truth of the gospel in the preaching of Jesus Christ according to the revelation of the mystery (**Romans 16:25**).

Our brothers and sisters in Africa are motivated by this hope and are faithfully proclaiming the message of grace to those around them. I am reminded of the apostle Paul's writing to the Thessalonians:

1 Thessalonians 1:6-8 And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost: So that ye were ensamples to all that believe in Macedonia and Achaia. For from you sounded out the word of the Lord not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith to God-ward is spread abroad; so that we need not to speak any thing.

Indeed, they are doing the work of faith, with the labour of love and patience of hope. We give thanks to God our Father by Christ Jesus our Lord for these Saints and count it a joy to be co-labouring with them!

Please receive greetings from Kenya, Uganda, Sierra Leone, Zimbabwe and South Africa.

Visiting Kenya and South Africa – February/March 2025

From February 14 through March 14 this year we will be in Kenya and South Africa. Matthew and April Hawley (Miami Valley Bible Church, Ohio) will accompany Zjaan and I to Kenya from February 14-27th.

We are very excited to be visiting the work in Kenya and to help with the edification of the Saints and strengthening of the work there. With every visit, we come back having been edified by the Saints. They have a deep love for the truth and there are many faithful co-labourers with us spreading the good news of the Gospel and specifically the word of God rightly divided. Their deep poverty does not prevent them to abound in making the mystery of the gospel known in Kenya. We are thankful that we can be part of this simple work to the praise of God's glory. When thinking of them in Kenya, I am reminded of the Thessalonians:

1 Thessalonians 1:8 For from you sounded out the word of the Lord not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith to God-ward is spread abroad; so that we need not to speak any thing.

Please remember us in prayer because the logistics of this trip is difficult as there are many churches and believers in remote areas that would like to be part of our visit. We plan several shorter conferences at the various churches so we can reach more believers which will enable us to see the fruit of the local ministries. Our focus areas will be central Kenya. In addition to the conferences at the various churches, Zjaan and April will also have a Women's conference and children's meetings.

Matt and April will depart for the USA on February 27th and Zjaan and I will depart for South Africa on February 28th. As before, our trip to South Africa is always 2-fold. This time we will have a family reunion and our daughter; Kirby will be visiting for the first time in 18 years since we moved to the USA.

Along with our time in South Africa, I will be preaching and meeting with a couple of churches in Port Elizabeth of which Grace Now Ministries is one. With this said, we are sad to announce that brother Paul Vice, who was the pastor of the church, died at his home due to an electrical accident. We are thankful to know that Paul is present with our Lord. Our prayers are with his family and the local church. Please remember his wife Janice, daughter Janine (with husband Zane and children Sarah and Aaron), son Jason (with Abby his girlfriend) and the extended church family at Grace Now Ministries. You may remember that he was in a motorcycle accident 5 years ago in which he almost died and was in a coma, spending a long time in the hospital. I had known Paul for many years as we studied together and learned the message of Grace. He was a brother beloved! Paul was very outgoing and loved speaking to everyone

2 Timothy 2:2
And the things that
thou hast heard of me
among many witnesses,
the same commit
thou to faithful
men, who
shall be able
to teach
others
also.



Paul & Janice



Zjaan, Des, Richard, Karl and Paul
at STS Meeting in Chicago

about the gospel. He always expressed thankfulness for the word of God's grace and its effectual work, producing the grace life. Our breakfast meetings with Paul always ended up lasting 5-6 hours just talking about the truth of God's word and the work of the ministry. I give thanks to God the Father by Christ Jesus our Lord for Paul and Grace Now Ministries and their stand for the truth of God's word rightly divided. We are comforted knowing we shall forever be with the Lord that will start with our meeting in the air!

Please remember the ministry there as brother Dylan Schnetler along with sister Lauren Vice, and others who lead the church, as they continue to press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. We are looking forward to seeing them face to face in March.

Zambia

After our visit to Zambia in May 2024, we have kept contact with the believers there and are thankful to report that the word is going strong. We are seeing fruit of their labours as we see some have come to understand the word of God rightly divided and have embraced the form of doctrine of the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery. Zjaan has been in contact with the women and interacts with them. Sister Jeanine Sheppard as well has contact with some of the women in Zambia.

Brother Goldben and those who are co-labouring with him are continuing strong in the Lord. Their church is called Grace Ambassadors in Zambia. We continue to support this work and financially provide for their weekly radio program where these brethren teach the message of grace. They have recently (December 21st) hosted a Bible seminar inviting listeners from the radio program on One Love Radio station to hear the message. A time for Q&A was provided. Brother Goldben shared with me that they went way over time as there were so many questions and discussions. All this was very positive and produced edified believers.



Messages from Goldben:

I can testify the power of the word of God through the many calls I get from our listeners. Thank you for faithfully supporting our ministry here in Zambia.

"Thank you so much sir for the message of grace you are sharing with us on the radio. From the time I started listening and following your radio program, my mind has been opening up to the Word of truth. God richly bless. Thank you so much for adding me to the list of those attending the seminar. I told my friends Joseph and kelvin to connect to the serminer as well come 21 December and they have actually confirmed. Can they call you to be included on the list as well?"

"Morning Sir. Am brother Jay in madevu. Actually have been follow you on one love radio every Saturday 9hrs where you rightly divide the Word of truth. I wanted to have myself registered and be part of those which are coming to attend the seminar along great east academy on 20th. Kindly add me on the list. Thank you so much."

*Today we had our end of year Bible Seminar. We tagged it *"Basics of rightly dividing the word of truth"* (2Tim2v15kjv). We had more than 25 people in attendance. Some left before we could conclude. We had lots of questions coming such that our initial planning to end at 2pm could not be met. We ended at 5pm. We are grateful to God that many people who came today are those who listen to our radio ministry. Br Titus and myself taught. From the way people ask questions, I m able to see that people are seeking truth. Thank you very much for the support to this ministry.*

Greetings pastor Des. I m doing well and my family is ok too. Thank you for the great teachings on YouTube. Thank you for visiting Zambia to encourage us to remain focused on the message of grace. I m personally grateful for the encouragement you give me in remaining faithful to the teachings of the message of grace. God has been great to me that many testimonies come to me through our radio ministry. You and the saints in the USA have shown us great love which we can't explain in words. May God continue to use you to share the Bible rightly divided here in Zambia and all over the world. I m wishing you and the family good health and God's provisions that will help you keep pressing on. Much love from me, my family and the saints. Happy new year.

Brother Charles also continues to make a stand for the truth of God's word. Over the past year he has travelled to Mumbwa which is about 2-3 hours from Lusaka, to teach a monthly Bible study. The believers there have received the word with readiness of mind and have accepted the gospel of God's grace. They decided to break away from their denominational churches and start a local church. There are about 10-15 members, but they are excited and growing in the word of truth. We are thankful for these leaders that are taking the word all over Zambia, whether by radio, travel, phone, social media, family, etc.

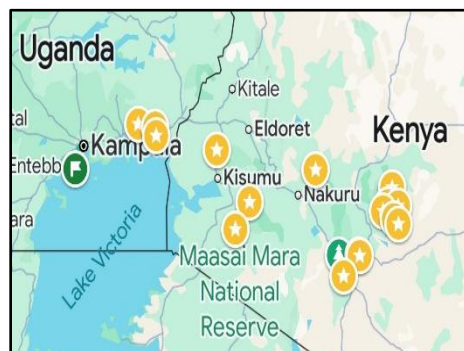


Kenya



Teens in Action

The work in Kenya continues to grow and we see many being established and the message spreading over Kenya and even the borders. Our leadership there have grown to 30 men and women from a couple of years ago to more than double. We provide the training materials for classes and as believers complete some of them, they in



turn start to teach their own classes. As said before, our ministry is based on 2 Timothy 2:2. The picture to the right indicates where the word has reached from Embu/Meru into Kenya and beyond the border into Uganda. The stars indicate where students, churches and leaders are located. I am sure there are more stars to be added, but these are just the ones I am aware of. The ministry there takes place over the counties with Bible School classes, Bible studies, Seminars, Men, Women and Youth meetings.

Messages from Simon:

Grace and Peace from God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you and all yours. It's always encouraging to see the word have free course despite the enemies attacks. In Kenya the ministry is being entrusted to the faithful Saints 2 Timothy 2:2 and is heard beyond borders. The gospel is expanding to new areas through faithful ambassador's speaking for and on behalf of Christ. The doctrine is working and joy, peace and thanks giving to God is evident We are thankful to the Lord for you and all yours and your willingness to be used by the Lord to be a blessing to us in the work of the ministry.

All the resources that you have generously supplied in the work of the Lord has in turn brought glory to our Lord Jesus Christ. This will be a crown of rejoicing at his appearing. I thank the Lord for you and all yours for all that the Lord has done in you and through you and your support, gifts, study materials, g.s.b curriculum etc, for the ministry and edification of the Saints in Kenya.

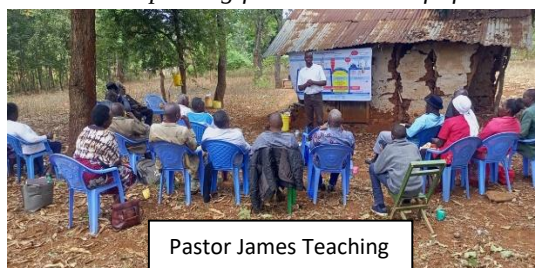
The ministry is doing well and are excited looking for your visit. Our prayers for you for this great task committed to you by our risen Lord through Apostle Paul...to make known what is the fellowship of the Mystery

Moses and brother Noah are doing a great work. They are standing for the grace message in Uganda and we thank the Lord for all that he is preparing them to be on Christ

We look forward for a great revival as we receive the edification from the word of God early next year. Your visit is always profitable and crucial as we are always established and firmly grounded even seeing like minded brothers and sisters. Your visit is with eternal value and fruitful in the Lord.

We are excited and looking forward to seeing you face to face. Philippians 3:12-13

As we usher 2025, one thing we know and assure of, all that we do for the Lord will eternally exist as a trophy of His grace.



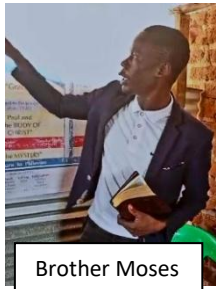
Pastor James Teaching



James delivering Bibles

1 Thessalonians 2:13 For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received *it* not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe.

Uganda News



Brother Moses

Brother Moses in Uganda continues to grow in understanding and has made many inroads with various churches there. Some have embraced the message of grace while others have rejected it, and he now suffers affliction because of it. Brother Moses by trade is a builder and when he is working in other town and cities, he shares God's word with those around him. Noah is a young man who received the message from Moses and now co-labours with him. Pastor Dan who attended our conference in 2023 in Kenya continues to work with brother Moses. He has denounced the denominational church he was part of and now suffers hardship due to it.



Moses and Dan (far right)

Recently the church which Moses oversees held a community leaders' lunch where they provided food and then preached the gospel. Moses said it was the first time he saw a Muslim sit for 2 hours listening to the gospel preached. I do not know what the outcome was, but thankful some of us plant, some water but God giveth the increase. We continue to support Moses with provision to print materials for distribution among those he is ministering to. Please continue to pray for the work in Uganda. Moses and a couple brothers will be travelling to Kenya to join us when we are there in February. I am working on another visit to Africa later this year, visiting Uganda to see the work first hand and how we can help the believers there.



Noah, Wilbur and Wabwire

Online Studies Africa

I have weekly online studies with various leaders from Kenya and Uganda which have been very profitable. We are studying the Hebrew epistles as there have been many questions about the ages to come. Also, where the little flock fits in with Israel's future. Out of these studies many questions arise and opportunities to teach the whole counsel of God's word rightly divided. The growth in understanding of the brethren is exponential and we give thanks.

1 Corinthians 3:5-7 Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man? I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase.



Simon Teaching



Memory, unknown,
Mulenga, Jenny, Charity



Pastors James and Peter handing out Charts

Your continued prayers are needed as we seek wisdom and prudence to the edification and perfecting of the believers in Africa. We need to spend more time and resources to meet the needs of the growing work there.

How to financially support this ministry - All support is payable to "**Graceway Bible Church**" marked "**Missions**" using the address on the newsletter heading. We hope to add an electronic support soon.

Thanking God our Father by Jesus Christ our Lord for you.
Des & Zjaan Strydom



Reaching Africa by Teaching Faithful Men & Women - 2 Timothy 2:2