

AFRIGO

Encouraging the Church in world mission

Volume 7, Issue 3

NEVER TOO YOUNG
FAITHFUL LITTLE EFFORTS
CANDY, GOSPEL, COMMISSION!

CHILDREN IN MISSIONS:
THE NEXT GENERATION NOW!

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CONTENTS



03 INVOLVE THEM NOW

Hear Pastor Ray Mensah's passion for children's participation in missions. His compelling stories gathered over years of experience reveal the potential of the youngest among us.

04 CALLED: NEVER TOO YOUNG

Nigerian-born Jesse is 15 years old and an introvert. Sharing the gospel in a foreign land was like 'striking a frozen lake' for him. But he learnt what it means to be a missionary in Mali.

05 CHILDREN THROUGH A DIFFERENT LENS

Cameroonian pastor and children's worker, Mbas Ngan David Emmanuel shares unique and diverse viewpoints on children in missions.

06 FAITHFUL LITTLE EFFORTS

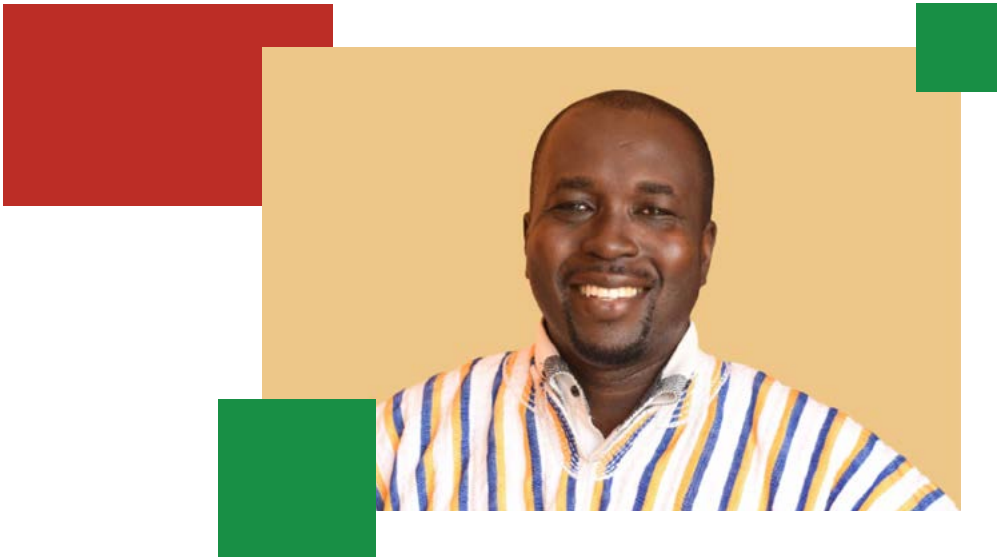
Ten-year-old Fajara 'made trouble' for his parents when he shared the gospel with his Muslim friend at school. Find out how his church is discipling new little evangelists in Kenya.

09 MISSIONS WHEELS FOR KIDS

Check out colourful, inspiring and child-friendly resources to take your children on an exciting adventure of praying for nations and sharing the gospel with others.

11 CANDY, GOSPEL, COMMISSION!

CAPRO missionary Boitumelo Okeke started gathering idle kids for candy and Bible teaching. Today, two of them are joining her as fellow missionaries on the mission field.



INVOLVE THEM NOW

BY RAY MENSA MENSAH

The 25-year-old lady who had attended one of our missions training programmes queried, “how come I have never heard these things even though I have been in church all my life?” She was concerned that she had never learnt about unreached peoples and the remaining task of world evangelization in church or at her campus ministry.

Her solution was that missions should be taught right from Sunday school. She said had she been exposed as a kid, it would have changed the course of her life. This young lady’s case is not isolated. Millions of Christians have still not been involved in the greatest cause on earth: the Great Commission.

Her antidote captured my attention—that the millions of kids in our children’s ministries should be taught about the Great Commission and actively involved in missions.

Once again, I’m excited about the theme for this issue of AfriGO. I am a big advocate for mobilizing everyone for missions—children, youth, men, and women. Only a few churches around the globe have been able to do this; many churches do not involve children in missions.

Our Lord Jesus lamented that “the harvest is plentiful but the labourers are few” (Matt. 9:37). Surely there would be more labourers if we intentionally activated and trained children in our churches for missions. I have personally met and heard of several children in the United States who wanted to be missionaries in Africa or Asia. They had been activated in church when they were young through missionary visits, biographies, and teachings about the needs of the nations and the unreached.

I recently heard about an eight-year-old girl who led an eighty-year-old woman to Christ. That got me very excited, and I have been sharing that testimony to challenge pastors and leaders to include children in missions.

My dear wife Cynthia recently attended a workshop on discipling children, organized by World Vision. They were made to fill out a survey and one of the questions was about

parents taking their kids for evangelism. Almost all the parents were convicted because they hardly did this.

As Christian parents, we fail our children by not discipling them for the greatest cause on earth. The scripture teaches, “Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it” (Prov. 22:6). We must endeavour to obey this scripture in all areas, including activating our kids for missions.

All areas of adult mission involvement apply to kids.

- **PRAY:** I have seen kids pray passionately for the unreached even more than adults do. At home we have a framed world map, and during family devotions, we and our kids pray for three nations each.
- **GIVE:** Children tend to be very selfless and generous with missions giving. My son came back from boarding school with funds to donate towards missions. He had saved part of his pocket money. A missionary friend recounted how the children at his home church in Canada sold cupcakes and other baked goods to raise funds to buy a vehicle for his missionary work.
- **GO:** Kids can be discipled to share the gospel in their schools and communities, as well as cross-culturally. They can go on short-term missions like adults do. My wife and I take our kids on family mission trips, and it has greatly impacted their lives.

I feel that if we don’t intentionally disciple our children in the area of missions, we will lose a generation.

I challenge parents, pastors, Sunday school and Christian teachers to rise to the task of raising mission-minded kids to take over the missions mandate from us. Let’s get our children fully involved in missions NOW!

Ray Mensa Mensah is the Executive Director of OneWay Africa and also serves as President of the Ghana Evangelical Missions Association (GEMA). He is passionate about the total mobilization of churches for missions where every member is involved in the Great Commission. ray@owm.org

CALLED: JESSE ISHAKU AMAH-KABONG



Photo: AIM Stories

AGE 15 IS NOT TOO YOUNG

AS TOLD TO MERCY KAMBURA

I was nine years old when I first went on a cross-cultural mission trip abroad. My family and I packed our bags and headed out of Nigeria for Mali. We were going as missionaries in a predominantly Muslim region, and I didn't think we'd come back alive.

As my dad prayed for us before the journey, I felt encouraged. I was excited to share the gospel with the people in Mali. However, my first one-on-one evangelism didn't result in a conversion. I was ill-at-ease as I tried to break the ice that felt like striking a frozen lake. Gathering my courage like little David before Goliath, I told him, "Jesus became my friend, and He'd like to be your friend too." I handed him a gospel tract with trembling hands and invited him to read.

His response was casual and comforting. He said he'd like Jesus to be his friend, just not immediately; he'd think about it. As an introvert, it had taken a lot of strength to reach out, and I was a little discouraged about his response. I have been praying for him, and I know he will make Jesus his friend one day soon.

As I've watched my parents reach out to the unreached, I have seen firsthand



I handed him a
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invited him to read.

that it's not easy, and it's not a job exclusively for grown-ups.

In Mali, we had a sports ministry and showed the kids films in the evenings. My role was to invite my friends to come and help my dad set up for the shows. We'd then speak to them about Christ. Many people gave their lives to Christ, especially during the film, *The Passion of the Christ*.

Every Wednesday, we went out with my parents for evangelism, handing out gospel tracts to people in the streets.

I was delighted to be involved because it added to my Bible knowledge and experience in missions. I've also learned to trust God as I watch my parents walk in blind faith despite trials.

Once, the office couldn't send money

for our upkeep in good time, and we were on the verge of starvation. We went before God, and a neighbour brought us food without us asking.

We were in Mali for four-and-a-half years, and I have no regrets about my time there. I'd want to go back to Mali, and I'd like to be a missionary. I don't know where God would want me to go; He hasn't shown me yet. But I have been praying for many countries that don't know God to get to know Him.

It has been a pleasure reaching the unreached with my parents, especially my dad, because he led me to Christ on 29th April 2016. He also baptized me and has been my discipler.

No one is ever too young to be used by God. God will show you what He has for you as you participate in missions. You can start serving God now in your country.

Word from Daddy

Having my son give his life to Christ through me and baptizing him is the best experience a father can go through. That made me happy. I always took him with me on my mission trips, even when he was too young to understand what was happening.

Parents, make the effort to lead your children to Christ. Teach them to speak about Jesus to others; even if all they'll say is "Jesus loves you", it's enough.

CHILDREN THROUGH A DIFFERENT LENS

BY MBAS NGAN DAVID EMMANUEL

During a youth camp in Cameroon, children shared tracts throughout the local neighborhood and community. They even shared with soldiers and preached to them, making good use of their high energy level, their simplicity and flexibility.

Such enthusiasm, courage and joy of children in doing mission activities is often underestimated or even ignored by their churches. The harvest is plentiful and the workers are few. The Church must commission and spread out her labourers into missions; and empowered children can also be members of that harvest force. From the boy David who killed Goliath to the little boy who gave his loaves and fish to Jesus to feed the crowd, we see throughout scripture how children are used of the Lord to accomplish His purposes alongside adults.

The current situation in many countries is that children and youths are not involved enough in missions for various reasons. Our attention was drawn to an aspect of the problem during a seminar we facilitated in Yaoundé in 2020, with ONE HOPE (www.onehope.net). Using Cameroon cities as a sample, we discovered that in most countries, children spend more than 50 hours weekly in school related activities and only two hours maximum in Bible related activities. School appears to be the most important thing, more important than church.

The modern idea is that children should not engage in long intellectual activities that do not contain play. Children are encouraged to play more than they read their Bibles. We are told that children are too fragile to concentrate for long. This poor investment in children does not help them grow to their full spiritual potential. Other reasons are: undervaluing the capacity of children, current world trends, TV programmes and the internet.

We believe the solution is varied, and if well synchronized, will bring results. Parents and children's ministers need to intentionally take full responsibility for exposing their children to more biblical content and stories of field missionaries. Children's ministers and their ministries should be taken seriously and empowered. Resources such as the Accelerated Christian Education System can also be used in Christian schools.

Children and youths need to be exposed to the gospel and the Great Commission in a more creative and relevant way according to their age groups. Christian children should be reminded of their privilege in having access to the gospel, so they will value it and feel for those who lack it. We must also check what our children are exposed to and confront it with what the Bible teaches.

The Church herself needs to fully return to missions. Churches should share experiences with one another in order to enrich what each church is doing. We have experienced a better intentional involvement of children in missions through our own activities and activities with our partners. With the Protestant Baptist Church Works and International Missions (EPBOMI), we have seen a special empowerment of children and youths in missions through teaching, field experience and age- and gender-specific home fellowships in the late 1990s and early 2000s.

Children also venture into missions through the empowering actions of Child Evangelism Fellowship, Samaritan's Purse, One Hope and the Children in Missions Network of the Movement for African National Initiatives (MANI).

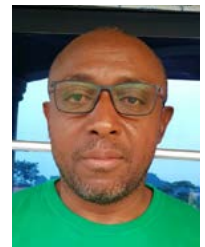
We saw children acquire a burden for the unreached through the Global Day of Children and Families Praying for Unreached People Groups in June 2022. Through their locally adapted Accelerated Christian Education System, a missionary couple in Yaoundé, the Wambas, transformed the lives of many children, helping them to perform well, leading them to the Lord, and making them missionaries right from their young age.

To summarize, children, who in Africa are more than half of the population, are arrows (Ps. 127:4) that must fulfill their God-given purpose. It is the responsibility of parents and children's ministers to disciple children according to the Lord's ways (Prov. 22:6).

Missions is good for children. It is high time we return to biblical ways to have other Timothy's, Jeremiah's, Davids, Josephs, and many more for the cause of global missions. May God bless the African Church with children in missions. Shalom!

*I recommend these two websites to better understand the situation with Children in Missions: <https://maniafrica.com/children-in-missions-network-cimn/> and <https://www.aboutmissions.org/statistics.html>

Mbas Ngan David Emmanuel is a Cameroonian missionary based in Yaoundé, who has pastored local assemblies. He is currently the Vice-National Coordinator of the GO Movement in Cameroon (www.gomovement.world), the Coordinator of Missions Fest International in Yaoundé (www.missionsfestinternational.org), the Secretary General of Opération Josué (www.operationjosue.org), the National Coordinator of the Missionary Synergy – SYMIS and the Coordinator for Cameroon and Central Africa of the Movement for African National Initiatives, MANI (www.maniafrica.com). +237 677 642 984; eddymbas@yahoo.com



**Children's ministers
and their ministries
should be taken
seriously and
empowered.**



FAITHFUL LITTLE EFFORTS

Photo: AIM Stories

Fajara's parents informed his Sunday school teachers, "You made trouble for us!" Ten-year old Fajara had shared the gospel with his Muslim friend at school, and he gave his life to Christ. Back home his friend told his parents about the decision he had made that day. But they were not as pleased as he was, so they confronted Fajara's parents.

Young Fajara was only doing what he had been taught in his *Johari* Sunday school class at Nairobi Chapel, Ngong Road. Every week, his teachers give him and his colleagues devotionals. They are encouraged to gather a few friends weekly during school lunch time and spend ten minutes sharing God's

word with them. Fajara's experience is one of the testimonies from parents and schools about the outcome of such little faithful efforts by the Sunday school children.

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Pastor Bella, the Next Generation pastor at Nairobi Chapel, shares the church's interest in children as far as the Great Commission is concerned. "Church planting is at the heart of our church vision and when we send church planters, we also strive to send children workers. This ensures that the church not only reaches adults, but is also intentional about reaching children and equipping them to reach others also."

Nairobi Chapel's children's ministry,

QUEST, is organized into two categories; the 2 to 5 year olds in the *Kiota* cluster and the *Jasiri* cluster for the 6 to 11 year olds. Upon arriving at church, the *Kiota* children go straight into their various sub age groups where everything happens. The *Jasiri* cluster meets together for large group worship and teaching, before breaking into their small groups for discussions. The 0 to 2 year olds in the crèche are not left out. The church makes time for their parents to sing and pray over them during the service.

Outreach and giving

Fajara's church adopts Jesus' outreach model in Acts 1:8, and their immediate environment is their Jerusalem. They have various initiatives to reach adults and children within their vicinity. The Quest Centre is one of them. It has a sports arena that welcomes children to play football and receive coaching, thereby providing a strategic opportunity to share Christ

and disciple them. The Center also has a reading and feeding program to provide avenues for evangelism. Some of the children in the church join and serve in these programs.

Apart from the children they nurture at church, Nairobi Chapel also has weekly outreaches to schools where they sometimes reach more than 7,000 children in a week.

Tree of Joy is a Christmas giving project which cultivates in the children compassion and kindness towards those in need. The children are encouraged to save some money over the course of the year. During Christmas, they buy a meaningful item as a gift for another needy child within a school or children's home context. Pastor Bella adds that this teaches the children the values of brotherly love, selflessness, gratitude, and working hard to help others.

Adventures in prayer

Just as the adults have a prayer guide, the children do too. The guide helps them to pray for their families, their friends, and the nation. This year, as part of their "Samaria" outreach, they have been praying for Kenya county by county in the run up to their national elections. Every October, they join in the Africa Children's Prayer Day. This year's theme is "Bless This Nation", and throughout September, they are engaging the children in 30 days of prayer leading to the event. Each day has a Bible verse and an item for prayer.

Another prayer initiative for the pre-teens was teaching on persecution and



Photo: AIM Stories

sensitizing them about the 50 most persecuted countries. Pastor Bella says the teens were surprised to find that Kenya was 49 on the list.

Growing in missions

Nairobi Chapel considers the philosophy of 'Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and to the ends of the earth' in their training of children. When children are young, they are at home and may not have wide- or far-reaching connections. Their influence is within their daily circle of friends and neighbours. The church trains them to reach this circle. As the children grow older, they can widen that circle as they accompany adults on outreach programmes in their own city. In situations like this they can share from their possessions and from their hearts. By the time the child is grown, he or she understands thoroughly how to do personal evangelism and reach those around him or her. He would have also developed a burden and a habit of praying for the lost, and hopefully participated in a mission trip to reach those farther away.

Challenges and potential

Pastor Bella admits that there never seems to be enough finances to cover the need, but God has allowed them

to make His impact with what He has provided. Growing partnerships with parents can also be tough in a society that does not perceive the capabilities of children, and this limits their involvement.

She believes there is no need to assume children cannot do it. "They are great evangelizers, promoters and marketers. They are the first to champion things. We don't have to babysit them, but rather invest in them and provide opportunities for them to reach others. Children are very receptive as the 4-14 Window indicates. Imagine what 1,200 children can do as they reach other receptive children every week." [see article page 8]

The African child

To conclude, she shares what the African child can contribute to evangelization and global missions. "The Great Commission was not given to adults only; children are part. African children have their simplicity and sincerity to offer. Their lives are uncluttered by the sophistications of riches and technology. In that spirit of simplicity, they can share the unadulterated gospel with sincere hearts and a genuine faith."



CHILDREN CAN BE MOBILIZED TOO

In November 2019, Jane Waithaka Mwaura from Finishing the Task and a team of children's workers led a children's conference at the Africa Inland Church Maraigushu at Naivasha, Kenya.

Over the course of three days, the team led the children in Bible stories, dances of praise to God, scripture memorization, and acting out Bible stories which they could apply to their lives.

At times, conferences see high attendance at the beginning, with numbers dropping off day by day.

However, this event began with 80 children and rose to over 200 at the end!

Why? Because the children mobilized more children to come. Every evening, the children went to their friends and neighbours and invited them to join the conference.

An emphasis of this conference was on mobilizing children to evangelize their friends who don't know Jesus and to pray for unreached peoples in Kenya and beyond. Each child learned about their responsibility and opportunity to reach out through

prayer and action. A focus was helping the children to pray for unreached people, both near and far.

Jane is encouraging churches to see their children not only as a ministry opportunity, but as a resource to reach others. She said, "Children have been left out – we think that church is for grownups and youth, but we need to consider the future of the Church. Children can reach out to other children and pray for unreached people groups. It is up to the church to teach them."



CHILDREN PRAY

The African Children's Prayer Day is October 1! Here are tips from the 4/14 Africa movement on how to guide children in prayer:

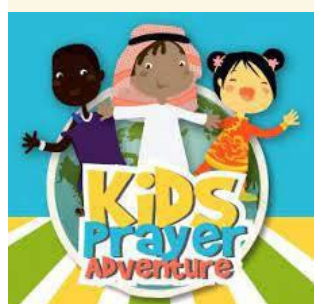
1. Open conversations with God. Remind them that they can have continuous conversations with God, anywhere and anytime, because they have unrestricted access to their Heavenly Father.
2. Pray anytime. Remind them that discipline in prayer can be at any hour of the day, any day of the week; they have access and audience with a God who cares deeply for them, their needs and their families.
3. Pray all the time. Remind children that even the most simple of household tasks and chores are still opportunities to continue to pray, praise and worship at any hour of the day. Challenge them to continue to press in and keep praying, especially when they don't feel like it.
4. Pray for others. Remind them that God's power is not limited by proximity. They can intercede and stand in the gap for those who are far away.
5. Prayer has power. Remind children that they have greater impact than they realize through the power of their prayers. They can continue to partner with God hourly and daily in prayer for the change they desire to see.

<https://bit.ly/3Q2Ps0e>



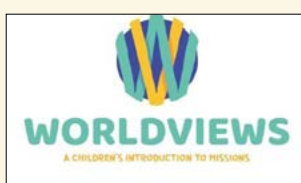
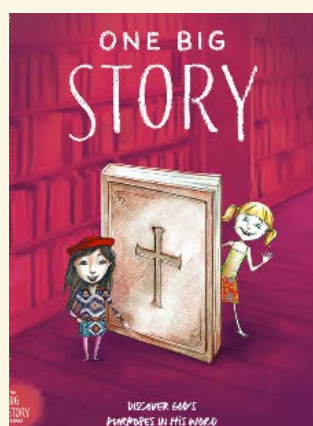
Photo: Joni Byker

MISSIONS RESOURCES FOR CHILDREN

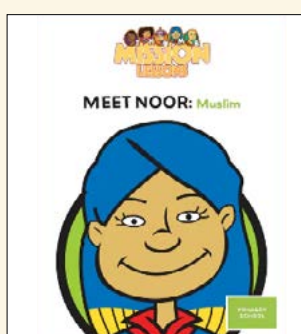


Operation Mobilization Africa has put together a beautiful and engaging book with 52 devotionals for kids to pray for the world. You can read it for free at <https://bit.ly/3CNjl1C> or visit <https://bit.ly/3RmUHbV> to find out how to buy.

Weave, an organization dedicated to mobilizing families for missions, offers a 52-week family devotional which contains hands-on activities, discussion questions, and prayer prompts to actively and consistently engage your children in God's story. You can get it for free at their website in PDF when you subscribe. Memory verse cards and another devotional on unreached peoples can also be found there. <https://bit.ly/3QjVASd>



Pioneers Mission has put together an excellent curriculum which teaches children about each of the major religious viewpoints around the world: Tribal, Hindu, Unreligious, Muslim and Buddhist. It goes on to show how children can reach them for Jesus. Download for FREE along with excellent streaming videos! <https://bit.ly/3KxLIYT>



Meet Noor is a lesson with a skit and a Bible activity to help children understand how Muslim beliefs differ from God's truth. Downloadable for USD\$5 from <https://bit.ly/3TGm1Ee>

Sonlight, a US-based homeschool company, has put together a comprehensive guide on how children can reach out to Muslims. This is geared toward older children. <https://bit.ly/3B3hYus>

PRAYER GUIDES

Worldchristian.com offers a 30-day guide for children to pray for the Muslim World for just \$2. <https://bit.ly/3Rt5Jwv>

SIM's UK office sends out a monthly prayer newsletter from their missionary kids around the world, to encourage other kids to pray. Your kids can sign up at <https://bit.ly/3QqK5rX>

GO! NEWS OF AFRICA'S MOBILIZING CHURCH

GLOBAL DAY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES PRAYING FOR UNREACHED PEOPLE GROUPS



On 19 June, children from all over the world gathered to pray for the still unreached people groups around the planet. Organized by the Children in Missions Network (CMN) of the Movement for African National Initiatives (MANI), the goal was to mobilize children and families for a long time engagement with UPGs through praying, giving and going until all have heard the gospel.


Coordinators from nine African countries as well as Finland, Haiti, Pakistan, USA and Cambodia marshaled families to pray at home or to join an international Zoom call to knock on the doors of heaven on behalf of those who do not know Jesus.



Training for missions communicators:

Magazine Training International (MTI), a Christian training agency for majority world publications, is hosting a conference in Accra from 13-17 November. Sign up at <https://bit.ly/3pUCXct>

AfriGO Conversations is now on YouTube! Watch all our stimulating interviews or join us live on the third Friday of every month.

 <https://bit.ly/3qiYXxz>

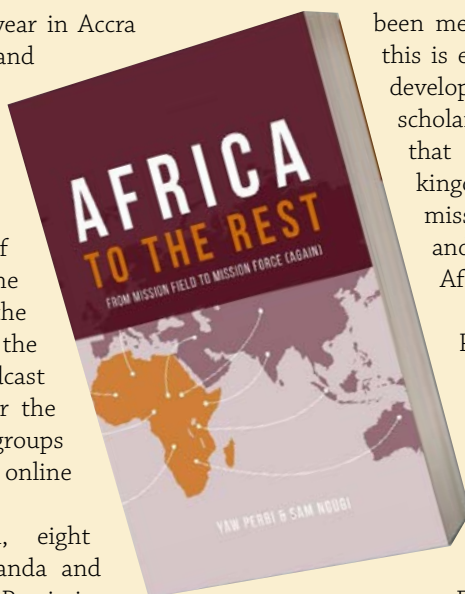


BOOK LAUNCH A2R: The right message at the right time

A2R was successfully launched this year in Accra Ghana, Nairobi Kenya, Vancouver and Montreal in Canada, and at the National African American Mission Conference. Mini-launches took place in Tanzania and Rwanda.

A2R has been well received across the board in Africa and other parts of the world. The feedback is that it is the right book with the right message at the right time. Since the launch, some of the developments include an A2R Podcast with Missio Nexus, an A2R blog for the Lausanne Movement, small study groups in Tanzania and Kenya, and positive online engagements.

Following the Nairobi launch, eight scholars from Kenya, Ethiopia, Rwanda and the US volunteered to develop an A2R mission curriculum for Bible Schools in Africa. They have



been meeting regularly for this purpose, and this is expected to contribute to the ongoing development of African missiology in both scholarship and practice. One reader shared that he feels stirred by A2R to start a kingdom business with proceeds going to missions. A2R is catalysing mission vision and action and the expansion of the African mission movement.

The authors, Sam Ngugi and Yaw Perbi, are currently exploring a French translation for Francophone Africa as well as an audio version to expand its accessibility across Africa.

A2R can be purchased on Amazon Kindle. Other online purchase platforms are Jiji in Kenya and Book Nook Store in Ghana.

For more information about the #A2R movement, visit www.africatotherest.com

KIDS **POP OUT** ON KINDNESS

“Two of my Sunday school kids were in the car when we saw the woman and her children by the roadside. We were returning from a party and the kids had been given some gifts. To my shock, four-year-old Esther popped out of the car and went to give her treats from the party to the woman’s children.”

Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it (Prov. 22:6). Sister Grace and her Sunday school teacher colleagues are seeing the fruit of their training reaching outside church walls. The International Fellowship of Christians Church (IFC) in Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire, has been intentional about raising their children to be generous and outward looking.

Sister Grace shares, “We teach and demonstrate to them that they have to reach out. We instill in them that culture and mindset, encouraging them to do what Jesus would do right from when they are young.”

Beyond teaching them to show love to

the less-privileged, the teachers encourage putting into practice what they learn. They allow the children to brainstorm their own ideas and provide guidance where necessary. The church does not interfere; it’s the children’s initiative through and through. From Esther’s random act of kindness, the result is evident.

The children and teenagers have packed their own items - clothes, shoes, and other daily essentials - into shoe boxes for donations to orphanages. They took food along to share, and each Sunday school child was paired with an orphan. The children sang and danced and 14-year old Philip gave a short sermon. He spoke about how God has great things lined up for them despite their present situation.

The teens also embarked on a fundraising initiative to buy gifts for inmates at a juvenile prison. “When every season of giving comes, all the children are so happy to do it. It gives them fulfillment and develops in them



Photo: IFC

a heart of compassion.” The IFC Sunday school teachers do not have to wait to see the effect of their investment and intentionality in the future. They are witnessing it now.

THE GOSPEL AND CANDY

BEAUTY BOITUMELO OKEKE, CAPRO

Two young men I started evangelizing when they were eight years old are set to join me as missionaries in a few weeks. If I ever doubted that getting children involved in missions was profitable – and I never did – then this is the assurance I needed.

I’m a missionary with CAPRO, working with my husband, Kingsley, in mobilization and church planting in Botswana. Earlier in my ministry, I noticed that most missionaries would prioritize the adults while children were left to roam around. So, I called them to me. We’d read the Bible, sing songs, and eat candy.

I did a course in early childhood development to learn how to reach out and relate to them better. The children’s response was excellent. Once I’ve shared a story with them, they’d narrate it to their non-Christian friends with ease and simplicity. Along the way, I have picked up a few lessons to reach children and get them involved in evangelism:

Be patient

You have to mentally and physically come down to their level. It will look like nothing is happening for a while, but a lot is happening in their little minds. The seeds of the gospel are germinating.

Be simple

Dissect the gospel into manageable chunks for them. Dramatize the Bible stories so they can replicate them for their peers.

Be brief

You have a concise window to talk to children about something as important as the gospel and evangelism. Go straight to the point, and make it fun to hear and remember.

Be childlike

To get through to a child, you have to be a child. The world understands this; we too, have to be like children.

Be trustworthy

If you say you’ll come at 4 pm and bring sweets, do that. Children can get disappointed, and although they are forgiving, repeated broken promises break their little hearts.

Be bold

Undoing the things they are learning from home has been the greatest challenge. Often I have had to talk with the parents because some of these things are bred from home. It’s hard for kids to improve their character without the parents’ involvement.

PEOPLE GROUPS: BUSHMEN OF ANGOLA

The Bushmen are the oldest inhabitants of southern Africa, with about 100,000 people scattered across Namibia, South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Lesotho and Angola. In Angola, they are mainly concentrated in remote, inaccessible areas and live in rudimentary shelter or under trees, moving within their ancestral territorial bounds. Some have moved to villages surrounded by Bantu neighbours, and are being exposed to new ways of life.

The Bushmen have historically been oppressed by the surrounding people groups, especially after they fought on the losing side of the wars for independence in Angola and Namibia. They have little economic stability, and many across southern Africa find themselves in deep poverty.

There are a wide variety of names by which the Bushmen call themselves such as the *Tsoe* and *Ju/hoansi*. Outsiders call them by names such as the San or Bushmen. In Angola, the *!Xam* people are called *Vasikele* (people of the bush) and the *Kwê* people are called *Barakwene*. Most groups share cultural characteristics such as their style of living in family units.

Although the Bushmen languages are related and contain between five and seven clicks, there can be great differences between the languages of villages which are not far apart.

The Bushmen are not superstitious or religious, although they believe in a creator god. This may be because the traditions have not been passed down to the new generation. In some places, traditional medicine and hunting are disappearing among them and they work for neighbouring tribes, often at low wages.

No formal statistics exist on the percentage of believers, but missionaries among the Bushmen report that they are largely unreached. Most have heard the gospel, but it has not penetrated enough to have reproducing churches. One of the main barriers is the language, which is difficult for outsiders to learn, and problems with communication between the various groups. Their oral culture adds further complexities to sharing the gospel.

A great need for discipleship and absorption of the gospel exists. There are few Christians among them, and no churches. Missionaries are working on translating the scriptures in one of the southern Angolan languages.

AT A GLANCE

- The Bushmen still live as hunter-gatherers, moving from place to place depending on food availability.
- They have losing their traditions and know-how due to lack of oral transmission.
- In other countries, there are scriptures and churches among the Bushmen, but not in Angola.

PRAY

- For the Bushmen to find new ways to sustain themselves as their lifestyles change.
- For missionaries working among them, and for Bushmen to rise up and lead evangelism and discipleship.
- For Bible translation and story creation in their languages.

Sources: <https://reliefweb.int/report/angola/san-people-southern-angola>
Operation Mobilization missionaries



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