

PT Ministry Overview Jan – April 2019

As we look back since the beginning of this year (2019), we are truly grateful to God for his enabling grace that has kept us abreast in diligent service. The ministry of our engagement continues to grow – as an outcome of its realized timeliness and by virtue of ‘Bible need’ that surrounds us to day in Uganda.



We have 35 students enrolled for the 8-month ‘Bible Handlers’ course, to help them get to grips with Gospel as well as gain the skills of teaching others.

With over 70% of Uganda’s population under 30 years of age, preparing the church for mission in the coming years has required us to give greater attention to teaching the Bible among youth. We continue to hold regularly planned teaching sessions in a number locations – Universities, Secondary Schools, Primary Schools, the PT Center, Para-medical School, and at our home.



God has availed to us countless opportunities to reach all people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Every Sunday morning we arrange a worship service for an entire Primary (or Elementary) School where teach the Bible and nurture the these young ones. We then head out every Sunday afternoon for discipleship in a Secondary School where we have Bible Study Groups. We see and hear of great transformation among these students, and give glory to God.



Planning ahead involves flagship conferences and seminars of up to three days with 100 or more participants. As the work has increased, demanding greater workforce, we are also directing efforts to train preachers, instructors in various settings and ministry coordinators at different levels. This is paying off as we get share the work in the fellowship of many.

Some of the many of our ministry engagements are first time 'contact establishment' assignments; others are 'mobilization efforts' meant to rally a multitude around a common Gospel cause. Others are 'confidence building' joint efforts, though we currently direct our energies and resources on 'ministry consolidation' programs that have been established within the last seven years.

The gradually decreasing activities of our engagement have to do with ‘ministry awareness’ – meaning that along our vision in this region, a good number of like-minded Gospel workers are already in touch with us or aware of us.



We carry out training in three location with the Perspectives Study Course (including Mbarara, 260 km south west of Kampala) with 84 participants; we carry out discipleship in five institutions of higher learning within the city; prepare and send our *Weekly Digest* publication to over 1500 people by email and attend to countless joint efforts where we are invited.

USE OF THE PT CENTER

We had always desired and prayed to God that the PT Center would be full of Gospel-Centered activity of teaching and learning. God is answering this prayer in increasing measure, as we host trainees of several kinds, to teach the Bible, and help them to teach it to others.



The PT Center is buzzing with Gospel training activity – the purpose for which it has existed, now slowly being realized at an increasingly satisfactory level. We thank God so much.





God has opened doors for us in marvelous ways, giving us an opportunity to reach children, youth, women, men in their settings – ranging from home, through church, to school and market place. We hold alumni get-together events in order to maintain the loop of learning and mobilized for service. Bible expositions remain our anchor in everything we do, so that God's voice may be heard at all times. For this, PT has come to be appreciated by many as a 'Bible-teaching' group of individuals.

Invitations keep flowing into our office, calling upon us to go and preach, teach, train and give advice in consultations in various forums.

They come from local churches, mission agencies, theological schools and other educational institutions.

On a daily basis, we are engaged either together in a ministry activity, or scattered around the city or the country in different Gospel assignments.

We thank God that by his enabling grace, we have something to say or to give in such situations.



With more people aware of what we are doing through PT in Uganda, invitations to participate in new areas of ministry engagement continue to emerge. We were called upon by the government of Uganda through the ministry of Education, to participate in teaching student leaders from 50 secondary schools around Kampala. We were involved in the planning and implementation of this two-day event.



We were aware that as we work with the government entity, we cannot insist on the Bible of the saving work of Christ so openly, but the wisdom of leading people to answer life's inquiry in regard to its origins and purpose points young people outside themselves and to God. We are in the world but not of the world; and our desire is to utilize the convergence zone of being salt and light to the world: never retreating from the world, but never conforming to its patterns as well. We also learned great lessons through this.

CONSTRUCTION AT THE PT CENTER

The major works to improve the PT Center are currently around the Kitchen and Dining area. We are aiming at seeing a functional 'cooking and eating' place by July when plan to launch the Graduate Studies Certificate.

Windows and doors are now fixed. Walls are plastered. The major work on landscaping around is relatively done and the facility is looking better, though still under construction.



The first residential house at the PT Center, a duplex that we have been putting up is also at a better phase, waiting for floor works, electricity fixtures, plumbing completion and painting.

Once these are done, PT will move office permanently to the Center and shift much of our training program there.



PT TRANSPORT

One major ministry enhancement in recent months is to be found in transport provision. We acquired a mini-van, repaired our old one to make it road worthy, and got some motor cycles. With about 15 of us engaged in ministry daily in various locations and at different times, this is a crucial provision for PT. We are so grateful to God for this provision.



Travel to carry out discipleship classes in universities, meeting smaller groups where we teach the Bible, handling the Perspectives Course and numerous ministry errands is now much easier and smoother.



We are doing well as a family. **Grace** is keeping up with her chicken project, raising 200 hundred birds at the moment.



Her busiest time is with Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) where her role was adjusted to include more leadership and teaching assignments. She spends much time studying the Bible and preparing to teach women through seminars and usual BSF Classes.



Isabel has been kept quite busy at the Law Development Center doing her Bar Course which she will complete this coming August. She is already doing her clerkship in the city.



Isaac is at school in Nairobi Kenya, in his fourth year. Depending on the remaining classes, he may complete end of 2019 or early next year.

Isaiah is completing his first year at University, taking Law. He commutes to school and lives with us at home; very helpful to us in the kitchen too. He is a good cook and musician.

Abigail is now in her new school – Acacia International School since the year began. She is spending this semester in Grade Six and will be in Grade Seven beginning September.

Her school is far off from our home, requiring us to cross the city every morning and afternoon, but it is a much better venture and worth the sacrifice.

Please keep in prayer that our children will sustain their love for Christ in a reverent fear that is necessary for upholding faith and trust in God.



FORMAL TRAINING: THE PT INSTITUTE

The PT Center is continually gaining shape and being readied for the Graduate Studies Certificate (GSC), God willing, beginning in July. We had always prayed to see continuous ministry activity of Kingdom benefit on these premises, and we are so thrilled by what God is bringing about.

The GSC will be among the formal training offered by the PT Institute, as a pre-entry to the *Master of Arts in Intercultural Studies* (MAICS) which is 56 credit hours. So, the 14-credit hour GSC program is offered as a preparatory engagement, and those who would wish to complete MAICS carry forward the program with 42 credit hours under a fresh MA arrangement.



WHAT IS THE PT INSTITUTE?

The **PT Institute** is a facet within the wider ministry of the Proclamation Task which is established for formal education, above and beyond the non-formal training (seminars, workshops, conferences) and informal training (or the church-based prospectus).

The **PT Institute** is established to educate those who teach the Bible and preach its message, so as

- to establish biblical priorities in the message they proclaim,
- to appraise the motivation that guides their ministry, and
- to give greater consideration to the methods they employ in obedience to the Great Commission (Matt. 28: 18-20).

WHY THE PT INSTITUTE?

We are now living in the 21st century, a time of rapid growth and change. Many challenges and opportunities face us as evangelical theological educators, in raising biblical leadership from within our institutions of higher learning. In order to assess our efficiency we must sustain our inquiry as to whether:

- It is possible for theological institutions to teach a variety of professional study courses and still maintain a strong core of biblical / theological studies.
- It is possible to gain broader academic recognition and still be firmly tied to our rich evangelical heritage.
- An institution can be academically respectable and still foster a heart for authentic Christian ministry.

- Our theological education institutions are training the kinds of leaders who are fit for today's church in such fast-changing society.

Theological education in many parts of the world bears traditional characteristics of the Western paradigm in higher education. Western missionaries inevitably exported this model with little change in purpose, structure, content or methodology in spite of vast cultural and worldview differences that pertain to thought patterns, cognition and learning styles.

Even in the colleges and seminaries within the majority south (South America, Africa and Asia), theological education remains too content-oriented, often causing a crisis in the areas of objectives, faculty, curriculum, and outcome.

Taking into account the spiritual challenge to our 'formal education', the **PT Institute** seeks to encourage learning as experience, rather than just gathering content. True biblical discipleship calls for transformed people, not just informed individuals.

THE PT INSTITUTE'S PRACTICALITY

Students launch from a solid Bible foundation to interact with a broad base of Christian practitioners and literature in order to engage the pressing and relevant issues in their cultural contexts, for a direct and practical impact on their mission set ups. As our world becomes increasingly globalized, the task of relating cross-culturally and seeking to communicate the Gospel in multi-cultural contexts is indeed increasingly pressing.

The course modular is set in a way that favors students from the market place as well; the students will have 5 intensive week sittings (Monday- Friday) in the months of; July, September, November, January, and February. The in-between class sessions will be the time for more reading assignments and other course work.

The prospective students interested in doing the course must hold at least a bachelor's degree from a recognized university.

Because of the various backgrounds of our students, and aware that not many have done biblical or theological studies before, and aware that not many live under Bible exposition, we intend to stretch the 'Bible work' done once they enroll for MAICS, in order to raise preaching leaders for the church on mission.

Our focus is to strengthen those that are already in ministry rather than those who want to prepare.

At least 23 prospective students have shown interest and some applications are already with us for scrutiny.

Our goal is to start with 40 students. And the key prospective students are being drawn from the alumni of the Perspectives Study Program which is administered by the PT Institute in Uganda.

Each student will be required to pay \$292 US Dollars per credit hour. And we are well aware that many students will indeed struggle to raise beyond \$100 for each credit hour.

The challenge we face if we charge less, is that we may not sustain instructors, satisfactorily supervising student work for great results in shaping Gospel workers for Africa.

Thus, we plan to appeal to, or through our partners in order to top up for each student who is diligently seeking this vital training.

This program will be handled by Ugandans, with both local and international instructors (professors whom we know well) in helping the students to contextualize material and sign off upon on their satisfactory completion.



The Perspectives Study Program (PSP)

The **PT Institute** supervises the *Perspectives Course* in Uganda - ensuring course quality, course content, the very philosophy that grounds its instruction and graduate follow-up. This is a catalytic course designed to equip the people of God for strategic local engagement, with a global vision for the Christian mission movement.

Master of Arts in Intercultural Studies (MAICS) & Graduate Studies Certificate (GSC)

The entire MAICS program delivers a focused solution to those who wish to shape their service on a bedrock of biblical understanding and forward-thinking ministry knowledge and skill. Though sufficient in its measure, the 14-credit hour GSC program is offered as a preparatory engagement. Graduate students who would wish to go all the way can then bridge their training to the 56-credit hour MAICS program with a further 42 credit hours under a fresh Master of Arts in Intercultural Studies arrangement.

Master of Arts in Global Leadership (MAGL) & Masters of Arts for Women in Ministry (MAWIM)

The **PT Institute** is in a continuous arrangement to offer by priority, the MAGL and MAWIM - programs which are geared towards the global mission effort in developing bible-competent Christian professionals, who are skilled in practice for culturally-relevant ministry in a constantly changing world. These courses will be tailored for flexibility in study, designed to foster growth in ministries that require cross-cultural sensitivity and preparation for further and ongoing spiritual confrontation through academic engagement.

THE PT INSTITUTE'S INSTRUCTION FRAMEWORK

The learning process is undertaken with a view to doing and teaching (practical explanation with a personal experience), rather than simply remembering and reproducing, in an impersonal duplication of information and knowledge, that makes people pass from class to class and on to jobs.

Live instruction which is proctored by a team of Ugandan professors will provide both the contextualized mentoring and an official "sign off" with respect to each individual's successfully completed work. A helpful involvement of a variety of personnel including a teaching cohort from Western Seminary in Oregon USA, will augment instruction for advanced training, and boost our capacity for missiological research.

THE PT INSTITUTE'S ACCREDITATION

Set up to train at postgraduate level, the **PT Institute** seeks to be accredited by ACTEA (Association for Christian Theological Education in Africa). ACTEA offers accreditation service and affiliate network support for evangelical theological education programs and institutions in Africa. This gives the **PT Institute** a global standing in training Christian workers.

Tuition

For each credit hour, US \$292 will be charged. Thus, the entire tuition for the 14-credit hour GSC is US \$4,088. There is a possibility for financial aid to students who express genuine interest and sincere commitment for this study program. Other wide-ranging costs may include charges for lodging and meals, as well as study materials.

Course Structure

COURSE ID	COURSE TITLE	CREDIT HOURS
BTI 500	Introduction to Theology and Biblical Studies	2
SPF 500	Spiritual birth, growth and maturity	2
ICS 503	Intercultural Education for Missions	2
ICS 504	Biblical Anthropology for the Christian Mission	2
ICS 505	Contextualization and Indigenization	2
CLS 503	Ministry Leadership in Cross-cultural Contexts	2
CLS 505	Strategies for Missions in the Modern world	2
TOTAL		14

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Teaching the Bible to resolve the church's challenges in fulfilling God's mission in the world



On the Horizon

Four days ago we launched the second 15-week training at Lugogo Baptist Church; then we traveled to Rukungiri (about 370 kilometers south west of Kampala), and returned to Mbarara in good time to teach the PSP Class there, and returned to Kampala yesterday for the weekend teaching and preaching activities that await us.

In the coming week, I will be a visiting preacher at St. Francis (MUARIK) Kabanyolo (May 5th); attend the EFAC Theological Resource Group to set up a theological ‘think tank’ for the church in Uganda, and travel to Kamwenge on 8th May, where Grace and I have been invited to train clergy and their spouses in East Rwenzori Diocese.

Upon return from Kamwenge, I will be preparing to teach school teachers at Gayaza High School, under their national body – Uganda Christian Teachers Association, handling the subject: “growing in the knowledge of God’s Word” from May 17th to 19th.

By that time, the PT Annual Women’s Conference (May 20th – 24th) will be starting; we expect 150 ministering women to participate. And we look forward to receiving Mrs. Joanie Wilmot from USA who will also participate in teaching the women during the conference.



As the **PT Center** continues to take the shape fit for training Gospel workers, we thank you so much for the great support that you remain in this work, always asking our loving to fill you with joy and gladness in this Gospel task that we share – as you pray, as you give finances to enable and encourage us and as you keep in touch to enjoyment in the fellowship as we serve. **THANK YOU.**