



African Leadership Development

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## MARCH 2018



Dear Friends,

**DEATH OF A VISION** - As you know, for over a year we've been planning to build a Christian school next to the orphan home in Zim. Plans approved, ducks in a row for the government requirements, cement block maker purchased, blocks made, etc. But after prayer and counsel we've decided not to continue. The reason? It's been a long process to do it all, only to find that there are many uncertain elements ahead - none that we could've foreseen, and the requirements keep changing. We feel it's essential to be able to choose our own (Christian) teachers and the money now required to pay the government each year is steep with possible unknown "fees" down the road.

**SO WHAT NOW?** We feel God has led us thus far and nothing will be wasted. The blocks will be used for additional needed buildings on the HOH grounds. We'll strive to continue to 'make the main thing the main thing' in investing in the lives of our orphans. This group of children has become a family, with wonderful house "moms" and with Phillip and Azalea at the helm. Thank you for continued prayer for this precious "family".

**COMING UP** - I'll be leading a team of 8 or 9 to Africa at the end of March and the beginning of April. **Pray that all of the things we are bringing for Zim arrives and that we have grace at the borders getting through without a "hitch".**

Another one of the main things that ALD is committed to is Pastoral Training. A friend sent the chart on the left to show some of the recent trends in world missions.

Thanks again for your partnership!

Blessings, **Bill**

### GLOBAL MISSION TRENDS

#### The Great Shift

| Year | % of all Christians in Europe and North America | % of all Christians in Latin America, Africa, Asia |
|------|---|--|
| 1800 | 99%   | 1%   |
| 1900 | 90%   | 10%  |
| 1979 | 50%   | 50%  |
| 2016 | 24%   | 76%  |

For every one new believer in North America and Europe there are nearly 30 new believers in developing countries like Nigeria, Brazil, India and China.



The new faces of the Body of Christ

#### Receivers Becoming Senders

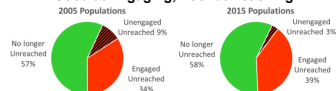
Rise of African, Asian and Latin American missionaries. Estimated missionaries sent over the next 15-20 years.



#### Emphasis on Partnership

- Importance of both West and Global South missions efforts
- Not a passing of the baton, but a cooperative equal partnership
- Often West providing expertise, training and innovation and Global South providing manpower, cultural-nearness and zeal
- Emergence of international mission teams

#### Good at Engaging, Poor at Reaching



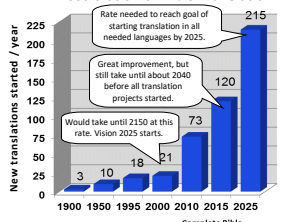
Unengaged unreached people groups (UUPGs) population shrunk from 9% of world's population in 2005 to about 3% in 2015. Great! Unreached people groups (UPGs) - the combined striped and solid red portions of the charts - only declined from 43% in 2005 to 42% in 2015. Not so good!

#### Shrinking Global Missionary Workforce

| Year | Cross-cultural missionaries sent |
|------|----------------------------------|
| 2000 | 450,000                          |
| 2016 | 386,000                          |

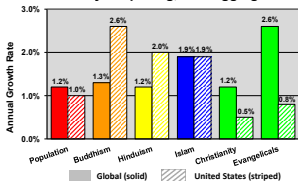
90% of decline due to decrease in US sending, 5% the United Kingdom, 5% other countries

#### Acceleration of Bible Translation



The New Testament has been translated into the mother tongue of about 90% of the world's population. However, the remaining approximately 10% will require about 1,800 new translations.

#### Evangelical Growth: Globally Outpacing, US Lagging



Globally - Evangelicals growing faster than all major religions. United States - all major religions growing faster than Evangelicals.

#### Other Global Trends

Lack of pastoral training - 95% of pastors (2.2 million) have no formal training.

Need for audio Bibles, storying and non-book training - 60% of world are oral learners.

Urbanization - Urban population reached over 55% of world in 2016 and is growing.

March 2017 Sources: Joshua Project, Operation World, Atlas of Global Christianity, Jesus Film Project, Wycliffe Bible Translators, Frontier Ventures, Mission Frontiers