Biblical Missions

Dear Culture Contrarians,

The American church has steadily moved away from teaching the Bible. Thirty years ago, Christian family camps showcased a Bible teacher who would draw people in with an exposition of the Book of Hebrews, or maybe Genesis. As time went on, the draw became psychological tools for family development, with biblical references sprinkled in. Now the draw is rest, relaxation, and time away from any serious learning. By and large the American church has shifted away from Bible exposition. Much of the New Testament is focused on planting and establishing grace-based churches in cultures where there are none. It is not a surprise that the sending of missionaries to plant and establish churches has been replaced with inward-looking programs intended to increase the size of the American church.

But you read your Bible. You sense the urgent nature of the gospel message and Christ’s invitation not only to receive everlasting life as a free gift, but also to grow in grace through a reckless abandonment to Him.

God has opened up a growing cadre of grace-based churches in Burundi, East Africa. Burundi is the poorest country in the world. The people there are hungry—all of the time. Although it is a country that oppresses non-Catholic groups, God has opened a great door of ministry through Anicet NDIKURIYO and Grace Bible Church of Burundi.

This summer, Lord willing, I plan to return to Burundi and teach the Book of Isaiah to a group of men who have graduated from the 4-year training program developed by Dr. Charlie Bing of GraceLife. I haven’t been writing many articles over the past months because I have been focusing on this class. I’ve attached my notes for your own study of Isaiah.

We anticipate 140 pastors in attendance. The provision of 3 meals a day for a whole week, the fellowship with the other Grace Bible Church pastors, and the excellent Bible training does a lot to encourage these churches in a difficult part of the world.

I invite you to participate in this expression of world missions; take some time and see for yourself what God is doing: [www.grace4burundi.com](http://www.grace4burundi.com). Contact me and I’ll send you Anicet’s most recent newsletter.

My love to you all,