Africa Freedom Mission



"And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek him."

Our heart's desire is that everything we do in life and in ministry would be done in faith, that we would earnestly seek the Lord, hear from Him,



and respond in obedience - no matter what the ask. Africa Freedom Mission is a result of that posture and we're excited about how the Lord has opened doors and hearts to this new ministry. Please take a few minutes to read this brief update of AFM's ministry in Africa, to learn about what's already happened as well as the future direction of the ministry.

ESTABLISHING A FOUNDATION

When we started this ministry, we sought to have a Leadership, Culture and Vision that is firmly rooted in Christ.

Leadership

AFM is a board run ministry served by leaders who are diverse, experienced and love Jesus. Did you know that our Board of Directors has:



- Over 15 years of Full-Time African Missions Experience; and
- Experience leading over 150 short-term teams with over 5,500 team members.

It's so exciting to have men and women of this caliber sign on to provide their wisdom and experience in leading this organization. If you get a chance, go to:

<u>www.africafreedommission.org/afm-board-of-directors</u> and check out their bios.

Culture

In mid-September, the AFM team along with one of our board members traveled to Zimbabwe to spend

time worshiping, praying and planning. We spent 5 days on a houseboat (with no outside distractions) on Lake Kariba with our Zimbabwe partners Bruce & Sue Douglas. The trip was so foundational as it

allowed us as to quiet our hearts for a bit and hear from the Lord and begin to establish the culture of AFM. We walked away with this: "Family is the fireplace of



revival." We have to learn to love each other well before we can ever expect to love others.

Vision

We believe the Lord used our time in Zimbabwe to give us a clearer vision as to what He is calling this ministry to. Here's the vision statement

to. Here's the vision statement that we came up with: "AFRICA FREEDOM MISSION SEEKS TO INSPIRE REVIVAL THROUGH IDENTIFYING, EQUIPPING, AND MOBILIZING MISSIONAL LEADERS." Here's a simple graphic to explain.



EXCITING START

In August, before leaving for Zimbabwe, we officially launched the ministry. Our plan was to announce in August, go to Zimbabwe in September and then hit the ground running in October. Well, the Lord moved a bit faster than we all expected! Before heading to Zimbabwe, we had already filled our summer leadership program (6 leaders and 12 team members).



As of the 15th of October, we have 45 applications for summer teams. We have filled spots on teams that will be serving in Kenya, Uganda,

Zambia and Zimbabwe. We have team members who will be serving for as little as 2 weeks to as long as 3 months. It's shaping up to be an awesome summer already and we haven't even reached our peak recruiting season!

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PART TIME / FULL TIME

I currently receive salary from monthly donations and from working part-time as a business consultant at BlueCross Blue Shield. It's about a 50/50 ratio. As the needs of the ministry grow, so will my responsibilities. In addition to planning and coordinating summer itineraries in 4 different African countries, there is a need for me to be in Africa to help lead this summer. Because of this, the ministry has set a target start date for me to be full-time by January 31st, 2020. Please pray for me in this endeavor. The ministry already has a good bit of momentum and with some focused leadership, it could be positioned to really take off!

A LIFE CHANGED

When I was 18 years old and a recent high school graduate, I signed up for a summer mission trip to Kenya. I had been a Christian for about 2 years and for some reason couldn't get the thought out of my head that I needed to serve on a mission trip. At the time, I didn't know just how much that one experience would shape the rest of my life. After spending about 6 months raising support, I was fully funded and ready to go. The

team I was serving with traveled to Kiserian, Kenya to help build a teacher's house. While the trip was amazing, I didn't come home and immediately apply to bible school to



become a missionary. But the Lord did use that time in Africa to sear a heart and passion for His work on the continent.

Ten years later, though, the Lord came calling again. This time it started with the idea of international adoption in Africa, which eventually turned into a calling into missions. After raising support for close to a year and a half, we sold everything we had, boarded a flight to Zambia and never looked back. In total, we ended up living and serving in Zambia for 7 years.

You might ask why I believe in short-term missions. It's because I am evidence of its importance. Because of that one trip, the trajectory of my family's life was forever changed. Because of that one trip, our family grew through adoption. Because of that trip, my children now see the Lord and life through a completely different lens. Because of that one trip, I've seen countless lives impacted by the gospel of Christ.

That's why I'm passionate about Africa Freedom Mission. I truly believe that the Lord will use this ministry to raise up an army of laborers to go back out into His harvest! I believe that we will see revivals break out both in Africa as well as here in the States as those who serve come back and speak of the mighty deeds of God. And, ultimately, I believe we will see lives that are changed by the power of the Gospel!