



A couple of weeks ago on my way to work, I noticed a big Burger King sign that said "Closed for Remodeling." I looked closer and realized there was nothing left of the old burger joint! They tore down the entire restaurant in order to remodel—the sign was all that remained!

editorial by: Carmal Miller

It reminded me of Jeremiah's experience at the potter's house. "[He saw the potter] working at the wheel. But the pot he was shaping from the clay was marred in his hands; so the potter formed it into another pot, shaping it as seemed best to him." Then the Lord said to Jeremiah, "Can I not do with you...as this potter does? ...Like clay in the hand of the potter, so are you in my hand." (Jer 18.1-6)

If you're like me, sometimes you get frustrated with how long the remodeling/reshaping process takes. We have our timelines, goals and strategies for achieving the changes we want to see in our lives, but it seems more often than not we find ourselves falling off the wagon rather than driving the horse and cart. That's because we need a Savior—it's that simple. Jesus was telling us the truth when He said, "Apart from me you can do nothing" (Jn 15.5b). It's no surprise, then, that the only true and lasting change happens when it's initiated and empowered by God. And it follows that as we fall in step with what God is doing in our lives, we can boldly proclaim, "I can do all things THROUGH CHRIST who gives me strength" (Phil 4.13).

The SEND Ministries Department exists to equip and motivate youth to be Christ-centered, world Christians who make disciples.

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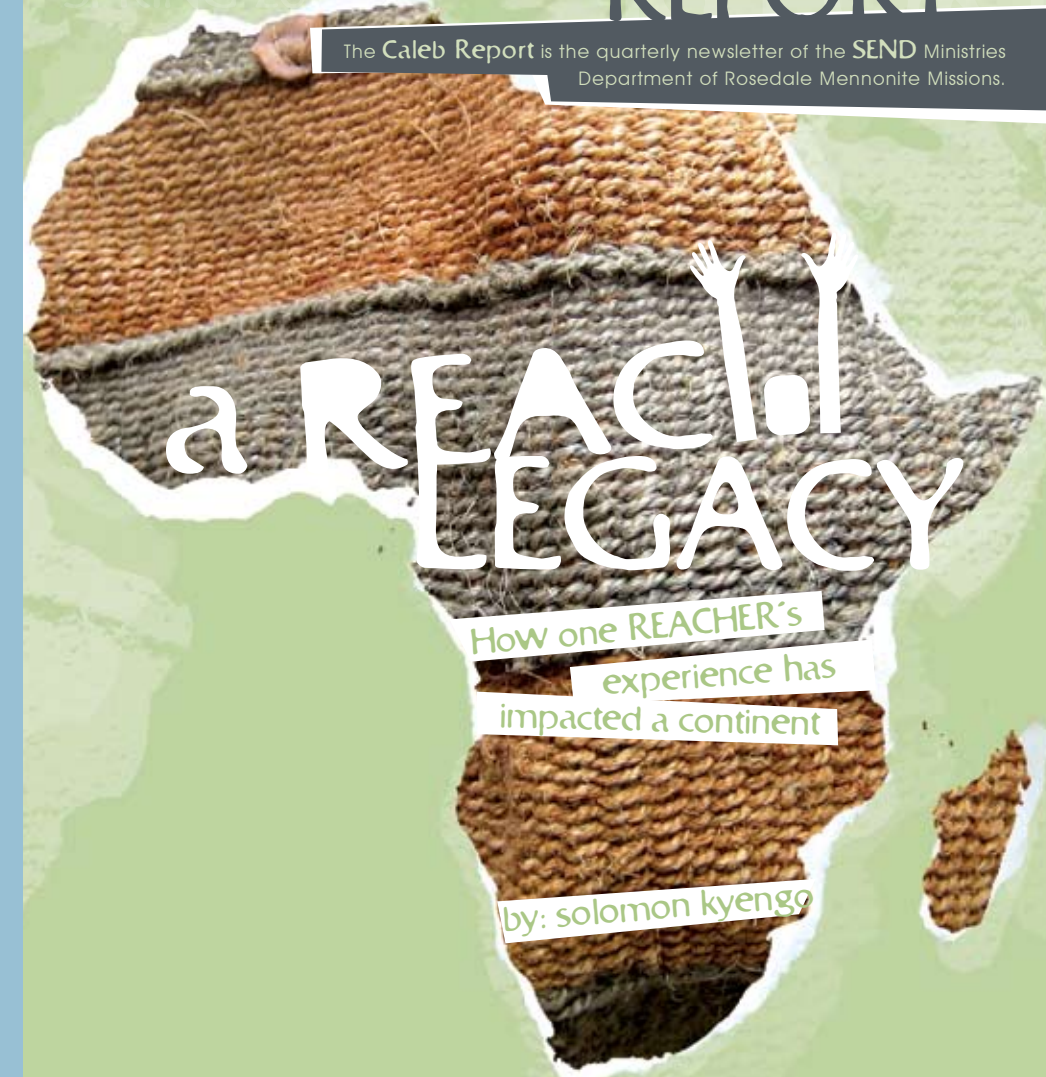
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But my servant Caleb,
because he has a different spirit and has followed
me wholeheartedly, I will bring him into the land into which he went, and
his descendants will inherit it. Numbers 14:24 (NRSV)

Caleb REPORT

SPRING 2008

The Caleb Report is the quarterly newsletter of the SEND Ministries
Department of Rosedale Mennonite Missions.



a REACHER LEGACY

How one REACHER's
experience has
impacted a continent

by: solomon kyengo

call to mission work

I was born in a Muslim family in the year 1959. My Muslim father had three wives and I am the third born of my mother. My mother came to know the Lord Jesus opening up a way for the family to turn to Jesus. I got saved in 1976 while in high school. I had a dream that one day I will be the 'savior' of my family.

After school, college and getting a good job as a head teacher of a high school, God spoke to me in 1980 to give up my job and join the ministry full time. My family and some brethren in Christ did not endorse or like this idea. Clearly I knew I was not going to get any support from anyone in my family.

I joined Bible school, amidst financial constrains and immense opposition from relatives. I pastored several churches before joining Christian Church International where I got a chance to grow in missions under Bishop Henry Mulandi. In 1999 I founded International School of Missions (ISOM), which is a young adult's discipleship and missions program. My vision was to disciple youths and release them into the mission field to disciple others heading to the great commission.

joining REACH program

In 2000, by God's grace, I joined REACH program for three months training and exposure on cross-cultural missions. I learned a lot on discipleship and leadership which was what I needed at that time. For my outreach I went to the cold land of Red Lake, Ontario and worked among the First Nations People for a couple of weeks. Later on I moved to Indonesia for Muslim exposure.

During the training, I developed a deep cross-cultural insight and an awareness of the worldwide church which spans ideological, political, and geographical barriers. I understood my calling and commitment to my calling and ministry. It was a time for me to continue to grow spiritually and in Christ-like relationships. I also got new teaching methods and tools.



ISOM growth

In 2001, I moved back to work with ISOM which I had founded in 1999. I served with this program until 2005. With knowledge and experiences from the REACH program, I tailored few of the ideas to fit our context. There was tremendous development of character, skills and knowledge in participants' lives. Team building ideas, which I borrowed from REACH, helped participants to grow together and the results were obvious—they were transformed. Many people were reached with the gospel of Jesus Christ, many experienced healing in their teams, found a place of identity, protection and growth.

It was very challenging for participants to raise their participating fees in ISOM due to their poor backgrounds, but with introduction to fundraising ideas, they managed to raise fees. Introduction of care teams ensured that the participants had their backyard full of intercessors and supporters.

We started to relate with REACH as our mentor. May God bless and reward Davy who helped me a lot on leadership. We exchanged program teaching materials and participants. This act gave both of us good cross-cultural training in discipleship and missions. It opened participants into a new world view, which impacted their life for good. As ISOM and REACH programs were relating, something else happened! The mission agencies RMM and ACMI advanced in their relationship. They began to send long-term and short-term missionaries to ISOM and REACH.

ISOM so far has been able to train and equip a minimum of 180 young adults and released them into different mission fields. Former participants are now serving in mission fields like Sudan, Congo, Mozambique, and Kenya. Some are leaders in their local churches; others are directing discipleship programs in Africa. We now have

17 discipleship and missions programs in Africa which have been started by ISOM alumni. They are in Sudan, Congo, Malawi, Tanzania, Burundi, Rwanda and Kenya.

After handing over ISOM leadership, I joined Global Discipleship Training Alliance as the Africa facilitator. I am now involved with seeing the existing programs grow into a reproducible model. I want to see each country in Africa training young adults, empowering them and releasing them into the mission field.

future plans

My dream and future plans is to see Africa been evangelized by its own native missionaries. The Discipleship-Missions programs are an answered prayer. I want to continue empowering young adults who will in turn empower other to empower others and the end results will be transformed nations for Jesus. I want to see Africa sending and supporting both short-term and long-missionaries to China, India, Middle East and Britain among other.

I am proud of what REACH did to me; opening my eyes to world of missions. It was a good training and exposure that impacted my life and ministry. I am today partly because of REACH impact.

Thanks to Davy, Collette, RMM, CMC, SEND house workers, all REACHers and SWIMMers.

- Solo.

ALUMNI HAPPENINGS

BIRTHS

Douglas and Shannon (Griffith, R 04) had a baby boy, Lukas Natan, on July 31, 2007.

Jake and Christyn (Reimer, R 95, 98) Dyck had a baby girl, Alexandra Nia Esther, on January 2, 2008.

George (R 99) & Jamie Zehr had a baby girl, Zoe Marie Zehr, on January 17, 2008.

MISSIONARY APPOINTMENTS

Kevin and Kristin Bucher (R 99) have been appointed with Eastern Mennonite Missions to East Asia beginning July 2008.

Please inform us of any births, weddings, missionary appointments, or change of address. (angela@rmmoffice.org)

MARRIAGES

Rebekah Shultz (R 02) married Jake Siefert were married on July 7, 2007.

Debbie Stutzman (R 98) married Matt Eberly on March 30, 2008.

Beth Hollopeter (R 99, 00; S 04) married Kefa Manyara on March 22, 2008 in Thika, Kenya.

Esteban Vega (R 99) was married on May 3, 2008.

Shannon Griffith (R 04) married Douglas Herr on January 6, 2007.