



December 2022

Equipping pastors to abide in and feed their congregations from God's Word.

### East/West Africa Gatherings

In a recent newsletter, we reported about two gatherings that were being planned in Nairobi, Kenya, and Accra, Ghana, in early November. We want to thank everyone for their prayers and tell you of some of the ways the Lord abundantly blessed these gatherings and all who attended.

#### Nairobi, Kenya



At the first gathering in Kenya, facilitators from ten countries (including the new facilitator of Malawi who was commissioned at the conference) were joined by Carl and his wife Rose, Gary Dozier, and Mark Loomis from the US. The three days together were packed with times of equipping the men in their leadership roles, teaching from the word, enjoying a fun outing, and spending time interacting with one another to encourage and further build relationships

with each of the country facilitators. Sharing among the men of the blessings and challenges of their work for the Romans Project, especially in difficult and hard to reach areas, spurred the men on to be more persistent and diligent in the work to which they have been called.

*Please pray for these leaders to have boldness to tell others about the Romans Project amidst persecution and to stay on mission with the Great Commission.*

All the men who were invited to attend the gatherings had been asked to read I Thessalonians twenty times in preparation for the teaching they would receive from Carl, Gary, and Ken Onywoki. Some of the topics from this teaching included, "Disciple Making," "Excel Still More," and "Gospel of God vs. Prosperity Gospel," all essential and relevant messages for the cultural and theological challenges these African facilitators encounter.

The outing, made possible by a donor who specifically wanted to give toward this, was a Safari at a nearby Game Park. It was a

fun treat for these men, some of whom had not experienced such a thing before. A couple of the highlights of the day were spotting a lioness eating her lunch, and Gary having his bread snatched from his plate by a sneaky monkey!



Mark Loomis, a Board Member of the Romans Project, joined the team for this trip with two goals in mind. First, he wanted to get to know the pastors, to hear their stories, understand the challenges they face, and hear how the Romans Project had impacted them. Mark and Rose were able to videotape each of the facilitators and get their testimonies. The other goal Mark wanted to accomplish was to present each of the facilitators with a copy of Scott's book, A Brief Exposition of Romans. Presenting this book was personally very meaningful to Mark. Three and

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a half years ago, while recovering from a serious bicycle accident and having a lot of time on his hands, Mark completed the Romans Challenge. As he read Romans repeatedly, then wrote it out by hand, an idea came to mind of a written resource of Scott's messages. Wouldn't it be great if Scott's messages on Romans could be written out, he thought? So, for the next several months he worked on editing the transcripts of Scott's messages when he taught Romans in Ethiopia in 2014. The book finally came to fruition and was published this summer. For Mark to be able to put this book in the hands of the African facilitators reminded him of how faithful our Lord is!



Mark Loomis and Amasaï Lankoande

### **Accra, Ghana**

At the next gathering in Accra, Ghana, Carl, Gary and Mark joined facilitators from ten African countries (including the new facilitators of Mali, Ivory Coast, and Guinea who were commissioned at the conference).



The goals and outcome of this conference were much like that of Kenya, with some adjustments made to accommodate an interpreter since most of the attendees were from French-speaking countries. This group embarked on an outing to the Canopy Bridges at Kakum National Park to walk across a series of suspension bridges 130 feet above the jungle floor. It was an adventure that the men really enjoyed!



Gary, Ken, Michael and Carl at Kakum National Park

*Please join the Romans Project Leaders and Facilitators in giving thanks to the Lord for the progress of the Romans Project in 2022, for providing new facilitators and opening new countries, and for meeting the needs of the ministry. Please pray that the Lord will*

*continue to bless the Romans Project and that more pastors in more countries will accept the Romans Challenge and be better equipped to lead their congregations in 2023. With such an increase in activity happening in so broad a swath of countries our expenses have increased as well. Please consider partnering with the Romans Project in your year-end giving.*