



**TIMOTHY**

LEADERSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM

# PARTNERING IN MISSION

**TIMOTHY LEADERSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM**

**CALVIN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**

**RESONATE GLOBAL MISSION**

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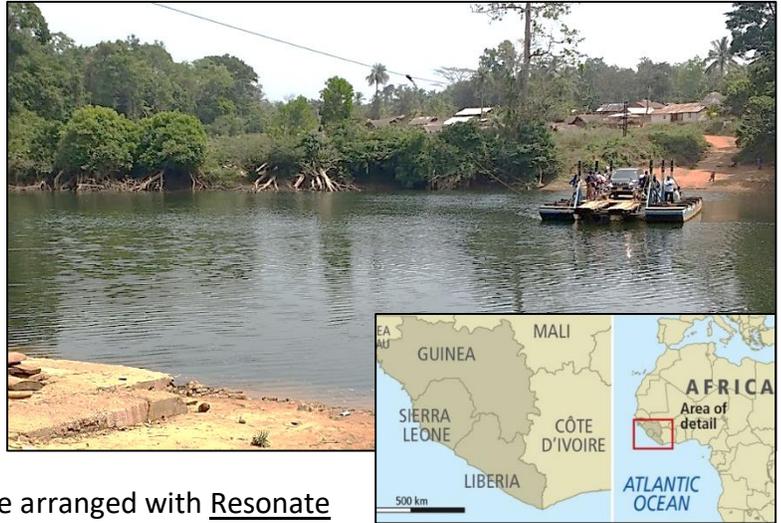
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Dear Friends,

Every once in a while, Timothy Leadership Training takes place *exactly* like it's supposed to! Here's what happened in Liberia:

In February 2016, I visited with the leadership of a ministry called Peace on Earth International Evangelistic Association of Liberia (POEIEAL). We met on the campus of Monrovia Bible College (MBC), where many Liberian pastors are trained. The leaders of POEIEAL and MBC said, **"We need TLT training for our pastors and students."**

By December 2016, we signed a Partnership Agreement to hold 6 training events in the next two and a half years at Monrovia Bible College. We arranged with Resonate Global Mission (formerly Christian Reformed World Missions) in the neighboring country of Sierra Leone to provide an experienced TLT teacher for these 6 events. They agreed to send Rev. Istifanus Bahago, a Nigerian missionary living in Sierra Leone – and my good friend and colleague from our years in West Africa.



By the end of 2017, twenty-three church leaders had completed 3 TLT trainings in Monrovia. Many were now using TLT material in their general church roles of teaching and preaching, while one of them, Rev. Solomon O. Davis, initiated 2 new training groups in Monrovia and Buchanan.

In the summers of 2017 and 2018, two



Calvin Seminary students (Richard Britton III and Joshua H.) did their ministry internships in Liberia and Sierra Leone, teaching TLT and being mentored by Pastor Bahago. Joshua H. is a Seminary student from China, and Liberian church leaders said to him, **"We've never met a Chinese Christian before; are there many of you?"**

Already by the end of 2017, it had become clear that TLT was needed in the Bassa language. The Bassa people are the second largest ethnic group in Liberia, and heavily populate the Monrovia and Buchanan areas along the coast. So in 2018, with support from Verre Naasten, a mission partner from the Netherlands, the TLT material was translated, quality-reviewed, and formatted for use.



On Feb 27, 2019, sixteen people graduated as Advanced Trainers on the campus of Monrovia Bible College, having completed the full TLT program. One of the graduates, Dr. Emmanuel O. Johnson, had already introduced TLT into Day Spring Bible College in Kakata, 50 miles north-east of Monrovia, where he serves as President. Last month he wrote, **“I have considered being a part of the Timothy Leadership Training Program**

**not only as a student who has graduated, but as (someone) to serve in training more people. (TLT) is helping this generation to become useful church workers... As a Bible college president in Liberia, I will ensure that TLT be a part of our short term course curriculum (and) even beyond our campus border.”**

And the Bassa translation that was completed at the end of 2018? Two months after his graduation with the Monrovia group, Pastor Jarius Gbayankah started a new group in Lower Buchanan in the Bassa language. Fifty-four people from a denomination known as the Gospel League Church attended the 3 days of training on pastoral care called “Caring for God’s People”. Pst. Jarius wrote, **“I want to let you know that TLT has become enlightenment for the Gospel League Church, a predominately tribal church in Liberia that has suffered poor leadership through it is history. Participants have said that (the TLT manual) “Caring for God’s People” will be their Sunday school material through all of their churches. I am glad to be a part of their story.”**

I’m amazed to see the network of mission organizations and churches that contributed over the past 3 years to get TLT *going* and *growing* in Liberia: Peace on Earth International Evangelistic Association, Monrovia Bible College, Resonate Global Mission, Calvin Seminary, Verre Naasten, Day Spring Bible College, and Gospel League Church. Wow! And your contribution is here too – with your faithful support of Timothy Leadership Training and my role as the Director of the TLT international program.

We’re so grateful for your partnership in ministry!

With Our Love,

*Albert and Carolyn Strydhorst*



Carolyn and I traveled to the Netherlands in April for meetings with our Dutch mission partner, Verre Naasten. Over the next two years, we plan to jointly develop a new TLT manual tentatively called **“Fear Not: A Christian Attitude to Spiritual Powers.”** I’m part of a team of writers from 6 countries on this project.