



TIMOTHY
LEADERSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM

PARTNERING IN MISSION

RAISE UP GLOBAL MINISTRIES CALVIN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY RESONATE GLOBAL MISSION

Albert and Carolyn Strydhorst
1941 Keyhill Ave SE, Grand Rapids, MI; 49546
astrydhorst@tlti.org

Feb 21, 2020

Dear Friends,

Warm greetings from a crisp, cold day in Grand Rapids, MI. At this time of the year I often long to get out to some of the places where TLT ministry is being done.

Like Mali – average January temperature 27.3 °C | 81.1 °F.

TLT is working with **World Renew** in this West African country. Harouna Issaka is a World Renew staff in Mali who uses TLT in his community development work. He has been facilitating TLT with one group of about 20 participants since 2017. Seventeen people completed six manuals of TLT training over two and a half years, and graduated with their Advanced Trainer certificates on Nov 1, 2019.

Over the years, Harouna co-facilitated the trainings with Marc Nabie from the neighboring country of Burkina Faso. Marc is the leader of **Back To God Ministries French Language** program. He also coordinates much of the TLT activity in French West Africa.

It was wonderful to see the participation of women in this Training Group, with 10 of the 17 graduates being women.

The testimonies – what we call “**Stories of Change**” – from the participants was also heart-warming. This one is from M.J. Diarra:



“I thank the Lord for the grace he has given me since the first TLT training. I personally recorded a change in my family and church, as I had stated already in my first report. The first module Taking Care of the People of God allowed me to strengthen relationships with the members of my church, especially since I had just been newly assigned there.

It is especially at the level of the Stewardship training that the result is more perceptible. I started fish farming by involving all the members of my family. The beginning was not easy, especially for the children



who found it difficult to work with the water source. Drawing water by hand from the well was not easy. They often asked for the abandonment of the activity in terms of profitability which was slow to be seen. Nevertheless, I persevered.

Today the difficulty of the work has decreased with the water supply using a pump set in a well. Profitability is visible. We consume and we sell fish. I currently have about 600 fish in the ponds, including 150 having a weight between 1 and 1.5kg. The selling price is 2000fcfa / kg (\$3-4 per fish).”



Stories of Change like this can be multiplied from all around the world where TLTI is being done – last year’s reports came from thirty-two countries. I’m privileged to have a front-row seat on some of the

amazing things that happen in people’s lives as they grow as leaders and disciples of Christ. Another one of the reasons I love doing what I do!

Our family is doing well. Andrea was in China in January, but came home earlier than planned due to the corona virus situation. She is in her third year of nursing at Calvin University. Jessica and Ian are still supply-teaching in Northwestern Ontario, and are in the final stages of applying to teach in a missionary-kids school in Kazakhstan. This would be starting in August 2020. Johnny and Kristin are busy with their work and church activities in the Grand Rapids area, having visited Johnny’s parents in Korea in December.

Finally, Carolyn and I received good news from US Immigration this month that we can go forward with the final step to apply for our permanent residency here (Green Card). This has been a long process, and we’re happy to see the end in sight!

With Our Love, *Albert and Carolyn Strydhorst*

Financial Support

As always, **thank you so much for your support!**

Our annual fund-raising goal is \$40,000. Cheques can be sent to:

Resonate Global Mission,

3475 Mainway, PO Box 5070, Burlington, ON, L7R 3Y8 (or 1700 28th Street, Grand Rapids, MI, 49508) marked “**TLTI Strydhorst Grant.**”

Online giving can be done at <https://www.resonateglobalmission.org/support/donate-now>. For your gift designation, choose the option “**Projects-General**” from the first drop-down menu, and then “**TLTI Strydhorst Grant**” from the second. It’ll look like this:

For