

Pneum Africa

———— J O U R N A L ————

Dear friends,

Greetings and welcome to the inaugural issue of *PneumAfrica Journal*!

From the very beginning, Christianity has been concerned to preserve its pedagogical function. In the letters of Paul, especially 1 and 2 Timothy and Titus, we encounter the missionary-theologian frequently stressing to his younger co-workers the importance of upholding sound doctrine. Sound doctrine though, for the apostle Paul, is never divorced from the fruit of godliness that it produces (see 1 Tim. 6:3). That is, the work of expounding doctrine faithful to the teachings of Christ is no mere academic exercise, but rather a call to embody the character of Christ in all that we do. This same incarnational approach appears later in the second century; Christian catechumens receive instruction via the *Didache* that right doctrine should produce righteous living (11.2). Here too the true teachings of the church are held in close proximity to a life of faith in Christ.

In this issue of *PneumAfrica Journal* we have sought after this same balance. First, John Easter calls our attention to the relevant values of theological training in Africa, in his article, “Under the Mango Tree.” His goal is to “provide a leadership map” for theological training in Africa. Similarly, Irving Whitt, in his article “Contextualized Training for Pentecostal Leaders in Africa: Retrospect and Prospect,” looks both back to the past and forward to the future in assessing some of the relevant challenges and opportunities that exist for theological training on the continent. And finally, Richard Bogere provides a practical analysis of what it looks like for all of this to be worked out in the real world, in his article, “Kampala School of Theology: A Case Study in the Development of a Holistic Training Model.”

In keeping with the emphases of Paul and the early Church, our desire in this issue is to foster not only an academic assessment of theological training in Africa, but to also build a bridge to its practical implications in the life of faith. Thus we include articles both of a theoretical nature, and of a practical nature. Finally, we would add that though this issue focuses on theological training in Africa, we remind you that this is not the sole or even primary focus of our journal. Instead, we seek to address a wide range of topics relevant to Pentecostal Christianity in Africa from a theological, biblical, historical, missiological, philosophical, and practical perspective. In

short, we welcome submissions relevant to Pentecostal Christianity in Africa within *any* of these disciplines.

Thank you for your interest in *PneumAfrica Journal*, and we pray that this material proves helpful to you as you endeavor to better know and serve the Lord.

In Christ,

Jerry M. Ireland
Managing Editor