



Executive Director's Communique November 2022

Make Disciples

I love the Gospel of Matthew. Imagine this man so hated by fellow Jews because he functioned as a traitor providing finances through the taxes he collected to support the occupying armies of the enemy – Rome. On top of that, he was a thief adding a small percentage to everyone's tax bill to place a few extra denarii in his own pocket. How amazing that one day Jesus approached his tax office and commanded him, "Follow me" (Matt. 9:9). Three and a half years later, having become a disciple of Jesus, he was confronted with Jesus' final command, "Make disciples of all the nations" (Matt. 28:19-20).

As Matthew constructed his Gospel, he placed this command as the conclusion of his account. Inspired by the Holy Spirit, he wanted this command, followed by the comforting promise that Jesus would be with his followers every day until the end of the age, to be the ongoing ministry objective of the church.

As leaders and teachers in our Bible schools, we can have no other goal than to make disciples of our students who will make disciples of the nations. A disciple is a learner—someone who is becoming like his teacher in word, deed, attitude, and commitment.

Paul certainly understood this: "Follow me as I follow Christ" (1 Cor. 11:1). "The things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will be qualified to teach others also" (2 Tim. 2:2).

Take time to evaluate your classroom instruction, your rapport with your students, your office counseling, your administrative meetings, your Bible College calendar. Does everything you do have the goal of making disciples who have the commitment to live among the unreached nations, make disciples, and plant indigenous churches?

The 5th Triennial APTEA Conference 13-17 February 2023

In only 3 ½ months we will gather face to face, arm in arm, to worship, pray, learn, and fellowship. Please set aside the dates of Monday – Thursday, 13-17 February 2023, to gather in Nairobi, Kenya, at the Desmond Tutu Conference Center (see the attached schedule). The theme of the conference is: "Regeneration for Enhanced Fruitfulness" (John 15:16). As we move past the restrictions of the covid epidemic, let us seek the Lord together for the regeneration of our hearts and minds and our training institutions for greater fruitfulness in those we train. For details and registration, contact Todd Churchill at Africa's Hope: <tchurchill@africashope.org>.



Our special guest speaker for the conference is Dr. Scott Hagan, president of North Central University, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Dr. Hagan has served as a church planter, pastor, and educator throughout his life of ministry. We believe God has given him a message that will inspire us towards regeneration. He will be accompanied by our Commission officers and other gifted trainers. Lord willing, see you in Nairobi!