

## Volker and JinHyeog Glissmann

Location: **Blantyre, MALAWI**

Mission: **Theological education**

**MAY 2023**



The Glissmanns are living in Malawi. Jinhyeog is involved in a local Primary School as a music teacher. Volker works off-campus as a programme developer for TEEC, the Theological Education by Extension College in Johannesburg, South Africa, and does grassroots theological training in Malawi.

### **Graduation Knowing the Spirit April 2023**

At the end of April, we celebrated another graduation of grassroots learners in a church in Blantyre. We had 24 graduates. Seventeen finished their third and final course in our biblical literacy series: Knowing God, Knowing Jesus and Knowing the Spirit. The courses cover the main Old Testament story, all the stories of Jesus in the four gospels, Acts and the New Testament letters. To graduate, the students read nearly 1000 pages of learning material, including huge sections of the actual biblical text; the course lasted for 3 x 16 weeks, almost a year, and included over 100 hours of discussion. The other seven joined after they heard about the positive experience of those that studied Knowing God (the Old Testament course).

The students appreciate that we not only covered the stories but gave them tools to continue reading their Bibles meaningfully and "forced" them to study the Bible in preparation for our discussions seriously. Interestingly, many asked if we have more courses that they could study!

Some comments about the course,

"Reading the story of Acts every lesson and the New Testaments letters gave me the insight to see the big picture. It was very helpful."

"The boldness of the early Christians in Acts is a sign that they are full of the Holy Spirit.!"

"The Holy Spirit empowers believers to witness for Christ and do the work of the Kingdom. In addition, the letters to the churches highlight the importance of being filled with the Spirit and walking in the Spirit's power."

"God is sovereign and never deviates from His plans irrespective of human shortfalls. I saw this in the Old Testament, where people who were meant to carry out God's purpose failed, but God's purpose to save humanity prevailed. Again we saw Jesus surrounded by people who did not fully comprehend His purpose, but He went on to do His work until the cross. The Holy Spirit continued to save people under very hostile environments, but people of all kinds got saved. It is therefore important to be in the will of God."



### **Prayer Points**

- Praise the Lord for the graduation that was well received and for the spiritual/theological growth that the graduates attested to.
- Please pray for Malawi, as the last few months have brought many challenges. Please continue praying for the flood victims of Cyclone Freddy and for the government to restore services.
- Please continue to pray for the health and safety of the whole family.