



Method & Omelina Mwendapole

Serving with Grace Ministries International

FEBRUARY 2025

Dear Friends,

Greetings in the wonderful name of our Lord Jesus Christ. We hope you are well and enjoying the Lord's blessings. Praise and thanks be given to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for his goodness and many mercies in our lives. We thank God for His many blessings and we thank you for your partnership with us in the service of the Lord. **Your faithful financial support and prayers have been a great help in continuing the Lord's ministry here in Burundi. Thank you so much and God bless you.**

It has been four years since we moved from Mwanza, Tanzania to begin our ministry in Burundi. Over the past four years, the Lord has provided many opportunities for ministry as we focused on evangelism, discipleship, and theological education. He blessed us with the opportunity to teach the basics of Biblical truth and theology from a mid-Acts dispensational perspective to hundreds of people in dozens of existing local churches through utilizing Bible Correspondance Fellowship (BCF) lessons that we translated into the local language of Kirundi. Churches and church leaders in Burundi lack a sound doctrinal foundation and we discovered that many times even pastors don't understand basic doctrines such as salvation by grace through faith alone.

To address this critical need for theological training our GMI team in Burundi spent the past couple of years praying and planning for the opportunity to open a Bible School here. **We thank the Lord that this goal has been accomplished and the first module at Burundi Grace Bible Institute (BGBI) was taught last November with twenty-two students completing courses on Salvation and Bible Study Methods.** These foundational courses are the first of ten required courses in the first level of training. Students representing ten local churches from seven denominations participated in the first module with many of the students already serving as pastors and teachers in their churches.

The course material was eye-opening for the students and when the courses concluded, one church leader shared, "Wow, I was preaching mistakes! Now I need to go back and teach this correctly." Another said, "I have to ask God for forgiveness. God, please forgive me. I was a liar. I was not preaching the true gospel." Another participant, Pastor Gedeon, who is the leader of more than fifty churches in Burundi and has a diploma in Christian studies from a university admitted that he learned many things that he did not know about the doctrine of salvation.

We praise the Lord for the growth we are experiencing in our ministries here in Burundi! We currently have six Bible study classes in five churches that have embraced our teaching. We also have over 100



BCF award ceremony in Maravya Church



TOP: BGBI Students

BOTTOM: GMI Operations Director Dwayne Huff with orphans at Mtakura Church



students currently studying BCF lessons in various locations across Burundi, in addition to the more than 100 students who have already completed the BCF courses.

We continue to explore new locations across Burundi to introduce the BCF lessons, teach BGBI modules, and hold leadership seminars. Method recently spent a weekend “up-country” in an area outside of Bujumbura holding a leadership conference. He also explored sites for teaching Bible Institute modules in the city of Nyanza which is south of Bujumbura on the shore of Lake Tanganyika. **On February 19, Method and his GMI teammate Tom Sanchez, will be teaching the second BGBI module in Bujumbura to the students who completed the first module in November.** Please pray that the Lord will supply the financial resources for students to attend this module and that he will help us with the teaching of the course material in Kirundi.

Omeline continues to develop the ministry for single moms and we both continue to be involved in the orphan care ministry. So far we have helped eighty orphans by assisting with their school needs and providing nutritious food and medical care. There continues to be a great need among the children in Burundi where many kids are on the street and do not have an opportunity to attend school. Through your generous support of this ministry and your contributions to the **Orphan and Street Children Outreach in Burundi Project** featured in the GMI Giving Opportunities catalog, we have been able to impact the lives of many children. These kids are getting involved in local churches and the families who care for these children are also being impacted as many of these foster parents have also begun attending church and some have placed their faith in Jesus Christ. We are very grateful to all of you who contributed to this project and ask that you continue to pray for these children and their foster families. **If you would like to contribute to this ministry you can donate by selecting the Projects tab at gracem.org and searching for Orphan and Street Children Outreach in Burundi.**

While we still face many challenges, we thank God for the extraordinary fruit we are seeing in our ministries here in Burundi! Our family is doing well and we are thankful that we were able to spend some time with them in Tanzania during the Christmas holidays. While we are both experiencing good health in most areas, Method is experiencing a lot of back pain which is causing insomnia and poor sleep. **Please pray that the Lord will provide healing. We thank the Lord for your prayers and for providing us with daily strength for ministry.** We continue to improve in learning the local language of Kirundi and Method has even begun teaching small portions of his lessons in Kirundi.

We praise God for what He is doing through us in Burundi as we focus on training and developing leaders in local churches. **Thank you for partnering with us through your prayers and financial contributions.** The poor economic situation in Burundi and the lack of fuel continue to hinder the ability of students to participate in the BGBI classes and hinder our team's ability to travel to other cities or even across town. The war in the eastern region of the Democratic Republic of the Congo is having a big impact on Burundi as we share a border with them. As a result, the security situation in Bujumbura has begun to deteriorate and we are also experiencing the threat of infectious diseases that are spreading rapidly. Please pray for us and pray that the situation in Burundi will improve in all of these areas so we can continue to move forward in ministry. Your prayers are vital to our ministry and are greatly appreciated!

Yours in serving our Lord Jesus,

Method and Omeline Mwendapole



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SCAN
to give
online



GRACE MINISTRIES
INTERNATIONAL



TOP: Orphans receiving school supplies

BOTTOM: Awards ceremony for completion of BCF Lessons

