

November 2025

GLOBAL TRAINING  
NETWORK

## Our Itinerary

**Nov 1-17: Nepal** ministry**Nov 30:** Floris Baptist Church, Floris, IA**Jan 8-26: Philippine** ministry**Feb 8:** Sonoita Bible Church**Feb 15:** First Baptist Church, Duncan, AZ**Feb 22:** Maranatha Baptist Church: Globe, AZ**Feb 20-23:** GTN Leadership Gathering

## Where in the World Were the Edmondsons Last Month?

The Edmondsons spent most of October in Rwanda. Two weeks were planned, one unplanned. In Bihembe we led a new group of 29 pastor trainees in the first of six pastoral skills classes, 'Caring for God's People,' which deals with visiting, listening to, advising, and helping other believers. This new group really celebrates God! I've never seen more lively worship!

We also spent week #2 in Bihembe with a different group of 'veteran' students. The subject was 'Harm to Harmony, Honoring One Another in the Family.' We received incredible reports of results from the students' action plans made

during their last class on 'Christian Stewardship.' One man reported that, within two weeks of his re-teaching the course in his church, the church's mortgage (about 400,000 Francs) was paid in full. At the same time the church began to directly support older widows in the church. This testimony eventually resulted in 31 souls coming to Christ. Another leader reported that, following his re-teaching the Christian Stewardship course, 10 families in his church began

to tithe and the church's monthly income doubled. There are many more stories. The reports took 3 hours.

- 123 people



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## Loving Those You Can't Understand



exclusiveness among Christians which is very strange given that God has commissioned us to 'go into all the world and preach the gospel' (Mark 16:15). This command actually *requires* us to interact and care for people very different from us.

God never gives us a command that we can't carry out. He has provided us tutoring on how to love someone we don't fully

understand: Marriage. That's right. I'm talking about learning to deal with, accept, and show love for the opposite sex in spite of profound differences in the way we think and act. Those of you who are married know exactly what I mean. Even if you are single, you still have to deal with the opposite sex in various contexts. You also have the difficult challenge of understanding married people.

In more than four decades of married life I have pondered the differences between men and women. I recently came across an old list I made of potential subjects for a series of humorous articles on men and women communicating:

- What men are really saying: A guide for the uninitiated.
- What women are really saying: A guide for the confused.
- "I just want to watch the game.": A guide to masculine (non) communication.
- "There must be a pony here somewhere." A guide to feminine (over) communication.
- "Are you coming to the point any time soon?" and other stupid things men say to women.

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### Where in the World Were the Edmondsons Last Month? (cont'd)

came to faith in Christ.

- 805 people received training in Christian stewardship in general or in some area of it.
- Many churches had big increases in their giving.
- Several 'Savings Groups' were launched with the aim of pooling resources to provide loans and financial aid to people in need.
- Several businesses were launched selling everything from vegetables to bricks.

Following this class we planned for Eileen to return to the states while I moved on to Cameroon to teach at the Hope Bible Institute there.

**God had other plans.** A disputed presidential election in Cameroon produced civil unrest making travel there unsafe. Riots occurred. People were shot. Gatherings were banned. It was impossible to try and conduct our class in these conditions, so I spent a third week in Rwanda. I made some great progress on an important writing project. In November we plan by God's grace is to spend two weeks in Nepal teaching Theology and Christian Theist World View. It is a turbulent world. Thank you for your prayers. They make all the difference! 



### Our Praises & Prayer Requests



- Praise God for two great classes of students in Rwanda.
- Praise God for His direction and protection during this trip.
- Praise God for another fruitful year of ministry.
- Please pray for health and strength as I head for Nepal in November.
- Please pray for an important writing project in which I am now engaged.
- Please pray for solid year end giving.

### Loving Those You Can't Understand (cont'd)

- "The history of my life... and my hair appointment." How women tell stories.

These kinds of differences have increasingly produced laughter in our marriage rather than irritation. We are learning to marvel at how differently we are wired and have (mostly) given up on the fruitless exercise of whining because we don't feel perfectly understood. Full knowledge is not a requirement for full love—and that is a delightful discovery.

Such discoveries can teach us larger spiritual lessons. We are called upon to love God deeply. Do you fully comprehend God? Of course not! Yet you can know Him and love Him with all your heart and soul and mind and strength (Deut 6:5). God also commands us to love other Christians deeply (1 Peter 4:8). Do you understand everyone around you at church? No way. Yet you don't have to fully understand them or be like them to love them deeply just as God commands. Finally, God wants us to love the lost (Luke 6:27-28, and many others). This means people of all colors, creeds, languages, and backgrounds. It includes the very wealthy and the very



poor. It refers to the young and the old, to male and female. It encompasses the wise and the foolish, the prisoner, the sick and disabled, the politician, the Muslim, the Hindu, the Animist, the Post-modernist, the Republican and the Democrat... It is a command to love and seek the lost WHOEVER AND WHEREVER THEY ARE.

God has given you all that you need to love uncomfortable people. Comfort, like full knowledge, is not a prerequisite for loving deeply. Just begin. I dare you. Take some simple steps. Have a conversation with someone you would ordinarily bypass. Go out of your way with an act of kindness for someone you might normally ignore. Strike up a conversation with that neighbor you have yet to meet. Offer to pray for someone who needs it. Then actually pray. You've got this. I think you will find that your life is enriched in surprising ways by people you can't even understand. 

## Ministry Partnership

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Please follow the instructions below or on the enclosed response card (US mail version).

*"Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that abounds to your account...  
And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:17, 19)*

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