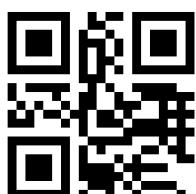


# FIRM FOUNDATION

In Christ Ministries

MID-YEAR ZINE  
2022

*you*  
are investing in the training of the Church  
on how to follow-up new believers.





# "I HAVE BLOOD ON MY HANDS"

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**"COULD HE REALLY LOVE ME? I'M NOT WORTHY OF HIS LOVE. I HAVE HAD SEVEN ABORTIONS." - ABIGAIL**

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Nigeria is a country identified by its motto, "Unity and Faith, Peace and Progress."

As you can imagine, these country mottos are not always the case. The people of Nigeria are wracked by civil unrest, corruption and poverty, local terrorism and tribalism and a great social divide between Christians and Muslims. These tensions have led to conflict after conflict. However, life's challenges often act as a magnetic pull toward the saving grace of Jesus Christ.

### **Meet Abigail.**

Abigail, a recent trainee, approached our staff in Nigeria, emotionally wrecked. "I'm going to commit suicide! I'm done; there is no hope--I have so much blood on my hands. Surely, this God you speak of named Jesus can't forgive me." Abigail was at her wits' end, full of hopelessness. She felt empty inside. Her husband abused her. **She had had seven abortions.** Our Nigerian staff heard the testimony of her spiritual and emotional pain.

Her story didn't stop there. As we listened, Jesus drew near. Like the story of the two men talking with Jesus on the Emmaus Road, she begins to hear His voice, which speaks forgiveness and comfort to her soul. The Scriptures are opened to her, and she senses the presence of Christ's hope and promise. God's Spirit replaced her shame and sorrow with a redeemed relationship with Jesus. Let's celebrate together!

**Later, Abigail invited her friend to join her new-believer follow-up group!**

**Your prayers and generous gifts enabled this life-altering ministry!**



# 17,000 AND COUNTING

Drought plagued the region of Durame, Ethiopia. A thick dust in the wind from the Sahara reflected the weight of spiritual captivity. Nearly every thatched-roof house after thatched roof house displayed the crescent of Islam.

**The situation cried out for God's wisdom and power!**

So the carefully assembled team of evangelists and preachers prayed fervently. True Gospel conferences are not like the typical festivals you imagine. **No sports action events. No energetic hype. No focus on dynamic speakers.**

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**ELECTRIFYING. BOLD.  
TRUE GOSPEL.  
JESUS.**

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## Just a description of the True Gospel!

Loaded with the most compelling message, the speakers are armed with topics that generally don't draw the crowds, but are vital to spiritual growth.

**"Do you know who gives you salvation? Do you know why not to run after false prophets? Do you perceive the damage of the prosperity gospel? Do you realize that following idols is the false gospel?"**

## Thousands came and heard.

It was the pastors in Durame that invited the FFICM team and speakers. It was their vision for a renewed understanding of Christ among their congregations. These spiritual leaders recognized the immense pressure that the people they shepherded were under.

One pastor enthusiastically exclaimed, "Thank you, Rich and the team, for coming! You said things at the conference that we could not have said. We know that our people struggle with the prosperity heresy, but it took your boldness, your passion, and your commitment to Christ to share the Truth."

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**TESTIMONIES  
ARE STILL  
COMING IN...**

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**The pastors in Durame have two words for you who pray and give,  
"Thank you!"**



## WORD. WORSHIP. WOMEN.

"There is nothing worth living for, unless it is worth dying for." - Elisabeth Elliot

Women often have a God-given talent, a sense of responsibility, and an innate desire to influence their families and community. This special ability empowers them to have a unique impact on social change.

Hundreds of women are passionately asking for FFICM training that can catapult His kingdom forward. Friends, **they recognize the cost and are willing to pay it.**

**"If you think the men are good at training, watch us. I have already written down names that I will bring to the next training,"** states a woman in the community.

For as little as **\$8.50 a month**, you could radically change one woman's life each year by equipping her to obtain new believer follow-up training!



Scan here  
to donate!



Scan to watch  
testimony!



# "I'LL GIVE IT ALL UP FOR YOU, JESUS!"



"And Jesus asked his father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. And it has often cast him into fire and into water to destroy him. But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us." **And Jesus said to him, "If you can? All things are possible for one who believes."** Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!" Mark 9:21-24 (ESV)

Immediately after the training in Cameroon, an energetic young man went out to share the Gospel. Running into a stranger on the street, he began taking him through the FFICM Gospel Card. The response was instantaneous. "I do believe it! I do believe it! But help me with my unbelief. I was given this **spiritual idol** and have faithfully worn it for years.

**This spiritual idol has been what I put my hope and faith in. You know it hasn't done a very good job. I knew there was something more.**" he stated.

The evangelist trainee was overwhelmed with joy as he shared about Jesus' ability to provide hope, confidence, and God's grace. "You see, friend, God will provide a sense of peace that you have never experienced wearing this **spiritual idol!** All you have to do is fully trust Him with your life."

As a sign of faithful obedience, the new believer took off his magical ring and gave it to the young evangelist.

**"Will you help me? Will you come alongside me as I try and grow in my faith?" asks the new believer.**

"Yes, this week, thanks to the Firm Foundation in Christ Ministries team, I am being equipped to help you with your newfound faith!"

**"Thank you, thank you, thank you!"**

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**Your prayers and gifts  
have impacted over  
20,000 lives in Africa.**

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Spiritual Idol  
"the ring"





"FOR THE KINGDOM IS THE LORD'S  
AND HE RULES OVER THE NATIONS."  
PSALM 22:28 (ESV)

# YOU ARE IMPACTING THE NATIONS!

## Carly Powne's One Year Anniversary Recap

"Imagine all the wonderful things He has done."

**It has been an incredible year watching God use people  
in Nigeria, Cameroon, and Ethiopia for His ministry.**

I have had the opportunity to serve in these three countries with FFICM, during the last twelve months. The joy of training pastors, church leaders, young generations, and old generations, in a wide variety of denominations, was coupled with beautiful conversations inspired by the Gospel.



In April, in Bahi Dar, Ethiopia, the turnout of women attendees was remarkable. Women made up about a quarter of the class. During one of our tea breaks, a couple of women pulled me aside to tell me what an encouragement it was for them to see another woman teaching. It is an honor to build relationships with women and encourage one another in ministry.

This coming Fall (2022), FFICM plans to do a one-of-a-kind women's training where we will focus on women becoming trainers. I am so excited to participate in this training, which has been a dream of our staff for some time. **Women from the US, Nigeria, and Ethiopia will come together to be trained as trainers for our new believer follow-up curriculum**, so they can go and share the Good News with their communities and families. As I type this sentence, I get so excited about the multiplication of ministry that is about to happen.

Thank you for your prayers and support which makes these trainings possible. Because of you, people are entering into a new relationship with God, which brings hope, love, joy, peace, and much more. Thank you for your partnership with me in this ministry to women!

- Carly Powne, International Trainer

# BEYOND



## VISION

**39% increase in ministry impact!**

It was 2021, and the senior leadership team and the board of trustees had just begun the process of annual strategic planning for 2022.

**Where do we start? Where do we begin?  
Pause. Pray. Pursue.**

Together, we prayed, "God, we know that you alone determine our footsteps, but we also desire to be good stewards of Your resources. We want to listen to your will for FFICM." This began a journey of drafting a strategic plan and then setting a "BHAG" (big hairy audacious goal) for the coming year. This goal included a 39% increase in budget and ministry programs. **How?** By increasing trainings; inviting more attendees to the conferences; and increasing the number of TV and Radio Broadcasts, along with distributing more solar audio Bibles.

**Through you, God has provided in ways that we could not ask or imagine.**

## MISSION

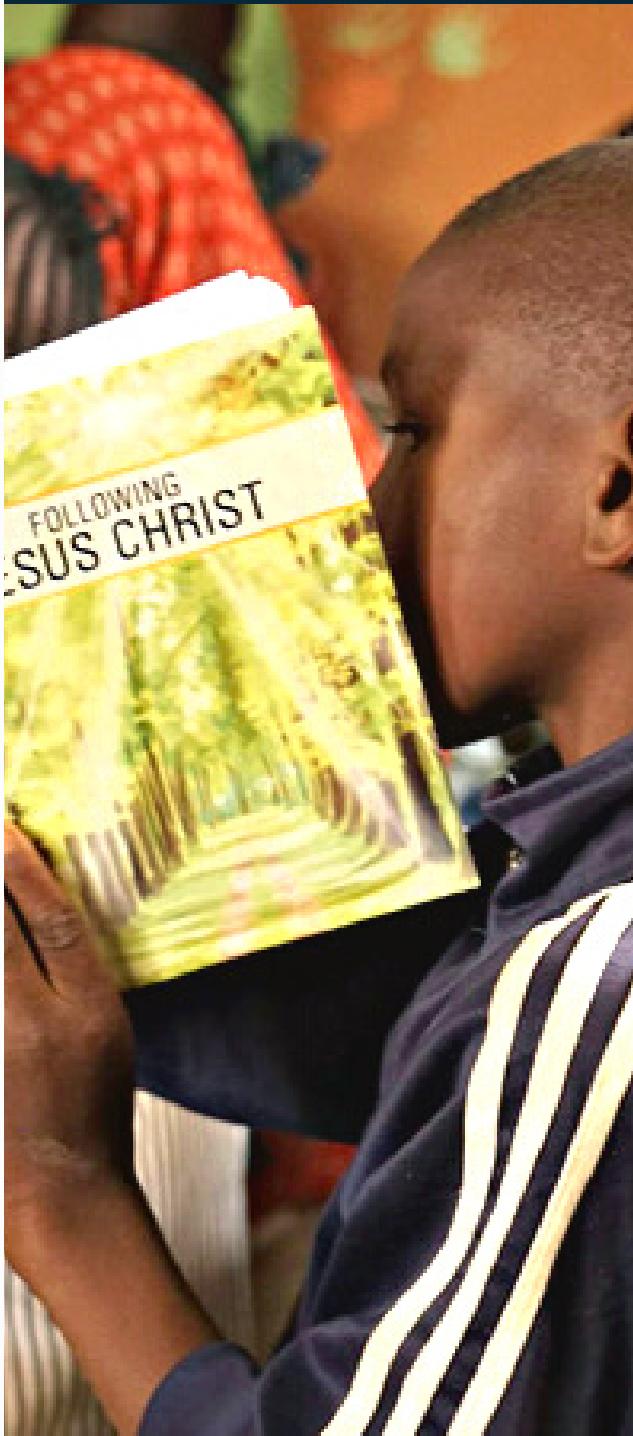


- **2,832 trained in Nigeria**
- **152 trained in Cameroon**
- **704 trained in Ethiopia**
- **17,000+ attended the True Gospel conference in Ethiopia**

The above are all first-generation trainees, trained by our staff; hundreds more have been trained by those we have trained.

**Thank you!**

# WHAT'S NEXT?



**Your prayers are the firm foundation for Kingdom impact!**

You are the champions creating momentum for FFICM. Please join the global staff in regular prayer. The board and senior leadership are currently developing the 2023 strategic plan, as well as the impact of the ministry this Fall (2022).

- **Fall 2022 (\$70,000)**
  - 200 Women Trained in Ethiopia
  - MBB Training Nigeria
  - 500 more men leaders trained
- **2023 "Draw Near" Vision Casting**
  - Is God asking FFICM to adapt curriculum and materials for the Western Church?
  - Will God send FFICM to the Congo? Pygmies in Cameroon? India?

Hebrews 10:22 (ESV) "...let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith...."

**Thank you for investing in the training of the Church on how to follow-up new believers.**



[WWW.FFICM.ORG](http://WWW.FFICM.ORG)

**FIRM**  
FOUNDATION  
IN CHRIST  
MINISTRIES