



NEWSLETTER

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Transformation Education
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Beloved Friends of Transformation Education,

Greetings of peace and joy of the Lord from Sierra Leone! We thank God for you daily! You are helping to make a valuable positive transformation in the lives of many. We pray for your safety and for God's Kingdom to be firmly established in your lives and communities.

So many major changes have happened in the world since February's newsletter, from COVID-19 to the murder of George Floyd.

Friends, it seems evident that you believe black lives matter, as all lives matter. It is sadly very evident that not everyone understands that God loves everyone in the human race red, yellow, black or white and that the world would be a better place if we did the same.

God wants us to do more than be righteous and obey the law.

The video teaching (<https://vimeo.com/426620723>) helped me have a fresh look at the Good Samaritan story from a modern perspective. God told the story for men who focused on keeping all the laws. He wanted them and us to know that He came to fulfill the law (Matt. 5:17), and that He wants us to "love our neighbors as ourselves." Jesus wants us to "love as He has loved us." (John 15:12) **God's laws are not just to inhibit bad behavior, but to exhibit God's character (LOVE).** The Priest and Levi were law obeying citizens, but they were not loving their neighbor (the injured man) as themselves. The Samaritan, who inconvenienced himself for the injured man, loved the man as himself. He obeyed the greatest commands that "all the law and prophets hang on." (Matthew 22:40, 7:12)

The impact of COVID 19 in Sierra Leone: March 22 flights and borders closed. March 25 President Mada Bio declared a National State of Emergency, COVID safety laws were given and enforced. We are not allowed to gather in groups of more than 10 people and churches are not allowed to meet. Taxi's had to take less passengers. There is a curfew to be off the streets from 9 pm to 6 am. People cannot transfer to other districts unless they had a government pass (inhibiting work). We had two Lock Downs where everyone had to stay home April 5th-7th and May 3rd-5th. All schools were closed March 27th. June 1st wearing face masks became compulsory. As of June 22nd Sierra Leone's COVID report is 1,327 cases, 55 deaths, 788 recovered. Two Doctors have died. Sierra Leone's first case of Corona was March 31st, but currently the number of new cases are increasing.



Baby Melanie Taylor with Nanny and neighbor girls.

Newsletter Topics:

- ◆ Association for Christian Schools International
- ◆ Christian Discipleship
- ◆ English Literacy Using Phonics (Training Trainers, Radio Teaching Program)
- ◆ Gwen is Fostering with Plans to Adopt



**Discipleship
Training with
a Goal of
Every Area in
Sierra Leone
Reached for
God's
Kingdom**



Even though we are currently not allowed to gather in groups of more than 10 people and churches are not allowed to meet, the 4 Fields disciples continue and are helping their disciples to grow deeper in the Word of God. Currently we are calling to encourage and follow up with disciples in seven districts, Freetown (Western Rural and Western Urban), Kambia, Port Loko, Kono, Bo, and Bonthe.

Brother Abraham Turay in Kambia District and Abraham Bangura in Freetown Urban have written reports for the newsletter.

Report From Brother Abraham Turay of Follow Up Work In Kambia District Northern Province, Sierra Leone

Kambia District is a Muslim dominate area. ***It was my cry for my people to know the Lord and for them to be saved.*** God heard my cry and gave us Miss Gwen to teach us this 4 Fields methods of making disciples. This is the tool I brought to them.

After August 2018, I started with young people in the community. I thought the pastors would give support for the 4 Fields Discipleship, but instead they rose up against me. They said I brought false doctrines, so I decided to go look for the youth. I got from each village those that know how to read and write, people like Samuel Kamara, Kamathara village; Mr. Kalie Bangura, Small Kunta; Bro Joseph Kamara, Sanama; Aminata Bangura, Lungia; Aminata Conteh who is now married to Mr. Kalie Bangura. These young people did a good job. The total of new convert is 245 people in almost a year. 40 of them are men [above 45 years of age]. They brought their wives and other women, 50 of them in total. There are 70 young men below 30 years, and 85 young ladies and girls from all these villages.

Thank God the Transformation Education (TE) and USA TE Team came to Kambia District to train, things started to change. The first day Miss Gwen and Brother Abraham Thaduba Bangura introduce the Gospel using 3 circles. They shared Bible stories every day using the 3 thirds and discovery method. They provided loving accountability, supporting participants to remember what we had been teaching them. The stories were translated so participants heard it in their own tribe language! This was powerful! At the end of the training, church leaders and new believers were baptized. God gave us new believers and workers, men like Pastor Jeremiah, Pastor J.T. Kanu, Abdulla Kamara, Sister Esther, Sister Yalihan a Senior Nurse, and Fatmata Junior Nurse. They all came on board to support the disciple making work.

December 2019 they came to Freetown for an advanced training. After the training we went back home and divided ourselves throughout the villages, as we planned in the 2020 mission statement we created.

- Districts of
Sierra Leone
- *1. Bo
 - 2. Bombali
 - *3. Bonthe
 - 4. Falaba
 - 5. Kailahun
 - *6. Kambia
 - 7. Karene
 - 8. Kenema
 - 9. Koinadugu
 - *10. Kono
 - 11. Moyamba
 - *12. Port Loko
 - 13. Pujehun
 - 14. Tonkolili
 - *15. Western Rural
 - *16. Western Urban



(Abraham Turay/Kambia District Report Continued)

Pastor Jeremiah Conteh was sent to the **lower part of Tonko Limba** to oversee continued discipleship, starting at **Gboray Layia, Malikia, Mafafilla, Lungia, Sanama, Katherie** and the other villages. Following is an update of those villages.

When I paid Pastor Jeremiah a visit at **Layia Village** where he lives, he said he reached out to 10, 6 men and 4 women.

These 10 have their groups. The 6 men brought their wives and their children which brought the sum up to 27 people at

Layia Gboray. But they were not baptized. He said they are planning to do a big baptism on Easter, but this was postponed because of Corona.

At **Malikia Village** there were 20 disciples before the USA team came in October 2019. 16 people were baptized before the USA team and four were baptized during the USA team visit including Mr. and Mrs. Turay. Afterwards Mr. Turay shared the gospel using the 3 Circles at his church. 10 additional people gave their lives to become disciples of Christ and to make disciples. Mr. Turay leads the believers in Malikia. The 30 disciples there have added another 28 believers whom they baptized. They are making other disciples who were planning to be baptized on Easter.

At **Katherie Village** one of the farmers trained by the USA TE team was **Mohamed Kargbo**, the Holy Spirit converted him after the training. He called for more teaching and Pastor Jeremiah went there. He gathered his own family, 10 in number for the meeting. They are not baptized yet. The last time I visited was in the evening. They called their friends and neighbors. There were 23 in number. I taught them the 3/3 discipleship format.

Sanama the village where brother **Joseph Kamara** was overseeing, has a disciple making leader by the name of **Morlia Kamara**. They have 24, 15 old believers and the 9 new disciples.

Lungia Village's overseer was **Aminata Bangura**. Aminata moved to Freetown to advance her education, so **Abu Bangura** is in charge. There are 35 disciples in number, 10 were baptized. They are watching and helping **Sister Esther** with **Kasona** village, because she is not well. The number of disciples in Kasona are 30 and Abu is sending believers there to help.

This ends the report about the work that Pastor Jeremiah Conteh is overseeing.

Pastor J.T. Kanu is working with the Wesleyan Churches in Tonko Limba Chiefdom. He is training the Wesleyan church pastors to practice the 4 Field. He is reaching out to some Susu and Temne tribes in Kambia District. *I, **Brother Abraham Turay**, am overseeing **upper Tonko Limba** starting from **Madina** up to the next District, **Karene District**. I am now presently staying in a village called **Masagalie**, so the work will be easier for me. I have about 85 new converts. I moved there January 2020. 20 have received water baptism. There are 10 groups and each leader gives a weekly report as I tour the villages. We are reaching a lot of villages and making a lot of groups.*

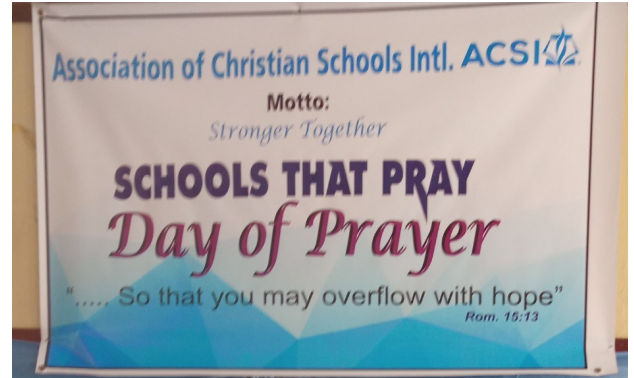
At a **Kalinthin** village **Pastor Jacob Kargbo** is leading about 46 Fulah people. They are cattle farmers. Mariama, a Fulah lady, is reaching her family and friends. She told me that it is really challenging to witness to her family as a Fullah. She asked us to pray for her. They are a afraid to come out publicly for meetings, so they hide secretly. Dominic and Abbas are prayerfully reaching into the neighboring **Karene** District. **Dominic** is reaching into the village named **Thurforyim**, and **Abbas** into **Rogbaray** Village. They are Muslim dominate villages. We need your prayers! **Thank you!**

I, Gwen Joy am grateful that TE is able to provide some support to Abraham Turay and the Kambia team. **They are very sincerely and effectively discipling their beloved community and beyond! There are others like Abraham whom we would like to support as funds are available!**



Gwen Is Fostering With Plans To Adopt: On a personal note. I, Gwen had been prayerfully considering and planning to adopt. A few medical persons knew that if there was a baby that was abandoned they could contact me. Months passed, as I was visiting former coworker Samuel Sesay and the subject came up. He showed me a message he received that day of a child who lost family and was in need of adoption. Another time I can share more of the story, but for now I am grateful to tell you that a six month old baby girl is in my care, with me planning to adopt her after the required six months of fostering. The Sierra Leone adoption process can start in October 2020.

Association for Christian Schools International (ACSI): ACSI International and West Africa has been providing valuable free training support to ACSI school leaders and teachers online. The Kingdom School Institute which I attended in Texas in 2019 was made online and free. ACSI in Sierra Leone is rounding up a commitment to 100 Days of Prayer.



Thanksgiving

(So much mercy God extends and so many graces He gives!)

- Abraham Bangura's appendix surgery went well and after 5 weeks he was able to return to work!
- Progress toward our 2028 goals for 85% literacy and Christian discipleship throughout Sierra Leone. (Several souls saved and teachers trained)
- Partners in finances, implementation and prayer!
- Continued financial support during these challenging financial times!
- Some new financial support sources.
- Invitation and some payment from Teaching Service Commission to train teachers with the government on the national level and to join the national Radio Teaching Program teaching students.
- Personally for Gwen:
 - * Baby Melanie Taylor Smith and supportive family and friends
 - * A great Nanny (Kadiatu) for baby
 - * Gifted use of a local swimming pool for exercise
 - * Prayer Partners
 - * Spiritual Mentors and Growth
- * Expressions of praise and worship
- * Shelter, Transportation, Technology
- * Opportunities and lessons learned from challenges of COVID-19 and Black Lives Matter movement.
- * Peace/Shalom!
- * Safety in travels and from Corona for the disciples, teachers and students



Gwen recording with student participant, Winifred for the Radio Teaching Program.

Prayer Request:

- More and more of God's Kingdom flowing from the inside out of us Christians
- Protection and more maturing disciples who make disciples
- God's continued and increasing intimacy and favor as we make disciples and teach literacy.
- Financial provisions for staff needs and to reach farther with the Gospel and literacy training
- Competent leaders who love fellow citizens
- God to help us all to know how to pray, when we don't have the words.

To help support TE financially:

Postal Check:

Transformation Education
PO Box 914
Meadville, PA 16335



Online Banking Info for Transformation Education Incorporated:

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TRANSFORMATION EDUCATION



We had two 20 hour Phonics Trainings, a level one and level two. Part of the training included visits to the schools to observe the teachers implementation. We were pleased with their level of implementation and its benefit to the students. We had additional level one, two and three trainings scheduled during the Easter Break, but they were canceled because of Corona.

Teaching Service Commission Radio Teaching Program

The government has organized radio teaching to fill in the gap. We have been busy writing scripts and editing. TE's scripts have been English Literacy for Grades 1-3, and teacher training. You can listen online.

<https://station.vocast.com/5ed92defca6e9/>
Mondays and Fridays from 6 am - 7 am (EST) you can hear me broadcast.



Education Innovation Challenge

The government is looking for five different organizations to take the challenge of training, mentoring, monitoring and evaluating teachers from 110 primary schools. Gwen has offered to be a trainer in partnership with one of the organizations that is taking the challenge. Transformation Education is not equip to take a lead, but we have valuable experience to offer.

Opportunities From USA:

- ◆ Online Discipleship
- ◆ Online Teaching of all subjects (Some have phones and internet that help them learn from people outside Sierra Leone. This would be very valuable.)
- Writing and/or Editing Lessons
- Proposal and Grant Writing
- Monitoring and Evaluation





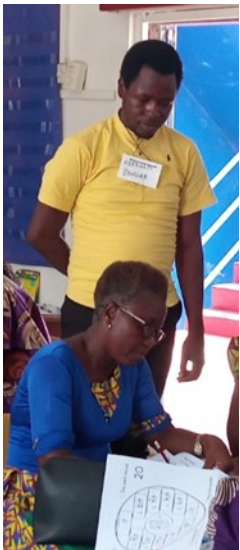
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Return Service Requested

News from TRANSFORMATION E D U C A T I O N



My name is Abraham Bangura. I am grateful to God to be part of the Transformation Education team. Our goal is to raise mature Disciples of Christ and increase literacy rate. We want to see 85% of Sierra Leoneans as literate and as Christian disciples by 2028.

The discipleship groups are going on in different parts of the country. Brethren are meeting with their families in the city, headquarter towns and villages. I am meeting with my family and neighbors every Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday.

We are seeing disciples meeting together as the first church did in Acts 2:46, in their homes. Sierra Leone brethren are meeting with their family and neighbors sharing the gospel in different communities.

As we meet in our neighborhoods we are using all the precaution measures prescribe by the Ministry of Health.

Transformation Education is partnering with Teacher Service Commission (TSC) and the Ministry of Education to do the Radio Teaching Program for the English Literacy teaching of class 1, 2, and 3, every Monday and Friday for students all over the country.

Transformation Education provided radios for children in the community to listen.

I am working with 6 children observing them to see how they are responding to the teaching, so we can improve on the lesson so that everyone will benefit from the teaching.

We used this opportunity to share the gospel with children. I am teaching one character word per week. They learn the definition, Bible memory verse and the story for each word.

We appreciate your prayer and financial support that is helping us to do what we are doing. We are praying for safety for you and your family.



Social distance and masks during radio lessons.