



NEWSLETTER

Volume 10 Issue 3

December 2016

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Merry
CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY *New Year*

Dear Friends,

We all wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Greetings of peace and joy in the Lord. We are grateful beyond words for the opportunity to share life with you.

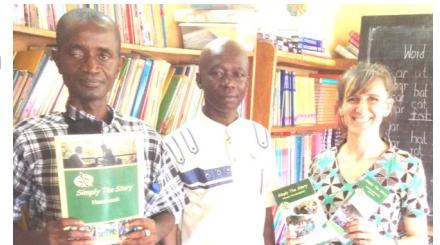
The transformation that is happening as a result of us being trained to use the **Simply the Story (STS)** method is very exciting! The method helps us to learn, love and live God's Word. Several personal testimonies are included in the newsletter.

STS blessed Sierra Leone by sending six foreign missionaries as trainers. Three came from Togo, two from Liberia, one American and one from Burkino Faso.

In September, TE in partnership with World Evangelism Outreach (WEO) hosted a two week STS workshop with 50 participants. In November, we hosted another STS workshop with 70 participants. Many organizations and language groups throughout Sierra Leone benefitted. World Evangelism Outreach (45), Young Worshipers (13), and Light of the World Ministries (8) had the most representatives. More than twelve other organizations sent two or more representatives to be trained.



Early in 2017 we plan to partner with STS's West Africa, regional director William in an advance STS training to certify Sierra Leoneans as instructors followed by four or more trainings around Sierra Leone. Hopefully during this process Sierra Leoneans will become certified and senior instructors able to conduct certified workshops independently.



2017 plans in addition to STS are for TE staff to focus our energy on mentoring teachers by modeling Jolly Phonics and STS in school classrooms, teaching computer skill training, partnering with Soul of Africa and other youth wanting to do community service, clearing and distributing items shipped in a container (anticipating June) and making RACHEL (Rural Area Communicable Hotspot Education Learning) * available.

December 27, 2016 through January 1, 2017 I (Gwen) have the opportunity to teach at the Young Worshipers Conference. We will cover the Biblical book of Romans.

**TE has experienced a lot of positive transformation in 2016 for which we are grateful!
We look forward to 2017.**



*RACHEL: (Rural Area Communicable Hotspot Education Learning), <https://racheloffline.org/collections/rachel> was provided through a friend Karlin. Word Made Flesh hosted a training and we learned how RACHEL can help the students we serve do well on their exams. Now we pray for and seek assistance to get headsets and wireless devices for students to be able to access the educational books, videos and interactive games available on RACHEL.

Soul of Africa (SoA) and Student Volunteers: In August and November seven SoA and five other youth volunteered with TE. Some youth assistant taught at Buxton School other tutored at TE Resource Centre.



*SoA is a youth leadership program that aims to bring about real cultural change. <http://soaleadership.org/>



I thank God for helping me discover Transformation Education (TE)

In the short time I've spent with them, they have really helped transform my life and I want to give thanks.

They gave me an opportunity to be part of the Simply the Story (STS) workshop which helps me learn a lot about telling Bible stories and understanding it well. They also helped me to take part in a Bible quiz competition which was so educational and interesting. I did not win the competition but it helped me learn a lot. For someone who has been a Christian for a year it was a good try.

Grateful Hearts



TE paid my examination fees for the WASSCE which commences in March 2017. When I told my family they were so happy. My family and I are thanking TE and its entire association for their tremendous effort in supporting me. As you have kept my dream alive so I wish you do for others all around Sierra Leone and the world as a whole. Continue the good work you've been doing by helping TE with different resource centers in our country. Once again I thank TE and its entire associate for their good work and may God bless us all.

[Kamoh Ibrahim Sheriff]



I love about STS the fun ideas we hear from other people as we discover treasures in the Bible stories. The Bible stories are so interesting.

My favorite Bible story is about Paul and King Felix, Acts 24:24-27. I like that Paul did not compromise his faith in Christ or the Word of God. Paul boldly stood and preached in front of King Felix who hoped that Paul would give him a bribe of money in exchange for freedom from prison. This story teaches me to remain steadfast and speak the Word of God, no matter what situation I am in and no matter what temptation there is for me to deviate. This has been a great help to me.

I want to thank the Lord for helping me discover Transformation Education, for they gave me the opportunity to know the STS method of reading, teaching and understanding Bible stories in the Bible. Also, thank you donors who supported us to acquire the STS method. May the Almighty God bless you.

[Solomon Sesay]



TE Resource Centre:

We celebrate the learning of 30 who daily come to TE Resource Centre learning Bible stories and how to read and write English.



Note: Contributions are solicited with the understanding that Ripe For Harvest World Outreach has complete discretion and control over the use of all donated funds. All funds donated to Gwen Smith # 20397 as described below are distributed to Transformation Education.

Financial contributions are appreciated and can be made electronically or by check. With either method INCLUDE the ACCOUNT #20397 to ensure that your contribution gets to Gwen Smith and Transformation Education.

1. Checks should be made payable to Ripe for Harvest and sent to:

PO Box 487

Monument, CO 80132-0487

2. Electronic Contribution options:

A. Go to ripeforharvest.org and select donate, then select give by credit card, then select under Missions/projects - Smith, Gwendolyn

B. Forms can be accessed by calling and requesting them from Ripe for Harvest at Phone: 719-488-4121

Scholarships:

We are grateful for scholarship funds donated by Delta Gamma Kappa that went specifically to support girls with their school fees.

This scholarship has helped the following young women:

1. Rachel (Daughter of a faithful, valuable TE staff member.)
- 2,3. Hassinatu and her twin Hussinatu (Neighbors who will be supervised by Word Made Flesh staff.)
4. Sarah (She recently moved from the provinces to Freetown and has been volunteering at TE since September.)
5. Precious (JSS student, friend of staff member who will supervise her progress.)

Transforming Lives and Communities



Why? To spread God's Kingdom (Love, Righteousness, Peace and Joy)

How? Strengthening teachers, serving in the name of Jesus

What? Help people know, love, and live God's Word
(Love, Go, Teach, Equip, Send)



My Favorite Bible Stories Learned from STS - The Widow's Mite, Mark 12:41-44

In this story I learned plenty of things that have helped me grow one way or the other. Specifically, the thing I like is the way the widow gave all that she had in the temple treasure. After learning this story it has helped me be a cheerful giver, whether it is my last or not. I should always give the best to God.

This story has impacted my life in the way that giving my all to God is part of me. My talent, my resources, also my time and my energy I give to God. Through this story I was able to help others learn the importance of giving. -- Aaron

MY NEWS LETTER - [BY MORRIS]

First of all, I would like to thank God for such a privilege and opportunity from our visionary Miss Gwen Joy Smith for the dreams and vision granted unto her by God Almighty.

God is with and working through her to make this dream become reality and be a blessing to lives in Sierra Leone and other parts of the world.

I started working with the Transformation Education (TE) and Miss Gwen Joy Smith in the month of April 2016. At that time I was a volunteer and I met TE preparing for a workshop. The workshop was conducted the month of May and it mainly helped teachers, about 40 of them, from various schools within a 2 hour radius of TE. This workshop was about Jolly Phonics.



Jolly Phonics is about learning how to spell, pronounce, and to be a good reader. I learned so much from this Jolly Phonics workshop. What I learned, that really woke my brain, was how to sound out and blend letters, and how to create sentences out words that were pronounced. My time at this workshop was worthwhile.

Just after the workshop on the Jolly Phonics, another workshop came up again that took place in August and September and this workshop was all

about the S.T.S. meaning Simply the Story. It was all about telling God's story orally. During this workshop which I was privileged to attend two times within a year through the help of TE, I learned so much.

During the workshop, I came across instructors who donated their time and came from other parts of the world. The instructors were from America, Burkina Faso, Liberia and Togo. They were very good at the STS.

It is a blessing for me to know how to tell God's stories. Just after the workshop I urged myself to practice by teaching the children in my church, through evangelizing and talking one to one with families and friends.

I am really grateful to God Almighty for such a privilege I had this year, and what I have gained cannot be lost until eternity.

It was a blessing to know STS through Transformation Education. I pray God continues to bring them to Sierra Leone so they can continue spreading God's undiluted word.

Lastly, I pray that God continues to bless Miss Gwen Joy Smith because God actually uses her as a channel for such revelation like this.





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

Zainab's Good News

TE has transformed my life in many ways.

Now I am saved. Through a Simply the Story (STS) telling of the Birth of Jesus I realized that there is one Savior in the world who is Jesus Christ. I was Muslim. I used to go to church and listen but my heart did not accept. Now I am saved.

STS makes me like to read the Bible. Before I did not have patience for it. Now I can not only read it, but I can even interpret what I read in the Bible."

TE improved my knowledge about Christ and many other things like teaching and preparing receipts and account books. Now I know how to do housekeeping, teach Jolly Phonics, write on the black board and construct good English.

[By Zainab Kamara]



Abraham Turay's Testimony:

I am blessed to be with TE family. I have learned a lot of skills at TE which I taught to rural villages during my annual leave/paid vacation. I learned Jolly Phonics a way of teaching pupils with letter sounds, action and songs. This is a teaching we never knew in our nation. Also I learned Simply the Story (STS) which is a way of teaching the Bible orally. STS is a blessing because about 95% of us get information through stories that have been told by someone, so this method of teaching works in our country. I spent my annual leave in the country and blessed the children, teachers, Sunday school teachers, Pastors, and everyone who heard with Bible Stories and Jolly Phonics.

[By Abraham Turay, T.E Staff]