



1/25/2019

Entrepreneurial Evangelism

Hello,

After years of preaching city evangelism and hosting feeding programs in Africa, we're adding a new focus. We're still going to evangelize and feed children, but we're adding a program of teaching biblical principles to entrepreneurs. We believe this is the next step in helping disciple the nations.

Why entrepreneurial training? Here are four reasons:

1. A report published by the World Bank in 2016 says world poverty has fallen by fifty percent in the last thirty years. Free enterprise (entrepreneur) is credited for the success.
2. Free enterprise is not something that can be quantified. It's not a system out there somewhere but more like the flight of a flock of birds turning here, then there, with perfect liberty. That's because it's wholly human in nature. The process flourishes wonderfully where virtues such as mutuality, honesty, trust, integrity, and accountability are honored.
3. Free enterprise not only produces wealth, but by its nature **promotes** moral healthiness in any society that practices it. Its nature springs from the investment of God in every human. It works beautifully where a society honors just law, property rights (thou shall not steal), and the dignity of its citizens (created by God with unalienable rights). The fidelity of these virtues is key to its success as the matrix in which human trading happens.
4. It's an opportunity to do what I call, *Entrepreneurial Evangelism*. As the proverb says, "*A worker's appetite works for him because his hunger drives him onward*" (Proverbs 16:26). The world wants to feed itself and its children. We want to help them do that while at the same time leavening them with kingdom wisdom—*Entrepreneurial Evangelism*. We desire to uncover and call forth the God given virtues that make any society thrive.

How did we come to this turn in the road? Let me tell you the short story.

Most of you know our primary focus has been Zambia. It's a self-proclaimed Christian nation that knows well the Bible verse, "*Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord.*" Still, many have been asking us, "Why aren't we prospering, we're a Christian nation?"

You want to know how we came to the answer?

Well, for one thing, we didn't just tell them to be content with the knowledge that they're going to heaven. That would have been cruel, and that's not God's answer either. These people are alive on the earth now, and they need food and shoes on their feet for themselves, and their children and they need it now.

We have been thinking long and hard about their plight, and our answer has come from the Lord. You've already tasted some of it in the first part of this letter. The training we are offering comes from the belief that God desires to give power to get wealth. This is not Magic Dust or Juju, but his wisdom as a renewed mind. Our lead Scripture comes from Deuteronomy 8:18, "*But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today.*" There are three aspects to this verse worth noting. 1.) The call to remember God is an antidote to idolatry which is a danger in any pursuit of wealth. 2.) The Lord is the source of the power which is his wisdom and endowments of talents and energy for work. 3.) God desires to confirm his covenant, which becomes a promise for faith.

What we desire to bring is really earthy and practical. But that's what the bible is and that's what our African friends need. We have experienced incredible moves of the Spirit in our years there. These people have an unbelievable resilience for prayer, worship, and preaching; and that's all very good. But we are also telling them that there's something more. You can be anointed, filled with love, and dripping with the gifts and still be stone cold broke. What is needed is character and action based on biblical principles. A farmer can pray till he's blue in his face, but unless he gets up and plants a seed, he'll never have a harvest. This is the law of sowing and reaping.

It's not by coincidence that there are over two thousand verses in the Bible that deal with business, money, and work. It is this kind of teaching they need. For instance, most Zambians have little value for saving. They typically do not save but will eat, drink and spend all they have in one outing with no thought of tomorrow. But without a value for saving, even in difficult circumstances, business success is almost impossible. They'll have no seed for tomorrow, and therefore no harvest.

Okay, I trust you are connecting with where we are going. I would love to hear from you if you have any thoughts. It's an adventure and is absolutely the Cure for Poverty. Though it won't happen overnight; it's a generational thing for sure.

Please remember us as we prepare to air our messages on Zambian television and radio starting April 2019. In this way, we'll begin leavening the country with biblical ideas and calling forth a new generation of entrepreneurs. We're confident that the wisdom of God, with creativity and hard work, will help lift Africa out of poverty.

If you believe, let me hear an amen!

Yours in Christ,



Tom Griner
Father's Heart International
www.fhintl.org tom@tomgriner.com

P.S. I have 175 young entrepreneurs in a WhatsApp group. So exciting to touch them with fresh ideas and to answer their questions.

P.S.S. In April we'll be doing two conferences in Zambia, please pray with us. Go to www.fhintl.org for more information.