



research their Kenyan Christian heritage. An eternal work was begun by God in the hearts of these teachers! The last session was one of strategizing for the future, and the participants formed an association of Christian teachers for continuing education and collegial help.

The Impact of the Kenyan Seminar

The fruit from this seminar was tremendous. The cry that arose from the teachers was for educational reform and a new structure for Christian curriculum. They realized that God was commissioning them to begin the work, rather than looking to their government for help. Many resolved to begin researching their Christian history and publish it for use in their schools. Others were inspired to begin recording their stories and legends. A committee was selected to establish an association of teachers and their first meeting was planned. One teacher, who had fled Sierra Leone with her family during their bloody civil war, sensed God's direction to return to her country and establish a Christian school. The teachers from Uganda went back to their school and immediately employed the notebook method with great reviews. Teachers from a Nairobi school employed the notebook method with their students, and the other teachers in the school were besieged with requests from the siblings of the students using it to have notebooks in their classrooms. Another Nairobi school is planning to structure teaching and learning by principle for their diploma students. My hostess, Irene Tongoi, formed a youth group called New Dawn and introduced the young people to a Christian history timeline and their place in His Story. She has designed a new curriculum based on biblical principles of relationships and love. The teachers met again October 25th and were highly encouraged.

The great interest in Principia has brought an invitation to return next year to Kenya and possibly to Tanzania and Uganda. God is moving sovereignly through many of His servants throughout the world. His heart is burdened for the destitute and hopeless children of which 100 million are not in school! Pray for our brothers and sisters in Kenya who received this training, that God will pour out His wisdom and providence as they apply principles of Christian education in their settings for a national reformation.

Ethiopian Statistics



Ethiopia is an east African nation located in the sub-Sahara. It is one of two African nations that has never been colonized. It also boasts of being the oldest Christian civilization in the world. The people are of Semitic origin (45%) and Amharic is their official language. Ethiopia is the third poorest country in the world with an average annual income of US \$89. Today they face their third great famine in 30 years. Liberated from Marxism in 1991, they lack the Christian worldview and character to free themselves from the years of bondage to communism, Islam, and eastern orthodoxy.

May thy way be known upon the earth,
Thy saving health among all nations. - Psalm 67:2

One in five Ethiopians has AIDS including children. Rich in natural resources but destitute of ideas, Ethiopia suffers from a 36% literacy rate and a lack of technology and biblical solutions. The evangelical church is growing quickly in Ethiopia, but the pastors are not well tooled in the Scriptures.

I was invited to Ethiopia by Food for the Hungry country director, Thomas Stocker, a Swiss-born gentleman with a heart for the plight of Ethiopia. We met in Phoenix and after hearing my lecture on 'First Principles of Education,' he approached me to help him build a principle-based curriculum for his newly founded university. In March, I traveled to Addis Ababa to present a Principia Seminar to pastors and teachers. This opened the door for interest in our *Feed My Lambs* curriculum for use with children's ministries. I returned in August to consult with Thomas and other international children's ministries and to teach yet another Principia Seminar. One of the pastors in attendance, left the seminar for his rural setting. He has taught the materials he received in several



villages and has trained several hundred people. Thomas and I are now strategizing to fund the translation of our program into Amharic for piloting in Addis Ababa. If any of you have a burden for reaching the lives of these precious Ethiopian children, please contact me.

by Elizabeth Youmans



Ministry Needs:

☞ **Permanent Principia Site:** Due to the expansion of our ministry, we have outgrown our present site and are in great need of one that will provide adequate space for a conference room, as well as administrative and production offices. Pray for God's favor and direction.

☞ **Funding for the Completion of FML in English:** We praise God who provided the funds for completing the Introductory Unit through your gifts! The project is now ready to go forward to complete the writing, editing, and illustration of the next eleven units in English for which a budget of \$100,000 is required.

☞ **Translators:** Spanish, Portuguese, and Amharic translators with a Christian worldview are needed to pilot *Feed My Lambs* (FML) in five strategic sites: La Paz, Bolivia; Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic; Lima, Peru; Sao Paulo, Brazil; and Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Day schools in Mexico, Paraguay, and Brazil are also very interested.

☞ **Teachers:** Christian teachers with a call to the nations are needed to assist in instructing lay Christians how to implement FML in their ministries. Principia training and several weeks of your vacation time are all that's needed. If you desire to make an eternal investment in the hearts and minds of children, both in America and around the world, won't you pray about how you can support this program? Principia is a non-profit 501(c)(3) educational institute and all gifts are tax deductible. Please contact: Elizabeth Youmans at eyoumans@principiacorp.org.

Principia in Africa

Go and make disciples of all nations, ... teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always... - Matthew 28:19-20

Principia's mission to "disciple leaders by biblical principles for individual, educational, and cultural reformation" is closely aligned to Christ's Great Commission. What a privilege to be a part of what God is doing in the nations in the 21st century! He has providentially directed my path across the continents for His Gospel purposes and initiated relationships with many Christian leaders and ministries. These past three years we have cast the vision for biblical, Christian education, trained teachers, consulted with school founders, and now prepare to pilot our new curriculum, *Feed My Lambs*. Indeed, the Lord has been with us at every turn in the road!

Last January, I met many African leaders at the Discipling Nations Alliance in Phoenix. When I decided to travel to Africa in March, Dennis Tongoi invited me to stop in Nairobi, Kenya to strategize with his wife, Irene, and several other Christian educators. They invited me to present a week-long Teacher Training Seminar in Nairobi, which proved to be one of the highlights of my year!

Kenyan Statistics



Kenya is an east African nation located in the sub-Sahara. It is comprised of many nationalities and tribes and is a former colony of Great Britain. Although she has been independent for 40 years, she remains in bondage to a highly corrupt political and economic system where injustice rules. The average annual income is US \$320. This is a country plagued

by HIV/AIDS and malaria from which thousands die every year. Of the 33 million people, half are under the age of 15! Kenya is greatly evangelized (36%). Though the church continues to grow, it appears impotent to effect cultural change. People lack the ability to reason with God's Word and apply truth to the institutions of society.

The capital, Nairobi, is a city of contrasts exacerbated by racial, tribal, and economic divisions. It has some of the world's largest slums with 800,000 people living in one huge shanty town with no running water or electricity! From the malaria-infested, crime-ridden slums to the Country Club and high rises, from the charming central market to the cardboard and tin leantos erected daily by street vendors, Nairobi is home to wild lions, elephants, zebras and giraffes, as well as 730,000 AIDS orphans and 60,000 street children. It was an experience which forever changed this westerner's heart!

English and Swahili are the official languages, however, their Christian history and national stories remain in the oral tradition. Until this past year, parents had to pay for all public primary school

education, therefore many children are illiterate. Kenya changed this law in 2002 and made primary education "free" without building any new schools or hiring more teachers! This year there are up to 100 children in one classroom with one teacher! There are several Christian schools in Nairobi, most of which use various Christian curricula developed in the United States. Until our Principia Seminar, the Christian teachers had never formed an alliance for professional support, encouragement, and training.

Principia's Five-Day Seminar



The Nairobi Seminar was undergirded from the very beginning by prayer and fasting, as four Christian educators, who did not know one another, began the walk of faith to host this historic event. Their faith was stretched as they raised support and watched God provide for all of the components of the seminar. It was held at Rusinga Christian School, a large facility with lovely accommodations. Sixty teachers and ten homeschoolers

from five African countries attended. The whole week was anointed by the Holy Spirit, as many heard for the first time the principles of Christian education and government from God's Word. In most Christian settings, Christian education means evangelization. Few curricula teach children the art of learning, how to think and reason with the revelation of God's Word, how to articulate ideas, how to write, or how to apply God's principles to personal self-government and the culture! The notebook method, the primary tool of biblical reasoning used in the Principle Approach, provides teachers and students with the vital tool needed for personal study and reflection and a permanent record of learning. The Christian view of children collides with most Christians' worldview, and when imparted, it brings deliverance and healing to many adults. We stopped in this seminar after I presented this lecture, and one Kenyan prayed an inspired prayer for the children of Kenya. As I taught the providential view of history and introduced them to a

Christian history timeline, I used the term "Kenyan Christian." One teacher interrupted me and said to her colleagues, "How many of you have ever called yourself a 'Kenyan Christian'?" They reflected aloud upon this idea and how God IS the ruler of nations and has a Gospel purpose for their nation. Heretofore, they were ashamed of their history. I introduced them to the riches of children's classics and encouraged them to write their oral stories and [Go to page 4.]

