



South Africa - Non UBS

George Whitfield College Partnership - *Capacity Building in South Africa*

Overview

George Whitfield College is seeking project support in order to supply Greek and Hebrew Bibles in target African languages to theology students.

The College is also seeking to improve internal capacity to build the quality of all translation work being undertaken in order to deliver much needed services to pastors and church leaders throughout Africa.

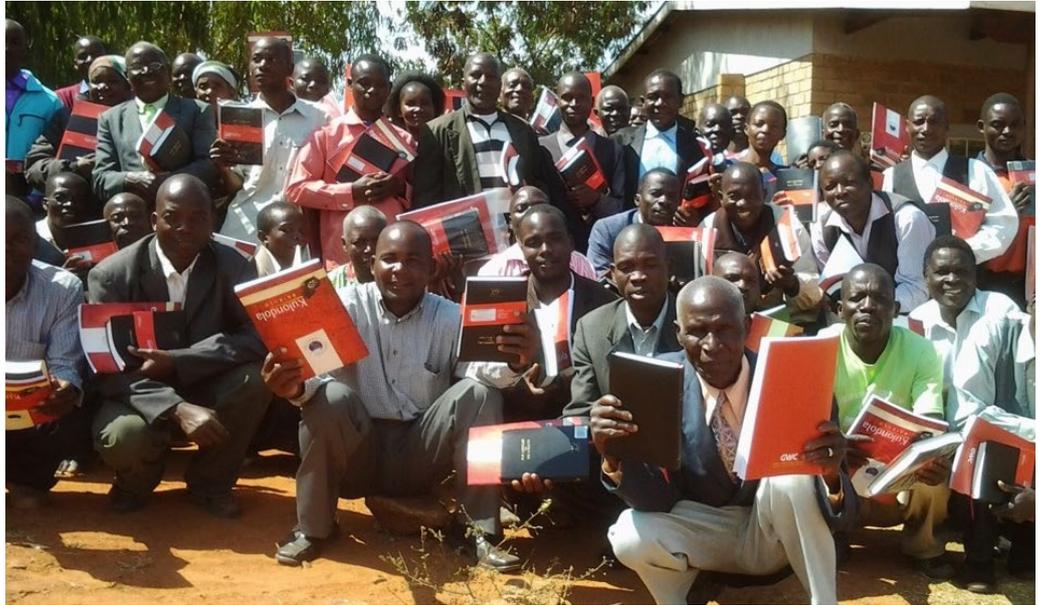
The Need

George Whitfield College (GWC) exists to offer first class theological education. It equips students from South Africa, Africa, and further afield for Christian ministry. GWC was constituted in 1989 by the Church of England in South Africa (now operating as the Reformed Evangelical Anglican Church of Southern Africa, or REACH SA) and continues to serve as a training institution, as well as educating many students from the wider African church. The growing church in Africa has limited theologically trained leadership. As such, the programs GWC has to offer strategy in keeping churches rooted in correct biblical teaching.

Every year, more than half a million students from African countries travel overseas on student visas for tertiary education. The number one destination for English-speaking African students is South Africa.

Accordingly, GWC is strategically placed to provide accredited undergraduate and postgraduate theological education, not just for South Africa, but for the whole continent. Moreover, because one in four Christians in the world currently reside in Africa, GWC is strategically positioned to impact global Christianity into the future.

GWC offers four government accredited programmes at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels. These programmes were accredited by the South African Department of Education. GWC also offers an 'Explore' program which is a distance-learning ministry that seeks to strengthen the quality of preaching, teaching and ministry that is being offered by untrained pastors throughout Africa.



Project Details

GWC College is seeking support to equip the following beneficiary groups.

GWC students:

Hebrew and Greek Bibles are unaffordable for most of GWC's students, yet they are a valuable resource as students seek to develop a deeper understanding of God's Word through their studies of the biblical languages. Supplying 25 Greek Bibles per year will support new Bachelor of Theology students and providing 20 Hebrew Bibles per year will support all continuing students.

Explore (distance-education) students:

GWC desires to offer a new Bible for each new Explore student.

The growth in students over the each year is difficult to project as facilitation training and the translation of the Explore material into specified languages will be the unique drivers of growth. We estimate that there will be a need for 300 vernacular Bibles to be distributed in 2021.

All GWC beneficiaries:

GWC is also seeking support to increase the capacity and output of all translation work being undertaken. Specifically, the College wishes to employ theologically trained personnel who are fluent in multiple languages

Measuring Impact

Through GWC's primary association with more than 100 'REACH SA' churches as well as relationships with several other denominational groupings, the College's network and operation extends into all the provinces of South Africa.

GWC graduates are active in evangelistic, pastoral, educational, and senior denominational leadership ministries in the following nations: Cameroon, Congo, Ethiopia, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Namibia,

Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Tanzania, South Sudan, Uganda, Zambia, Zanzibar, and Zimbabwe. GWC graduates are also active in ministry in Australasia, the European Union, South Korea, North and South America, and the United Kingdom.

Supporting this project will ultimately support the ministry of students who go on to work in these many locations.

Prayer Needs

- Pray for wisdom in the modification of the materials to ensure greater effectiveness.
- Pray for direction in appointing qualified Christian believers for employment positions.
- Pray for wisdom in furthering our partnership with the Bible Society and GWC, for the sake of the Gospel in Africa.