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## A Report from Africa



We are excited to share a report from the response Nick's team received when teaching the new curriculum based on Josh's book, *12 Crucial Truths of the Christian Faith*, in Southern Africa. The purpose of the trip was to equip lay preachers with an introduction to theology and church history as part of a certification program for them.

He was also able to teach 60 full-time on-campus students from southern Africa and 350 online students. The trip revealed just how great the need is for training and curriculum like the ones they are producing. Training resources in Southern Africa (across South Africa, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland, etc.)

are extremely limited while the need for training church leaders, local staff, seminary students, and volunteers is high.

*12 Crucial Truths of the Christian Faith* is an excellent curriculum for this area of the world because it deals with the basics of the Christian faith including truth, theology, evidence for the Bible, apologetics, and application for living out the truth in day-to-day life.

Networking in the Southern African region will be needed to move forward to meet the need and have a significant



impact there with the JMM training resources and curriculums. Many parts of this area are fractured by war and terrorism. Building trusting relationships as well as providing the resources will be an important part of the process.

*Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain. – I Cor 15:58*

## Resolution Movement



In our world today many people struggle with unprecedented levels of shame, anxiety, depression, porn use, and body image issues. These struggles have driven suicide rates and drug use to epidemic levels around the world. For years, Ben Bennett was one of those people. He experienced trauma, deep anger, a porn addiction, and mental health issues like anxiety and depression, before finding hope and healing in Jesus. Today, Ben is an author, podcast host, speaker and serves with Josh McDowell Ministry as the Director of *Resolution Movement* – a global movement helping people overcome hurts and struggles to thrive in life. For the past 12 years, he has partnered with world renowned therapists and ministry leaders, helping individuals young and old understand and work through the underlying factors driving the unhealthy patterns in their lives. He and Josh McDowell co-authored the book *Free to Thrive: How Your Hurt, Struggles, and Deepest Longings Can Lead to A Fulfilling Life*, which Lisa helped to launch when it was published recently.

Online his social media content reaches 4+ million people each month. Over 100,000 people have come to Christ through Ben's podcasts and social media

videos that appear in 171 countries. His Bible plans found in the *YouVersion* Bible App have one of the highest completion rates on the app. 1.6 million people report that they have taken "*the next step*" in their relationship with God because of Ben's content.

God is working through the *Resolution Movement*. Pray for Ben and his team as they seek new ways to use cutting edge technology to reach young people with the hope and healing of Jesus.

### **The Power of Everybody**

Our pastor has been teaching through the book of Nehemiah in a series titled, *The Power of Everybody*. It's about how the Israelites each did their part to rebuild the wall around Jerusalem after the invasion and destruction of the city. Some people built a large section, and some were only able to rebuild the section outside their own homes. Each one did something though. These were ordinary people doing their part. Their skill was their *availability*. This made us think of our support and prayer team. Each one of us is doing our part. We are the feet on the ground. Some of you give your time, some give your faithful prayers, and some give your finances to support our work. All of us coming together to give what God has called us to give in order that we can open doors of hope and healing to areas of the world shrouded in darkness. We are incredibly grateful and humbled to partner with you.

*Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain. – I Cor 15:58*