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Great Commission Youth Ministry NEWSLETTER

INCLUDES

- New expansion training initiative = Planning for the future
- Meet the first five Volunteer Country Training Coordinators
- Third quarter ministry activity updates
- A message from the president of GCYM

New Expansion Training Initiative: Great Commission Youth Ministry . . . *Planning for the Future*

INTRODUCING A NEW TIER-TWO TRAINING STRATEGY! A New Spirit of Missions Expansion & Great Commission work built on a strategy of Volunteerism, providing financial assistance only for needed ministry TRAINING expenses. Bear with me as I explain and illustrate this new volunteer ***TIER-TWO*** strategy initiative.

FOR EXAMPLE: I, Dr. Randy Smith, president of GCYM, lead GCYM, a Training-the-Trainers youth mission agency. I am taking no salary while raising support only for ministry training resources and expenses. I am the original trainer and developer of our Training Vision and Strategy, ***thus*** = ***Tier-One***. This concept is not new – from the first day of declaring the Great Commission Vision from Jesus, the 12 apostles, including the Apostle Paul, and Luke (***Tier-One***), trained and commissioned what I am calling ***Tier-Two leaders***. This is what Jesus did by choosing His Tier -Two leaders, training them, and sending them out to do the work of evangelism, discipleship, and training new leaders.

The Apostle Paul used the same strategy upon launching his new missions ministry to the Gentiles in Acts13. Paul, a ***Tier-One leader*** himself as volunteer servant who took no salary and only raised or solicited funds for ministry training. I am intentionally listing all of Paul's known (in Scripture) ***Tier-Two workers and partners*** in his ministry as a missionary that lasted only 33 years, from his conversion in 34 AD to his beheading by the Romans in 67 AD.

I know. The list is long, and you are tempted to skip all the names. But I list them intentionally, as they were listed in the Bible by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. Likely all of them were persecuted, and many were likely killed by the brutal Romans. The Holy Spirit wanted us to know them, so maybe for the first time let's call out their names as heroes of the faith who joined

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MISSION STATEMENT:

Equip church Youth Leaders to evangelize and disciple the world's youth through the Gospel of Jesus Christ, guided by the Word of God in the power of the Holy Spirit.

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the thousands of others who saturated the Roman Empire with the Christian faith by 350 AD, when the majority of the Roman Empire's citizens claimed to be Christians (approximately 34 million believers). Here they are, heroes of the faith; let's honor them by calling out their names.

Heroes of the faith:

- ***Luke*** ***Barnabus*** ***Silas***
- ***John Mark*** (brought to faith through Peter)
- ***Timothy*** (came to the faith by Paul) ***Titus***
- ***Aquila & Prisilla*** ***Apollos*** ***Tychicus***
- ***Aristarchus*** ***Epaphras*** ***Epaphroditus***
- ***Onesimus*** ***Gaius*** ***Sopater*** ***Secundus***
- ***Trophimus*** ***Erastus*** ***Eubulus*** ***Linus***
- ***Zenas*** ***Onesiphorus*** ***Sosthenes*** ***Tertius***
- ***Stephanas*** ***Fortunatus*** ***Achaicus*** ***Justus***
- ***Crescens*** ***Carpus*** ***Zenas*** ***Artemas***
- ***Ananias*** ***Epenetus*** ***Demus*** ***Philemon***
- ***Apphia*** ***Archippus*** ***Onesimus*** ***Lydia***
- ***Mary*** ***Phoebe*** ***Junis*** ***Claudia***
- ***Lois*** ***Eunice*** ***Andronicus*** ***Junia***
- ***Ampliatus*** ***Urbanus*** ***Stachys*** ***Apelles***
- ***Aristobulus*** ***Herodian*** ***Narcissus*** ***Tryphena***
- ***Tryphosa*** ***Persis*** ***Rufus***
- ***Rufus' mother*** ***Asyncritus*** ***Phlegon***
- ***Hermas*** ***Philogus*** ***Julia*** ***Nereus***
- ***Olypas*** ***Lucius*** ***Jason*** ***Sosipater***
- ***Quartus*** ***Dionysius*** ***Damarius***
- ***Paul's unnamed teenage nephew***

75 in all (15 women and 60 men). They were all fellow Christians who worked with the Apostle Paul in his extensive Missions ministry and are named in the New Testament. This doesn't count the dozens or even hundreds of new believers and trained elders in the Churches Paul planted in Asia and Europe. Paul accumulated hundreds of workers, many of whom he trained himself, who would then take up their own ministries to equip and train others. From this extensive list of co-workers, Paul selected several key trainers, such as Barnabas, Timothy, Silas, Gaius, and Mark, and a few others to be his key workers and trainers in the different regions where he himself ministered, planted churches, and equipped elders. These hand-picked leaders served him in the various parts of the world such as Cyprus, Pamphylia, Lycia, Galatia, Asia, Macedonia, Achaia, Cilicia, and even Rome in Italy. Wherever he went, he trained leaders and trained them to train others (2 Timothy 2:2).

All of these 75 Christian workers were ***VOLUNTEERS***! They worked to take care of their own needs and occasionally accepted financial and other needed resources to cover their ministry expenses, such as the support sent to Paul by the Philippian church on more than one occasion. And this was just Paul's list! I am certain that Peter, John, Jude, James, Matthew, and the other founding leaders had their ***Tier -Two leaders*** as well.

Why have I shared this long, perhaps to some a boring list? Because I want to introduce this Biblical concept as a **NEW INITIATIVE for GCYM**…the choosing of volunteer leaders who are meeting their own personal needs while at the same time receiving financial and resource support to go about reaching and training others. ***I believe the Lord has led me to select a team of Tier-two workers, whom I have personally trained, to take up my training mantle to then equip and train other Tier-3 leaders throughout their own countries using the GCYM strategy and vision!*** For now, I have chosen 5 such leaders and anticipate more in the near future!

These 5 selected Trainers from Nepal, Mexico, Myanmar, Brazil, and Ethiopia have all worked with me and have been trained by me. They all take care of their own living expenses and, for only youth worker training expenses, have agreed, by a signed partnership, to coordinate youth worker training in their own countries using the GCYM strategy. Let me introduce these five outstanding leaders who have agreed to become ***GCYM's first VOLUNTEER COUNTRY TRAINING COORDINATORS***. As you read about them, please pray for them, then consider supporting their training ministry funding by giving to GCYM.

Volunteer: Meaning GCYM does not pay a salary, but as long as funds are available, GCYM will provide funds for their youth ministry training expenses when using the GCYM strategy model and vision.

Please take a few minutes to meet GCYM's first five Volunteer Country Training Coordinators. They were selected based on their love for God and His Word, their character, training, ministry experience, passion to reach and disciple young people, humility to serve as a volunteer, a desire to improve their knowledge

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and ability, and the commitment to never quit! I think I have found five such partners and am looking for more. At the end of each description, there will be pictures of the leaders and their families, with one exception due to security concerns.

ETHIOPIA



Leader - Henok Girma



Wife- Miraf. Children: twins (son Chirinet and daughter Mihiret – Age 4), son Bereket – 7 months

Henok is a Youth Ministry graduate of our GCYM Master's program at the Evangelical Theological College in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. He was my student in several of the classes. I knew him and Miraf before they were married. Henok is an experienced church youth pastor and is dedicated to reaching and discipling youth and training other youth leaders as a partner with GCYM. Henok already teaches youth ministry at the master's degree level at ETC and will complete his Doctor's degree in Christian leadership from Liberty University in December of this year. With our assistance, he has created his own youth ministry training website called Youth Unashamed; see it at the link **www.youthunashamed.org**.

MYANMAR



Leader - Naw Yaw Yet (Mark)



Wife-Sui. Children: son Paul – age 19

Mark is an experienced youth leader and church pastor. He has a doctorate degree and is a graduate of our Youth Ministry MA program, which will be completed in November of this year. He, along with10 other youth workers in Myanmar and one in the Philippines, will complete the Youth Ministry MA degree. Mark's son and wife had to leave the country so that their son would not be conscripted into the Myanmar civil war that engulfs the northern part of the country. Mark is a professor at the Myanmar

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"He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation."
Mark 16:15 (NIV)

VISION STATEMENT:

The vision of the Great Commission Youth Ministry consultancy is to assist Christian leaders understand that the Great Commission should, by-and-large, be a Youth movement that is constantly reaching, discipling and mentoring the youth generation in every people group of the world.

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Evangelical Graduate School of Theology but now has a new vision to start BA and MA youth ministry courses in Christian colleges all over Myanmar. GCYM is committed to helping him accomplish this vision. Pray that he and his family will be able to reunite soon and that the country itself will be able to return to a democracy, free of war, and a return to religious freedom.

MEXICO



Leader – Barush Daniel Sanchez



Wife- Lanu Walts Sanchez

WOW, what an exciting and dynamic Christian couple! Here, GCYM gets TWO youth ministry trainers for ONE. Both are experienced youth leaders and ministers across Mexico. Both have their own contemporary Christian bands that minister to thousands each year! Both have completed GCYM's extensive leadership training Certificate program and have already started training church youth workers in the Mexico City area. Barush has contacted several seminaries in the Mexico City area, and several of them are very interested in starting a GCYM-sponsored Youth Ministry Master's degree program. We are currently in negotiations with them. Barush has had training in law school and is working on a Master of Divinity at a local evangelical Presbyterian seminary. After finishing his master's degree, he hopes to enter Liberty University's online Doctorate in Ministry program. Barush and Lanu together planted a church among college students that is helping the students grow in the faith!

NEPAL



For security concerns, at their request, names and pictures will not be revealed

Our volunteer country training coordinator for the country of Nepal lives and ministers in a country whose government and religious leadership are very hostile toward evangelical ministries. Our leader is a very experienced youth minister and trainer of youth leaders. He has two master's degrees, one of which is in our GCYM-sponsored Youth MA degree held in Nepal several years ago. He has just been accepted

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into Biola's online Doctor of Ministry Program beginning in 2027. He has also started a "Youth" church made up of 90 % youth. The youth and his workers meet every Saturday in four different club locations in four parts of Kathmandu, the capital of Nepal. He also successfully runs several youth camps each year focused on evangelism and discipleship. I am very excited to see how God uses this very talented couple to expand GCYM's training across Nepal and beyond! They have two teenage children, a girl and a boy. Please pray for safety, freedom, and wisdom as his family goes forward with our new youth ministry training strategy!

I am praying about adding Tier-Two volunteer country trainers in Nigeria, Kenya, Cuba, Canada, and China in these exciting days.

To support the training expenses of these incredible Volunteer Country Trainers Coordinators, click on the link below or scan the QR code to be directed to how you can give a tax-deductible one-time or recurring donation to support their incredible ministry.

Thank You! – Dr. Randy Smith, President-GCYM

https://provisionbridge.org/great-commission-youth-ministry/

GCYM

BRAZIL



Leader – Marcio Jonas Juk



Wife- Aline de Almieda Juk. Children: daughter Laura, age 8, and son Gabriel, age 6

Marcio is a passionate youth pastor in his church in Sao Paulo, Brazil, a large evangelical church that will soon celebrate its 100th anniversary! Marcio has a large youth group that is growing in faith and numbers. Marcio has completed five of ten courses in our master's degree in youth ministry that is being offered at the Word of Life Theological Seminary near São Paulo. I am personally mentoring Marcio and have completed several mentoring sessions. Upon completion of the GCYM-sponsored MA program in December of 2027, he hopes to enter the Liberty University online Doctorate in Ministry in 2028. We have high hopes for this new extension of GCYM's youth training strategy into the country of Brazil.

3rd Quater Ministry Activity

The Ethiopia/Pakistan/Uganda One-Year Online Certificate Program that began on Sat. June 27, 2026th is going well! 25 students are still participating in the program. It is a 12-month, 24-session intensive training certificate program (90-minute class every 2 weeks). Again, these youth workers are already working in Youth Ministry but are not able to obtain formal academic youth ministry training. The students must complete all assignments before advancing to the next session! Rev. Phil Brown just finished teaching session #9 on Personal Evangelism Training. Next month, Dr. Roger Glidewell will teach two sessions on Youth Discipleship.

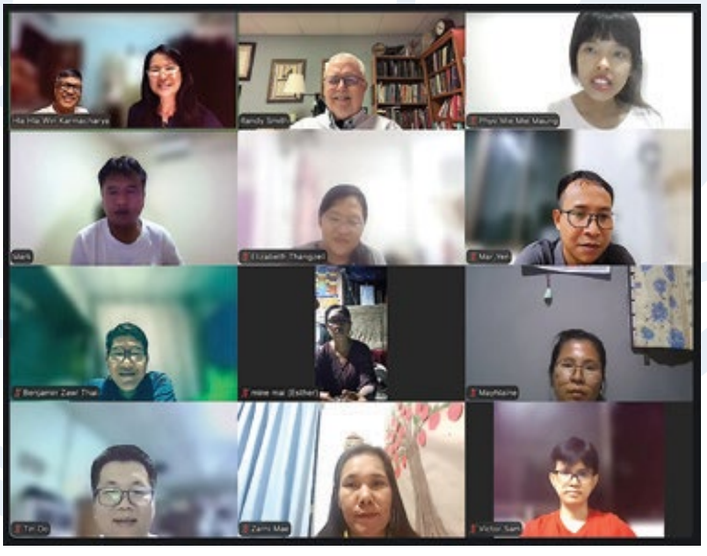
ETHIOPIA/PAKISTAN/UGANDA

One-Year Online Certificate Program



MYANMAR ONLINE YOUTH MA PROGRAM

On Target to Completion in 2026



The eleven-course Myanmar MA online program began in March of 2025. Courses # 9 & 10 were taught in August, and I will teach the final course in October/November of this year. God willing, 11 students will graduate in February 2027 from the Myanmar Evangelical Graduate School of Theology in Rangoon. Praise God!

BRAZIL MA PROGRAM UPDATE

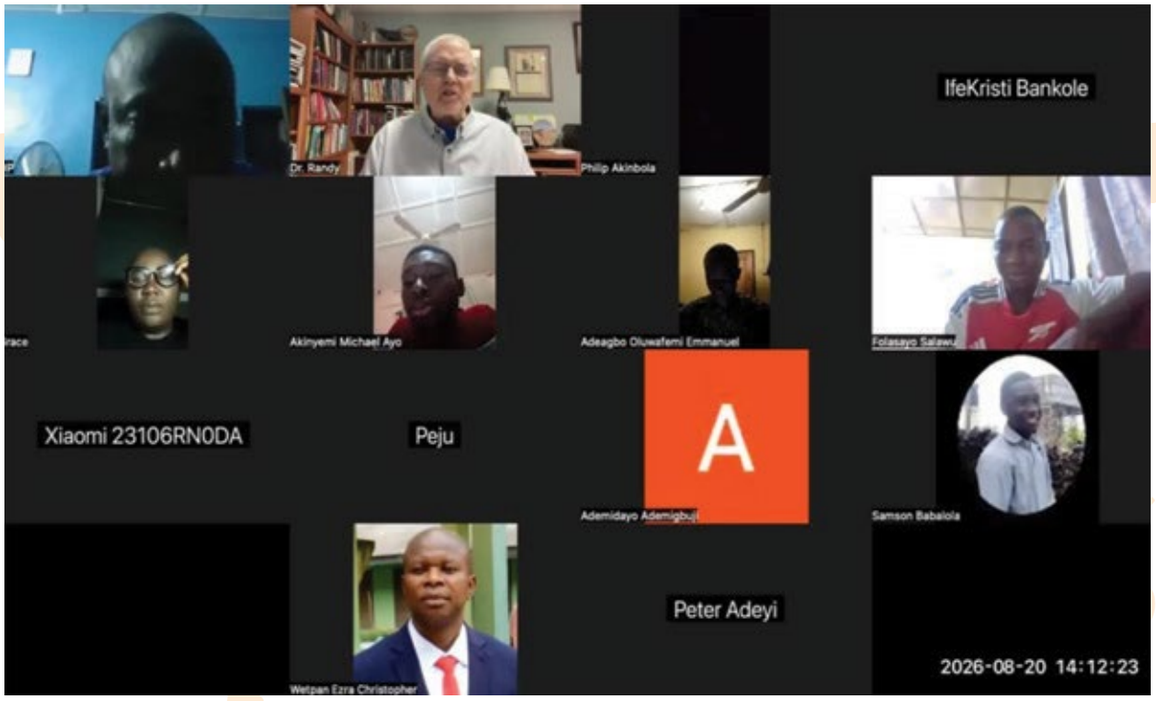
I taught the first class of the new Word of Life Theological Seminary Youth Master's degree in August of 2025. My friend Dr. Chris Davis just finished course #5 (Programming of Youth Ministry) in August. We are now halfway through the program, and we look to be on schedule for me to teach the final class in October of 2027, with graduation scheduled for December. I have already been granted permission to assist in giving the diplomas out to the graduates. We started with 45 students. We will see how many finish the program.





NIGERIA ICYM CERTIFICATE TRAINING CONFERENCES

Nigeria ICYM Certificate Training Conferences are still doing wonderfully and have trained more than 200 youth leaders thus far. All 5 branches of the ICYM are conducting Youth Ministry training conferences. I enjoy assisting in several of the trainings with Joshua, the Director, as seen below in August, 2026.





From Dr. Randy Smith
President/Founder of
Great Commission Youth Ministry

Please pray and consider joining our monthly financial support team.

GIVING INSTRUCTIONS:
To donate for a tax credit please work with our GCYM giving partner Helping Hands (ProvisionBridge) by **clicking the link below or scanning the QR code**. Follow the simple instructions to make a one-time or a recurring monthly donation. Blessings to all!

➡ https://provisionbridge.org/great-commission-youth-ministry/

Visit our Website at **www.gcymtraining.com**.
Contact Dr. Smith at **youthman1@aol.com** or text me at 502-419-0527.

Great Commission
Youth Ministry

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