GOD SENT CHRIST TO MAKE PEACE BETWEEN HIMSELF AND US, AND HE HAS GIVEN US THE WORK OF MAKING PEACE BETWEEN HIMSTLF AND OTHERS ., GOD WAS IN CHRIST, OFFERING PEACE AND FORGIVENESS TO THE PEOPLE OF THIS WORLD, AND HE HAS GIVEN US THE WORK OF SHARING HIS MESSAGE ABOUT PEACE, WE ARE THEREFORE CHRIST'S AMBASSADORS.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:18-20



We are preaching hope standing on the bones of the past.

BISHOP JOHN RUCHYAHANA

Remembering more than 1,000,000 loved ones lost ... never to be forgotten.



HOW THE CHURCH HELPED

CHANGE THE COUNTRY

In 2004, I received a letter from His Excellency, President Paul Kagame explaining that he had read *The Purpose Driven Life* and inviting me to Rwanda. He wrote, "I lead with purpose and I'd like to see Rwanda become a Purpose Driven Nation." That letter began a partnership that has resulted in amazing changes and great benefits beyond what we ever imagined.

During my first visit to Rwanda, I was warmly welcomed and encouraged to invite President Kagame to visit Saddleback Church, so I asked the President to speak to my members at our church's 25th Anniversary celebration at Anaheim Stadium. President Kagame challenged the 52,000 people in attendance, to come to Rwanda and use their skills to help rebuild a nation rising out of the ashes of the 1994 genocide. That began a steady stream of entrepreneurs, investors, doctors, nurses, teachers, architects, city planners, sports coaches, railroad executives, contractors, law enforcement trainers, and dozens of other skilled professionals traveling from California to Rwanda. And, as I write these words, nearly 2,232 Saddleback members have served in and through the churches of Rwanda—more than any other of the 197 countries where we've sent our church family.

Over the years, we've built a unified body of churches fulfilling their God-given roles in rebuilding the nation using The PEACE Plan. We started by training pastors in leadership, management, Purpose Driven strategy, preaching, and The PEACE Plan. The receptivity from pastors and churches was 100% positive, and today, Rwanda PEACE includes every faith community and recognized networks of churches.

THE PEACE PLAN'S SUCCESS IN RWANDA HAS BEEN BASED ON THREE SIMPLE BELIEFS

First, we believed that the people of Rwanda already had the desire, talent, abilities, strong character, and faith to succeed. They didn't need handouts, subsidies, or another country to rebuild their nation for them. Rwandans are a strong, self-reliant people of great dignity. All they needed were friends to offer training and they would be able to rebuild the nation themselves.

Second, we believed their local churches were the fastest and easiest way to mobilize people at the local, community level. Churches have the widest networks, the strongest relationships, the deepest roots in the community, the most volunteers, the highest motivation (love), and pastors who have enormous influence and credibility with their members.

President Paul Kagame is one of the few heads of state I've met who understands this second point. In 2008, at a rally in Amahoro Stadium, President Kagame stated publicly, "We realized that we could rebuild the nation at a faster rate if we engaged the churches."

Third, we believed that every social problem has a spiritual root to it—whether it's poverty, AIDS, healthcare, education, corruption, reconciliation, forgiveness, justice, or other issues. The fact is that a strong, healthy nation requires strong, healthy churches, because they shape individuals and families.

THIS REPORT IS A DOCUMENT OF CELEBRATION

Today, just 12 years after The PEACE Plan was introduced, the impact of Rwandan churches is now being discussed and studied in China, India, Russia, South America, the United States of America, and around the world. It has spread across 20 African nations, and could reach 30 countries by the end of 2018.

In this report of celebration, you'll get a small glimpse of what has been accomplished through local churches in Rwanda—to bring hope and transformation to a nation.

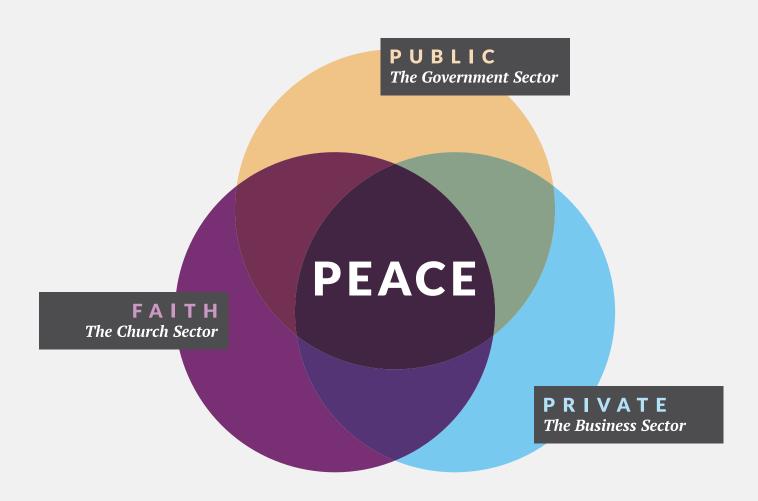
To God be the glory!

Pastor Rick Warren

Pastor Rich



THE THREE PILLARS OF A GREAT NATION





WHYTHE PEACE PLAN IS THE SOLUTION

The goal of The PEACE Plan is to mobilize ordinary people through a local church-to-church strategy. The PEACE Plan is our response to the five global giants that negatively affect our world: Spiritual emptiness, Self-serving Leadership, debilitating Poverty, pandemic Disease, and crippling Illiteracy. We overcome each of these giants by Partnering with churches that promote reconciliation, Equipping servant leaders, Assisting the poor, Caring for the sick, and Educating the next generation.

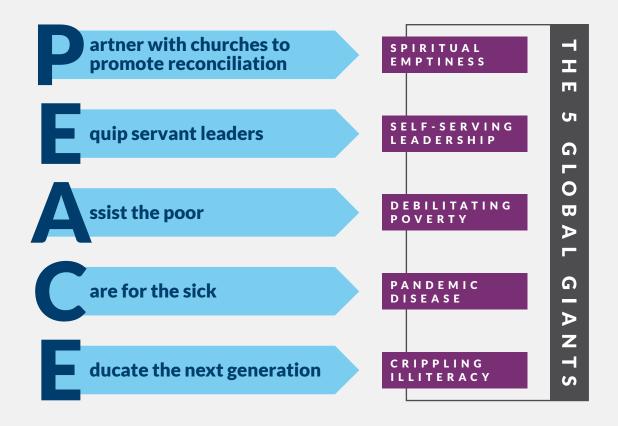
All the power and energy is in the local church—initiated, continued, funded, and managed by local churches and their pastors. The Rwandan model of The PEACE Plan is completely decentralized into the local churches, allowing the local church to be the front line solution to the community.

The PEACE Plan works because it is BY the church and THROUGH the church.

As we have been rebuilding Rwanda, we underestimated the role of the church . . . Now, the church is with us. And that is because of the critical transformation of PEACE.

FIRST LADY OF RWANDA
JEANNETTE NYIRAMONGI KAGAME

THE **PEACE** PLAN





HISTORY OF **PEACE**

1979

The goal to build a model of a healthy church begins, which started with seven members in the home of Pastor Rick Warren. Today, Saddleback Church has 25,000 members, has baptized over 45,000 believers, and has 19 campuses across four continents.

2003

The vision for PEACE begins when Pastor Rick visits a small South African church meeting under a tent. The 50-member church was caring for 25 children orphaned by AIDS. Today, The PEACE Plan, based on the five actions of Jesus, has resulted in 26,000 Saddleback members serving in 197 countries.

2005

The PEACE Plan is launched in Rwanda and begins the first Purpose Driven network to unite all the churches in Rwanda.

1981

Saddleback sets out to serve other pastors. Over 38 years, Saddleback Church has trained over 500,000 pastors and church leaders from 164 countries and every denomination.

2004

His Excellency, President Paul Kagame personally invites Pastor Rick and Kay Warren to help Rwanda become the First Purpose Driven Nation.



2008

Purpose Driven training was initiated by pastors from every district in Rwanda. Out of this three-year training initiative, 2,219 pastors graduated.

2014

Through The PEACE Plan, the Musanze Declaration is agreed by all leaders of Rwandan churches. This implementation plan for resolution chronicles the role of churches in the country's history, and highlights the commitment of church leaders to redeem the church's name.

2017

As part of the All-Africa Initiative, churches across America have officially launched The PEACE Plan in 10 African countries with plans to begin PEACE training in another five by the end of 2017. Plans are in motion to launch PEACE in 15 new countries by the end of 2018, and in 14 more in 2019.

2012

23,000 people from every church network joined together in unity to thank God at Rwanda Shima Imana, the first National Day of Thanksgiving launched by The PEACE Plan.

2016

At the All-Africa Pastors Gathering in Rwanda, 20 countries committed to launching The PEACE Plan. As a result of observing The PEACE Plan in Rwanda, church leaders from Mexico, El Salvador, Colombia, India, Hong Kong, and the Philippines have also decided to launch nationwide The PEACE Plan initiatives.

NATIONAL MODEL OF THE PEACE PLAN

It started with a vision to partner with a country where The PEACE Plan could be modeled, by working with local government and businesses for the development of an entire nation.

And then Rwanda found us! President Paul Kagame was the liberator after ending the genocide of 1994, during which over one million Rwandans were killed in 100 days. President Kagame wrote Pastor Rick Warren after reading *The Purpose Driven Life*. As a man of purpose, he wanted to build a Purpose Driven nation.

After three visits to Rwanda by Pastor Rick, local leaders organized a national steering team to direct The PEACE Plan. Once infrastructure was in place, a formal invitation from church leaders was sent to Saddleback Church, requesting a partnership to help rebuild Rwanda as the first Purpose Driven nation. That set into motion a plan to actively build a leadership team representing 100% of the Rwandan churches.

The rest is the future . . .





RWANDA

Named the **SAFEST** country on the African continent

Nearly one million people OUT OF POVERTY

One of the **CLEANEST countries**in the world

Ranked among the

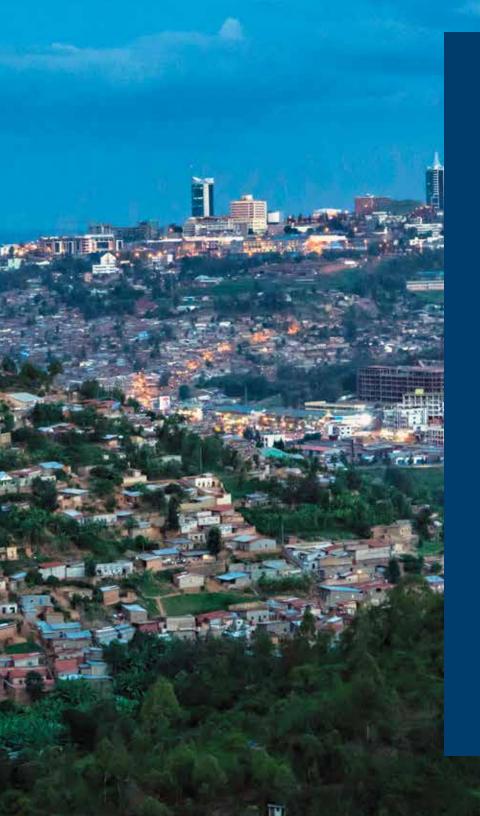
FASTEST DEVELOPING countries in the world

Among the **TOP 3 LEAST**

CORRUPT COUNTRIES

in Africa





WHY PEACE THRIVES IN RWANDA

Over a decade after introducing PEACE in Rwanda, the nation stands as a global model of what is possible when government, businesses, and the church work together. It thrives because of the unity of the churches that have rallied around The PEACE Plan, and formed a powerful force for good in the nation.

It flourishes because of a smart government that recognizes the wisdom and value of engaging churches as the third leg for creating a stable nation. A nation needs all three sectors of society—the public sector, the private sector, and the faith sector—in order to be strong and stable.

To this day, Rwanda has experienced transformation because of the maturity of the leaders, the openness of the government, and the willingness of a nation to resurret from the past and find hope in the promise of tomorrow.

Above all, Rwanda thrives because of the unity of the church—the lifeline of the community—coming together for a common goal of transformation through restoration. As the catalyst for change, The PEACE Plan has unified churches from all faith forums by emphasizing collaboration rather than competition.

Since The PEACE Plan's introduction in Rwanda, more than 4,000 church leaders in over 120 different denominations have undergone Purpose Driven Church training. This effort has established a cross-denominational collaboration like never before seen in the history of the world, where all faith communities are working to restore a nation. Together, the churches of Rwanda have paved the way for sustainable change that will continue to transform an entire nation for generations to come.

NATIONAL STEERING TEAM

When The PEACE Plan was launched in Rwanda in 2005, church leaders came together to form a Steering Team, representing over 125 denominations to provide oversight for all PEACE activities in Rwanda.

Through their leadership, the churches have completed a national *40 Days of Purpose* campaign, reconciled and unified around the creation of the *Musanze Declaration*, and instituted a *Rwanda Shima Imana National Day of Thanksgiving*. This unprecedented unity was possible because of the formation of a national Steering Team dedicated to accomplishing The PEACE Plan.



Bishop Alexis BILINDABAGABO Chairman



Bishop Esron MANIRAGABA Treasurer



Rev Gahungu BUNINI Member



Pastor Charles B MUGISHA Member



Bishop Nathan GASATURA Member



Bishop Louis Aimable MUVUNYI Member



Rev Munyamasoko GATO Member



Pastor Joel SENGOGA Vice Chair



Mary KAMANZI Executive Director



Pastor Liliose TAYI Member



MUSANZE **DECLARATION**

Through The PEACE Plan, The Musanze Declaration was agreed to by all heads of Rwandan churches on April 11, 2014. The implementation plan for resolution chronicles the role of churches in the country's history, and highlights the commitment of church leaders to redeem the church's name.



We believe the church is the most important change agent in the world. The local church is where the community comes together for all the issues of life. The PEACE Plan supports local churches, and makes them the heroes in their communities. We partner with churches because the church is God's strategy for reconciliation in the world.

Today, over 1,000 church leaders in Rwanda have a reconciliation ministry in their churches. This national reconciliation movement is being carried out in villages, cells, and sector levels across Rwanda. Many churches are implementing this on their own initiative, inspired by a common vision for unity and peace. It is through PEACE Plan-established initiatives, including the Musanze Declaration, and the Rwanda Shima Imana National Day of Thanksgiving, that a reconciliation movement has been implemented throughout Rwanda.







FINDING HOPE THROUGH PEACE ADINA'S STORY

As the leader of a small church in a Rwandan village, Pastor Leonidas has heard countless stories of lives that were tragically changed because of the genocide. In just 100 days, one million people were murdered and over one million children were orphaned. "It was our darkest hour," recalls Pastor Leonidas, "—when there was chaos everywhere in our country and no hope."

Among those who faced despair was Adina, a woman in Pastor Leonidas' local congregation. As a single mother, Adina has five children of her own and three whom she rescued. Earning just 60 cents per day washing clothes, it was nearly impossible for Adina to provide for her family's basic needs.

It wasn't until Pastor Leonidas introduced the book, *The Purpose Driven Life* that Adina began to see that change was possible. "It completely awakened my spirit," says Adina. "I joined a small group and realized my life was not by accident, but it was the will of God." Eager to learn more, she took part in training introduced by The PEACE Plan. With other members in her church, Adina learned skills related to hygiene, agriculture, plumbing, water filtration, and construction. She even learned how to build a wood-burning oven.

After completing PEACE training, Adina felt confident to open a small restaurant for college students. With earnings from the restaurant, she was able

to meet the needs of her eight children and save extra money with the interest collected from the PEACE savings program. Those additional funds helped pay for repairs on Adina's home. "All this is the result of the saving knowledge and the support I got from the church," Adina explains.

Now running her own business, Adina's story is not unique. Rwanda is full of people who found hope because of unity in the local church. Pastor Leonidas believes this is just the beginning of opportunity for the nation. Instead of seeing a broken people, he sees transformation in the lives of communities. Neighbors are trusting one another, families are living healthy lives, orphans are finding homes, and more children are being educated in schools. Even the poorest in the communities are finding ways to earn a living. Most importantly, more people are coming to church and finding hope and love in Jesus Christ.

With a church committed to The PEACE Plan, Pastor Leonidas says the days of a divided nation are behind Rwanda. Today he works with other pastors to live out The PEACE Plan on the interchurch council. "God is using the church to transform our own lives and the lives of those in our community," he says. "This is only the beginning. We believe we can change our country one person at a time through unity in the church."

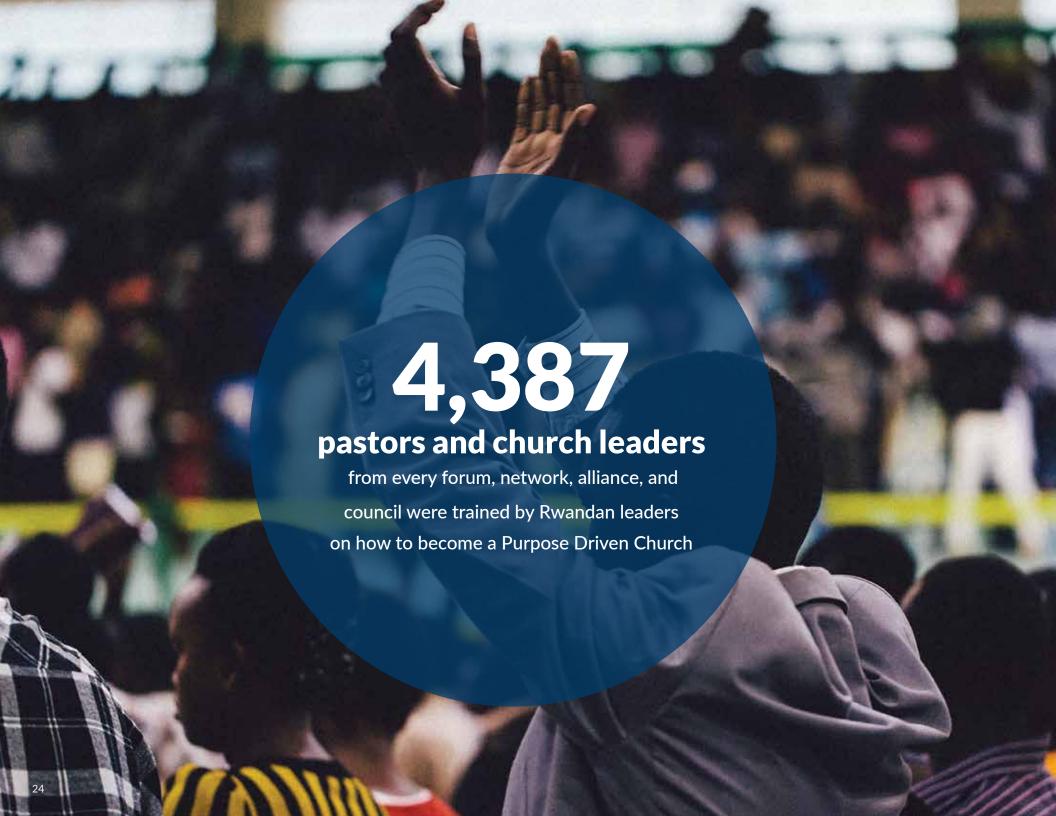


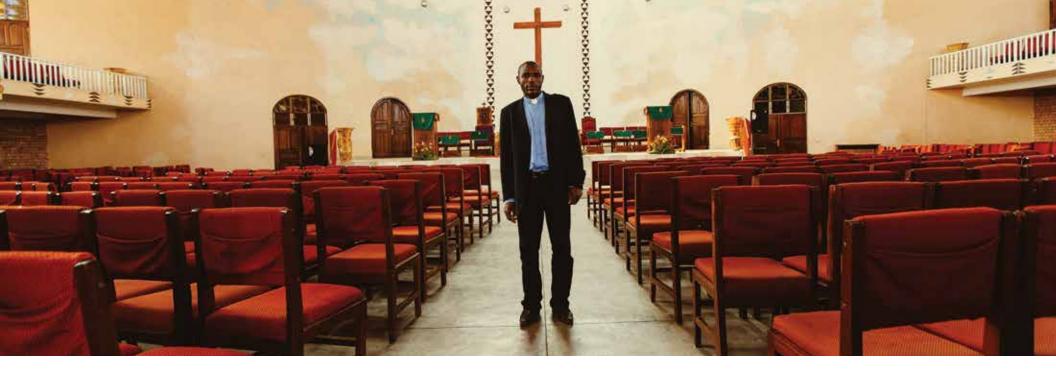
EQUIP **SERVANT LEADERS**

God's work is done through his people—servant leaders who are willing to bring about lasting change. We believe it is the church's task to help develop the passions and skills of people to bring about personal transformation. Equipping servant leaders has the potential to empower entire communities to act rather than wait, to unite rather than stand alone. Above all, it challenges leaders who are equipped to equip others—to share knowledge, training, insight, and hope.

Today, thousands of Rwandan churches have trained leaders in government, businesses, and faith sectors.







REVIVING THE LOCAL CHURCH BY EQUIPPING SERVANT LEADERS PASTOR JEAN'S STORY

In 2005, Pastor Jean was commissioned to oversee a parish in Rwanda. His mission: to bring new life to the dying church. On the brink of closure, the church was suffering from poor attendance and lack of interest within the community. With the enormous challenge before him, Pastor Jean had no idea where to begin. But God had big plans in store for this little church.

As one of 200 selected Rwandan pastors, Jean took part in Purpose Driven Church training on how to build a healthy church and implement The PEACE Plan. The strategies immediately made sense to Pastor Jean, and he soon began sharing his newfound knowledge with the struggling church. "I tried to put into practice what I had learned," he explains. "I started small groups, classes, activities in the community, and the *40 Days of Purpose* campaign."

At the end of the campaign, transformation was almost instant. Attendance went from 30 members to 700; Giving went from 40,000 Rwandan Francs to

700,000; Baptisms went from one person per year to 30 per month. These staggering numbers were in addition to the 407 people who were baptized at the end of the campaign.

Soon after the successful growth in his church, the young pastor was transferred to another parish near the Ugandan border. He knew there was no other way to build a healthy church than by implementing the Purpose Driven paradigm. Applying these same strategies, he began by training the elders and members before launching 40 Days of Purpose.

In less than a month, 800 people were baptized. Attendance was so high that they had to open a second parish. Pastor Jean says he has seen firsthand the benefits of building a healthy church and credits The Purpose Driven Church for giving him tools to bring new life to communities. As one of 2,000 pastors who have received Purpose Driven training, Pastor Jean is now one of six PEACE Plan Master Trainings in Rwanda. Pastor Jean adds, "When I see what God has done, I know that my life has value and meaning."



ASSIST THE POOR

The Bible commands us to speak on behalf of those who suffer and who are oppressed. We assist the poor by empowering them with God's vision of who they are and who they can be. The most effective way to assist those in need is through the caring community of a church family. The church not only equips those in need, it nurtures and provides a place to belong and grow.

Rwandan churches have been mobilized to offer opportunities, resources, and skills to help people better themselves and their families. As a result, thousands of families have come out of poverty and into a position to serve others.



church-based savings groups were launched, totaling 11,222 members.

pastors and community PEACE Trainers have been trained as Lead Savings Trainers.

free wheelchairs have been distributed by The PEACE Plan to disabled and disadvantaged individuals identified through the local churches in the Karongi and Kigali districts.

goats and cattle have been distributed through the churches to supply needy families with food, providing the means to sell the surplus milk for income.





SMALL CHANGES BRING BIG BLESSINGS CLEMENTINE'S STORY

As a mother of seven children in Rwanda, Clementine Mukandori was once a farmer, earning next to nothing to help provide for her family. Despite her efforts, there was not enough money to buy clothes, food, and pay for their basic household needs.

Through her church, Clementine learned of a credit and saving group. Created through the local church, savings groups teach people how to save money to start microbusinesses. Little by little she saved, starting out with 100 Rwandan Francs and eventually saving 500—just enough to open an account.

Eventually Clementine requested a small loan to open her own restaurant. It didn't take long before her business took off, earning as much as 70,000 Rwandan Francs per week.

With those funds, she was able to pay back her loan and earn interest on bigger savings. She even started investing in the dreams of others in her community. Today, the caring mother can easily pay for food, clothing, health insurance, and school fees. She looks back on her past struggles and is so thankful for the changes she has made, and the opportunities she has been given as she looks ahead to a brighter future.

"This savings group has been so helpful to the life of my family," says Clementine. "Now we can dress well, and go to church feeling proud of what God has blessed us with. If it weren't for the church and the savings group, I would still be among the poorest of the poor."





For over 2,000 years, the church has been involved in health care. God's people and the church are called to care for the physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual needs of the people in its community. The church can and must be involved in preventive health programs, and be involved in their local clinics and hospitals.

At all levels of health care, churches in Rwanda are improving communities through service, education, and preventative health care assistance.







CARING FOR THE WHO, NOT THE HOW BOVIC'S STORY

Pastor Straton and members of his local church in Rwanda minister to those infected with and affected by HIV/AIDS. He doesn't ask how they became infected—he chooses to love them where they are by walking with them through the pain, holding their hands, and praying with them.

Of all the people who have entered his church, Pastor Straton will never forget the first time he met Bovic. Just months before, Bovic had lost his wife to HIV and was now left raising their children on his own. "The loss of my wife weighed heavy on my heart," recalls Bovic. "I felt I had lost all hope."

Hearing of his situation, a member in Pastor Straton's church invited Bovic and his children to attend a church service. He knew nothing about God's love and was skeptical of the invitation. In spite of that, members gave Bovic and his family a supply of food including flour, beans, and oil. Most importantly, he gained a new perspective on the church.

But their generosity didn't end there. In partnership with the government and clinics, Pastor Straton's church has trained their members to go out into the community to help people living with HIV/AIDS. Not only do they share knowledge on preventative measures, but they provide medication to those in need. "My family and I were in a bad situation," says Bovic. "To the extent that we could have died at any time."

Through the church, Bovic and his children were tested for HIV/AIDS, and found out they were all positive. Afraid of the outcome, Bovic leaned on a church member for support. She told him that no matter what happens, God is in control. From that moment forward, Bovic and his kids began receiving HIV medication administered through the church. "Immediately I saw a big change in my life and in that of my children," says Bovic. "When I look at the way we use to be, had we not taken this medication, we would not be alive today."

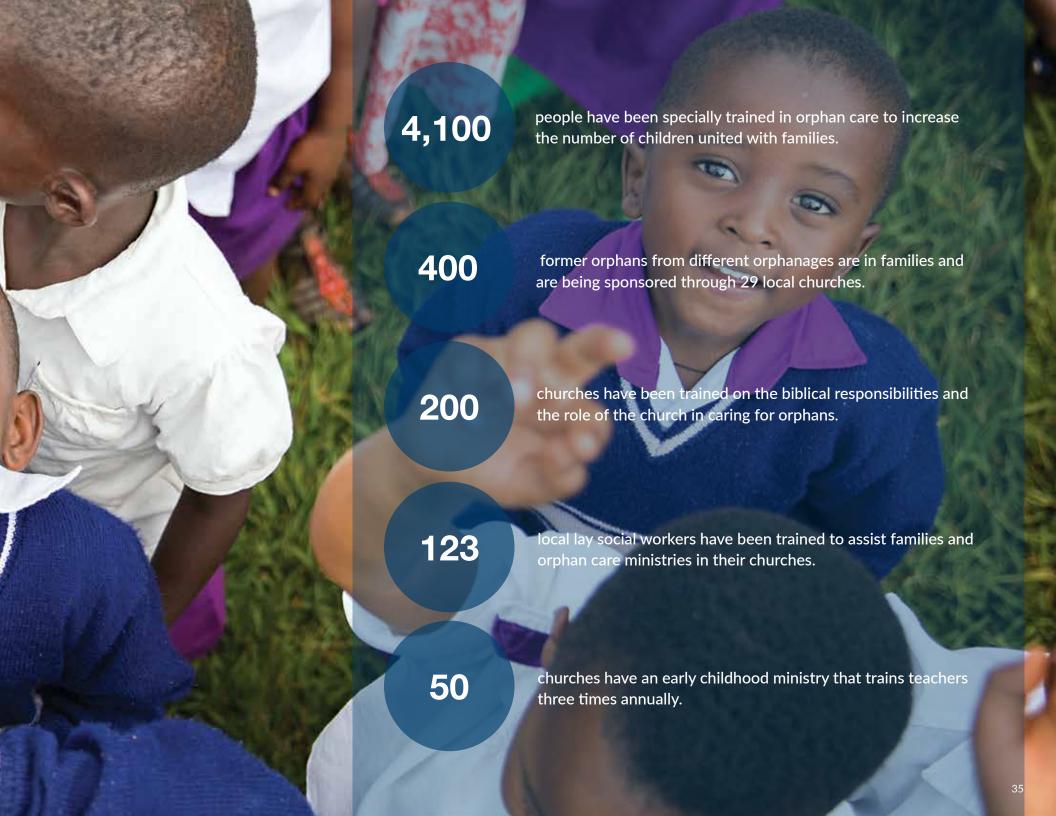




Education is the gateway to opportunity. When we provide knowledge and skills, we equip individuals to be contributors to their own economic and social health, and to that of their communities. It is only through educating people within the context of God's perspective can the skills and character of the person be made complete, helping them find purpose and significance in their life.

Through the investment of the Rwandan churches, the next generation can fulfill the dream of being a Purpose Driven nation—a nation of leaders, innovators, and champions for PEACE.









PASCASIE'S STORY

At just 35 years of age, Pascasie Mukampenda lost her husband and two children during the genocide. Broken and overcome with hopelessness, Pascasie was left a widow with just one child.

"After the genocide, it became emotionally difficult to go on with life," recalls the single mother. "I was not even able to support my daughter."

In the midst of tragedy, her neighbor became pregnant and tried to abort the child. But due to the failed abortion, the child was born with special needs. Unable to cope, the neighbor abandoned her child on Pascasie's doorstep. Despite having no outside support, Pascasie took in the little girl as her own.

Eventually, Pascasie turned to the local church, knowing she could not provide for her family without help. Members gave the young mother food, clothing, and even skills training on how to support her family. Pascasie was humbled by their open-heartedness, generosity, and willingness to accept her and her children. Without the church, Pascasie says she would never be where she is today.

Now, her adopted daughter is eight years old and has made tremendous progress in life. While she still struggles in school, she is improving daily and recently had her best year yet.

"I thank God for my daughter because when I adopted her, I had no hope for the future and no help from anyone," says Pascasie. "Now, my family and I are cared for by the church. I'm so grateful for the significant difference in my life today."



THE FUTURE OF **PEACE**

The PEACE Plan's success in Rwanda has sparked international interest in other countries to implement the same training and national strategy. Developing Purpose Driven Churches and implementing The PEACE Plan in nations across the globe is happening because of the accomplishments achieved in Rwanda.

Today, dozens of churches across America are partnering with African countries to bring The PEACE Plan to their nations, in the same way that Saddleback Church partnered with Rwanda.

The PEACE Plan has officially launched in 10 African countries, with an additional 10 scheduled by the end of 2017. In addition, strategic plans are in place to launch in another 15 countries by the end of 2018, and 14 more in 2019.

Our relationship with Saddleback has contributed to the renewal of our country.

We continue to work together with friends to ensure our future no longer holds fear, but opportunity.

PAUL KAGAME
PRESIDENT OF RWANDA



PARTNERING CHURCHES

African countries launch PEACE pre-

+10
African countries
launch PEACE end of
2017

+15
African countries to launch The PEACE Plan 2018

+14
African countries to launch The PEACE Plan 2019

NATION	PARTNERING CHURCH	
RWANDA	Saddleback Church, Lake Forest, CA	
MALAWI	Parkview Church, Chicago, IL	
ZAMBIA	Parkway Place Baptist Church, Little Rock, AR	
ZIMBABWE	Impact Church, Scottsdale AZ	
GHANA	Capital Christian Center, Olympia, WA	
BENIN	Oakridge Baptist Church, Salisbury, MD	
TOGO	Oakridge Baptist Church, Salisbury, MD	
COTE D'IVIORE	Palm Valley Church, Goodyear, AZ	
BOTSWANA	Eastpoint Church, Spokane, WA	
TANZANIA	Highlands Fellowship Church, Abingdon, VA	

NATION	PARTNERING CHURCH
UGANDA	Bayview Baptist Church, San Diego, CA
ETHIOPIA	Brooklake Church, Federal Way, WA
EGYPT	Heritage Church, Sterling Heights, MI
BURKINA FASO	West Ridge Church, Dallas, GA
KENYA	Northpointe Church, Fresno, CA
MOZAMBIQUE	Igreja Baptista Carioca, Rio De Janeiro, Brazil
GUINEA BISSAU	Terceira Igreja Batista de Brasília, Brasília, Brazil
ANGOLA	Igreja da Cidade, Sáo Paulo, Brazil
MAURITIUS	Life Giving Network, Lynden, WA
NIGERIA	First Baptist, Wimberly, TX

GOING TO ALL NATIONS

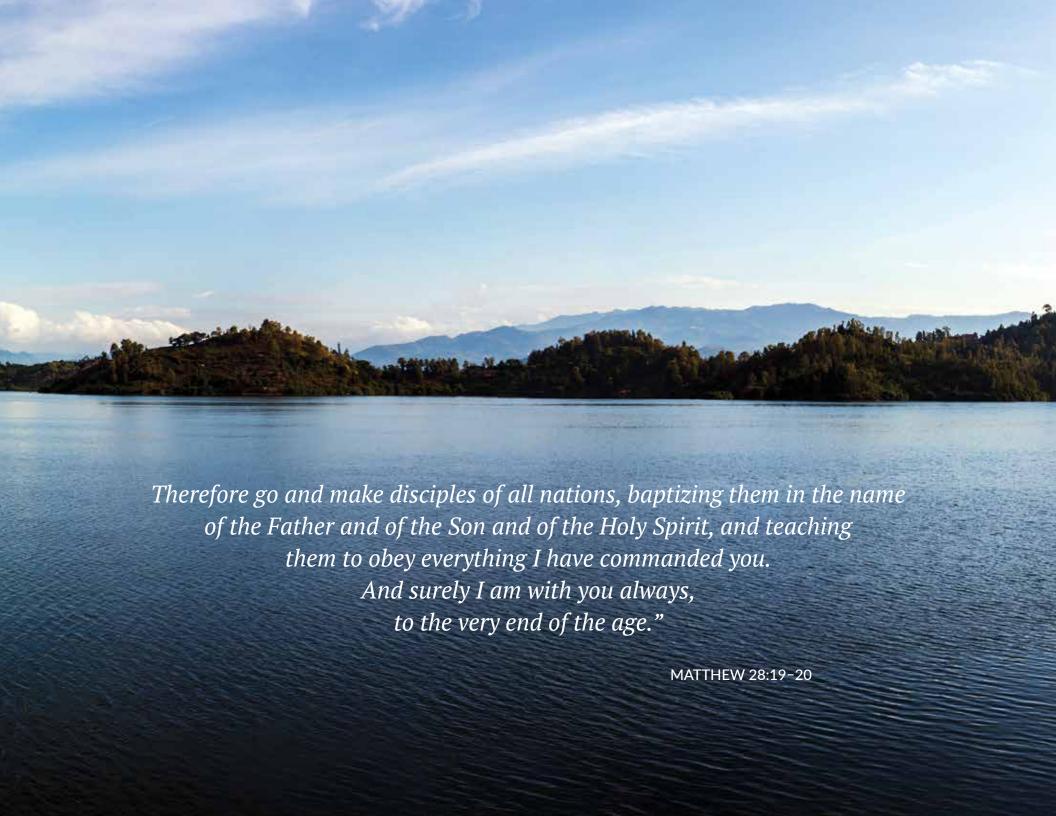
Over 500,000 church leaders around the world have been trained in Purpose Driven Church strategies on how to build healthy churches. Today, we have partnered with churches in every nation where a Purpose Driven Church exists to equip other churches to implement The PEACE Plan.

After witnessing the transformation in Rwanda, churches that are committed to launching the PEACE nationwide strategy outside of Africa are Brazil, Cambodia, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, India, Mexico, Philippines, and Russia.









Rise Up and Go

Our prayer is that The PEACE Plan will be the catalyst for a global partnership where "there is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female because all are one in Christ Jesus" (Gal. 3:28). May our commitment to PEACE foster a unity between all churches, that truly empowers and transforms individuals and communities to rise up and go.

