



Early missionaries had to keep their eyes peeled for wild animals

DID YOU KNOW?
Churches planted by AIM are called Africa Inland Churches (AIC). The AIC is now run by Africans.



HOW DID THE CHURCH GROW?

Ezekiel Kiprop Birech was born in 1910 to a Nandi chief. On January 14, 1926, an eclipse caused many people to believe that the end of the world had come. Many of the Nandi people gave up their religion and decided to follow Christ. Later that year, Ezekiel heard the gospel from a woman in a neighbouring people group. He believed and then committed to studying the Bible; to help him share the gospel with more of his people.

He translated parts of the Bible so people who spoke the Nandi language and similar languages could understand it. He also translated hymns and books, helping others

learn about Jesus and what he has accomplished.

In 1985 Ezekiel founded the Africa Inland Church Missionary College in Eldoret to train missionaries. The college's goal was to teach missionaries to share the gospel with people groups that had never heard of Jesus.



Ezekiel also became a leader in the Africa Inland Church. He faced many challenges, which included corruption in the church.

Money was stolen even by some church leaders, but Ezekiel kept going, because he was so passionate about mission and education.

Africans like Ezekiel helped the church grow in Africa. Lots of people can trace first hearing about Jesus back to him and his work with missionaries from around the world.

WHAT IS THE AIC?

- AIM set up the Africa Inland Church, or AIC, as there was no church in Kenya.
- The first church planted by AIM was in Kalamba in Kenya.
- The AIC is also found in Tanzania and South Sudan.
- The first Sudanese pastor of an AIC South Sudan church was ordained in 1956.
- AIM also partners with the Anglican church in Uganda, with the CECA20 church in DR Congo, and with many other churches across the continent.
- In Kenya there are now 5,000 AIC churches with over 5 million members.
- In South Sudan there are about 340 AIC churches. They are involved in peace keeping between different people groups.
- In Tanzania the AIC is continuing to grow, with over 2,500 churches!



Give thanks to God for men like Ezekiel and for missionaries who have helped the African church grow. Pray that the church would continue to take the gospel to people who don't yet know Jesus. Pray for churches to be planted among all African people.



JOHN 14, 15
21 "He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who abides in Me, and I abide in him. He who does not keep My commandments, he who does not abide in Me, and I do not abide in him. He who abides in Me, he who does not separate from Me, and I will abide in him, and I will bring forth much fruit to the glory of the Father."