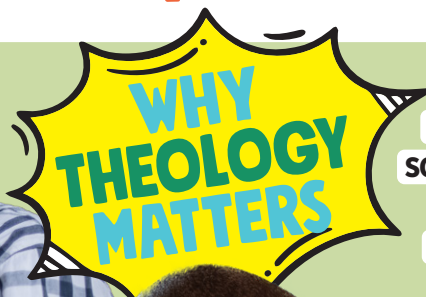


CONNECT



FROM AFRICA
INLAND MISSION

JUNIOR



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AND WHAT THE
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Welcome

Have you ever played a game of Telephone/Pass it on? The original message gets lost, and you end up saying some very strange things. When church leaders haven't been taught the Bible properly, they can pass on incorrect information about God to people in their church. These people can then tell others strange things about Jesus and the wrong message gets passed on!

A lot of church leaders in Africa haven't had the opportunity to learn how to teach the Bible properly. In this magazine we'll find out why what happens in the African church is so important and some of the ways AIM is helping to train church leaders.

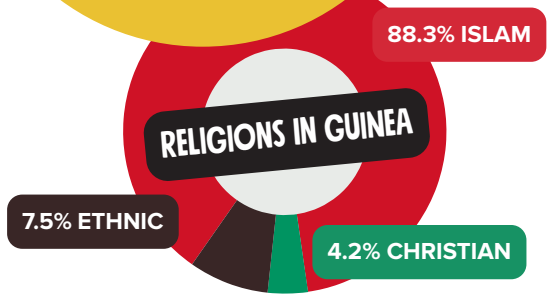
Rosie
our editor and wordsmith



WHEN YOU SEE A * WE HAVE CHANGED A NAME TO KEEP PEOPLE SAFE.

ABOUT GUINEA

Population **14.4 million**
Unreached without Jesus **12.5 million**
Main language: **French**



PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

THEOLOGY?

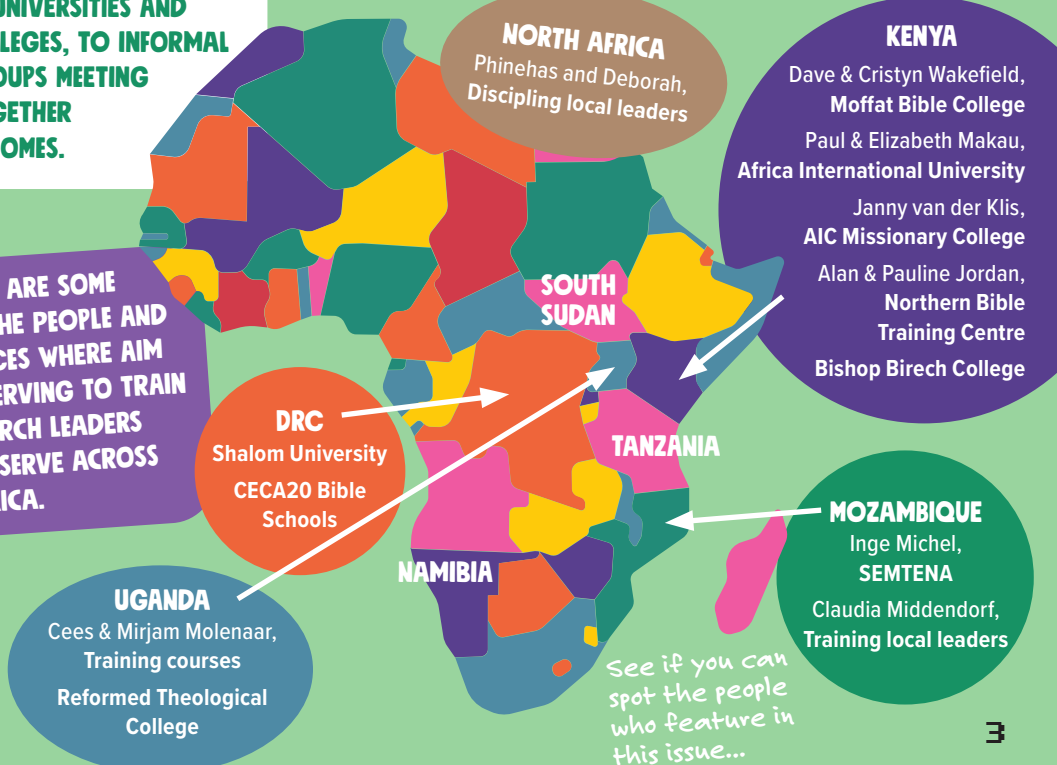
THEO = GOD
OLOGY = THE STUDY OF
THEOLOGY = STUDY OF GOD

- 1. **5 MILLION** THERE ARE 5 MILLION CHURCH LEADERS IN THE WORLD
- 2. **5%** ONLY 5% HAVE TRAINED AT UNIVERSITY
- 3. **85-90%** 85-90% OF AFRICAN CHURCH LEADERS HAVE HAD LITTLE OR NO THEOLOGICAL TRAINING

WE HAVE LOTS OF BIBLE TRAINING TAKING PLACE ACROSS AFRICA, FROM FORMAL COURSES AT UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES, TO INFORMAL GROUPS MEETING TOGETHER IN HOMES.

BIBLE TRAINING

HERE ARE SOME OF THE PEOPLE AND PLACES WHERE AIM IS SERVING TO TRAIN CHURCH LEADERS TO SERVE ACROSS AFRICA.



See if you can spot the people who feature in this issue...

WHY THEOLOGY MATTERS

What is theology?

People really teach these things

You've probably had RE, Religious Education, lessons at school. At primary school you are taught about a few religions and at secondary school you look a little deeper. If you go on to study it at university, then its called theology.

To be a church leader, you need to study the Bible really well, so you can teach others about it. You could go to a Christian university or do a training course, which focuses on Christianity and how to serve people practically.

To understand Christianity, it is helpful to understand the different beliefs we hold as Christians and maybe learn the languages the Bible was originally written with – ancient Greek and Hebrew. You will also learn about big ideas such as atonement, eschatology, hermeneutics and apologetics to help you teach other people about Jesus.

Why it's important?

Do you remember how it felt when someone told you something important, only it turned out they were wrong? When church leaders haven't been taught the Bible or the key things we believe, then they can teach the wrong thing in church – often without realising.

Most people respect church leaders and listen to them and probably wouldn't know if they were teaching the wrong things! When people hear these wrong teachings, they will share them with other people. This is why AIM is helping to teach church leaders in Africa, so that the true and amazing message about Jesus gets out.



SOME POPULAR WRONG TEACHING

Being a Christian is easy

Easy life?

You need to be good to be saved

Good luck...

Jesus is just one way to God

Pick one!

Jesus was just a good man

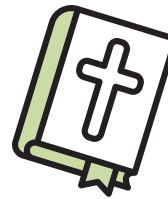
Miracles, what miracles?

Being rich is great

I still want more...



WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY?



Being a Christian is hard

WE WILL FACE DIFFICULTIES WHEN WE FOLLOW JESUS
JOHN 16:33

That's ok, God will help!

Jesus lived a perfect life so I don't have to

WE'RE SAVED BECAUSE WE TRUST IN JESUS
ROM 3:23-24

Wow, amazing news!

Jesus is the only way to God

JESUS IS THE WAY TO GOD, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE
JOHN 14:6

We should listen to him.

Jesus was fully man and fully God

JESUS IS GOD
JOHN 10:30

He defeated death!

Loving money leads to problems

LOVE MONEY AND YOU WILL NEVER HAVE ENOUGH OR BE SATISFIED ECCLESIASTES 5:10

WHAT HAPPENS WITH TERRIBLE TEACHING?

Paul warned the early churches about wrong teaching and how serious it can be to follow it.



Confusion

When you hear different ideas, it can be very confusing. **Galatians 1:7**



Division

Churches can split when people believe different things because of wrong teaching. **Romans 16:17**



Itching

People often listen to the things they want to hear, instead of to the truth. **2 Timothy 4:2-5**



Infection

Wrong teaching can spread like an infection, and damage the church. **Galatians 5:2**



Death

If people accept a false gospel that points them away from Jesus, they won't look to him and be saved. **2 Thessalonians 2:10**

How to avoid these things

Study the Bible

Knowing what you believe and why will guard you against wrong teaching.

Pray for God to make things clear

When we don't understand we can pray for help.

Speak to other Christians

Talk to your church leader or older Christians and share your questions.

Challenge it!

If you hear a teaching that doesn't agree with the Bible, challenge it!



EXPLORING GUINEA



FRUITY MUSIC

At the heart of Guinean culture is music. One of its popular styles is Manding music. This traditional music of the Mande-speaking people makes use of a harp-like instrument known as the kora. It is made with the fruit from the gourd tree that has been hollowed and dried out!

PRAY FOR GUINEA



A lot of people in Guinea are very poor. Pray that God would provide for them.



Pray that many in Guinea will come to know Jesus and the church in Guinea will grow.

WISDOM

Guinea will get a new government soon. Pray they would be wise in choosing their leaders.



Pray for the Fulbe, Maninka and Soussou people, that all of them would hear about Jesus.

RURAL LIFE



Most people live in the countryside of this West African country, where they keep animals and grow crops. It is a beautiful place with four very different areas: tropical forests along the coast in Lower Guinea, flat plains in Upper Guinea, rocky highlands in Fouta Djallon, and mountains in the Forest Region.

MILLIONS WITHOUT JESUS



There are over 24 different ethnic groups in Guinea, but most people are from just one of three people groups: the Fulbe, Maninka, and Soussou. These people groups are mostly Muslim, with each group practising Islam in different ways alongside their traditional beliefs. Very few people from these groups have become believers. In fact, more than 12 million people haven't yet heard about Jesus.

MEET THE FULBE

The Fulbe are the largest people group in Guinea, with a population of nearly 5 million. They plant crops and farm cows, sheep and goats. They also live in southern Senegal and northern Sierra Leone. Even though they live hundreds of miles apart and across borders, the Fulbe in Senegal, Sierra Leone and Guinea all have very similar cultures.

HOW WILL THEY HEAR ABOUT JESUS?

While there have been missionaries working among the Fulbe, very few have become believers. Many feel that Islam gives them all they need. So they don't realise their need for Jesus. This means that missionaries reaching out to the Fulbe must show how vital Jesus is and that everything comes from him.

PRAY FOR THE FULBE



Pray for more missionaries to go and work among the Fulbe.

Pray that the Fulbe will discover that only Jesus can give them what they need.



Pray for Fulbe believers who are forced back to Islam by their family and friends.



MEET THE WAKEFIELDS MOVING TO MOFFAT BIBLE COLLEGE



DAVE, CRISTYN, STEVIE (4) AND CALEB (1) WAKEFIELD ARE ABOUT TO START SERVING AT MOFFAT BIBLE COLLEGE IN KIJABE, KENYA. DAVE WILL BE THE VICE PRINCIPAL OF ADMINISTRATION, MAKING SURE THE COLLEGE RUNS SMOOTHLY, AND CRISTYN WILL BE WORKING ON THE TEAM TOO. THEY THINK THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION IS REALLY IMPORTANT.

Ephesians 6 helps us think about theological education, as Paul talks about wearing the full armour of God.

The belt of truth and the sword of the Spirit are really important. Without the Bible and the Spirit how would we know if we were listening to God, or just to people? We always need to come back to the Bible.

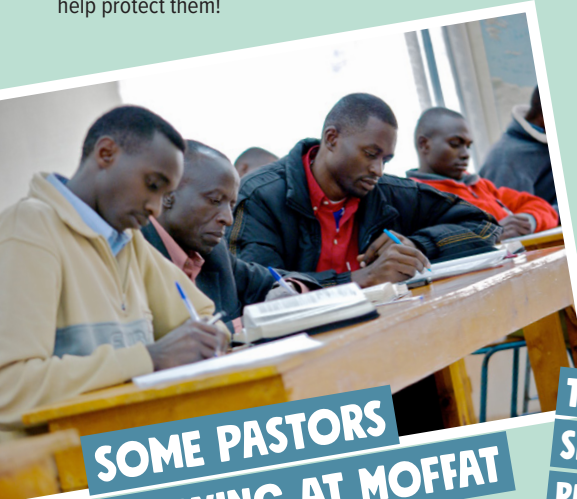
It is astonishing that so many church leaders across the world have never been taught properly. If they were to put on the armour of God, it would be very patchy. It might look good to those around them, but it wouldn't help protect them!



When they teach others about the Bible and Jesus, they will be teaching others to wear this patchy armour as well! So we need to help them learn how to properly wear the armour of God, through theological education.



We know it's going to be difficult for us. We learnt our theology in the West and so our understanding will be different to others. We look forward to learning more ourselves from the people we'll be working with. In turn, we hope that we'll be able to share our passion for discipleship and mission with the staff team and students.



SOME PASTORS STUDYING AT MOFFAT



THE WAKEFIELDS' CHURCH SENDING THEM OUT AND PRAYING FOR THEM

MISSION: BRING THE GOSPEL TO PEOPLE IN NORTH AFRICA

Phinehas* and his wife Deborah*, serve in a country in North Africa, where they can't freely share the gospel or train church leaders. They have to do things differently. It's a bit like being an undercover spy!



OBJECTIVE

Reach people from Islamic backgrounds with the good news of Jesus, without getting arrested or sent out of the country. In many Islamic countries, reaching people can be quite difficult. The way we lead locals to Jesus and train them as church leaders is through one to one or small group discipleship. You need to help them grow, mature in their faith and become leaders themselves, so they are able to teach others.

STRATEGY



1. Pray

You need to pray, a lot. Before and during the mission. Just keep praying.



2. Make friends

The best way to reach local people is to make friends. Pray for opportunities and for God to bring you to the right people.



3. Teach the Bible

You need to know your Bible really well before you try and teach it to others.



4. Rendezvous in a safe space

It can be dangerous for you and your friend. So you need a safe space to meet.



5. Teach prayer

Muslims and Christians pray differently. Your friend will need help in learning to pray in a new way. As they pray, they will become stronger in their faith and able to teach others.



A successful mission!

Phinehas says: "There is real joy in seeing someone becoming a believer and seeing them grow in their faith. It is satisfying being able to do the will of God, knowing that he wants all to be saved (1 Timothy 2:3-4)."

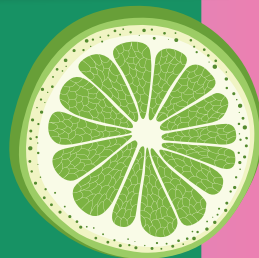
Almost MISSION IMPOSSIBLE



MISHEARD STORIES

Oh dear. The leaders of the kids' session at church are a bit confused and have mixed up all the Bible stories! Can you correct their mistakes? Grab your Bible to help you get it right!

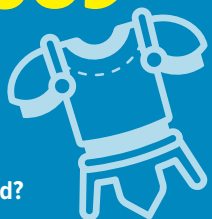
- Noah had to build a big umbrella for all the animals because the train was coming. (Genesis 6:11-22)
- Pharaoh set the Israelites free because of the ten pyramids of Egypt. (Exodus 7-10)
- David defeated the giant, Goliath, by slinging a custard pie at his head. (1 Samuel 17:48-50)
- God sent John to tell the people of Nineveh to stop being bad or a large fish would destroy the city. (Jonah 1:1)
- The sheep were washing their socks in the field when angels appeared to tell them about Jesus. (Luke 2:8-12)
- When Jesus arrived in Jerusalem on a dolphin, the people welcomed him by placing clocks on the road. (Matthew 21:8)
- Paul said the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peas, patience, Kinder eggs, goodness, faithfulness and remote-control. (Galatians 5:22-23)
- When the new heavens and new earth come, there will be no more bad breath, or mourning or crying or rain. (Revelation 21:4)



Answers: 1. Ark, flood 2. Plagues 3. Stone 4. Jonah, God 5. Shepherds, watching flocks 6. Donkey, cloaks 7. Peace, kindness, self-control 8. Death, pain

MAKE YOUR OWN ARMOUR OF GOD

On page 8, the Wakefields talked about the importance of the armour of God. We all need God's help. Why not check out Ephesians 6:10-18 and design your own picture of the armour of God?



MAKE SURE TO INCLUDE ALL 7 ITEMS

Send us a copy of your amazing design!

SEND US A LETTER OR PICTURE BY EMAIL TO MAILINGS.EU@AIMINT.ORG

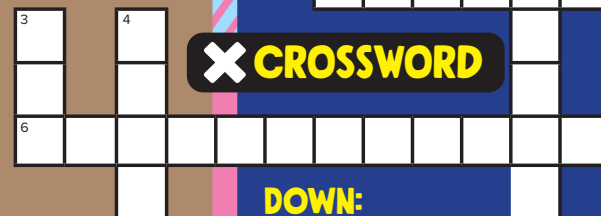
OR WRITE TO AIM, UNIT 3A BEESTON BUSINESS HUB, BEESTON SQUARE, NOTTINGHAM, NG9 2JG

We would love to hear from you

GUINEA GINGER DRINK GINJAN



This drink is popular across West Africa. It is spicy, sweet and very refreshing. Like squash, it is concentrated and can then be served diluted with still or fizzy water.



CROSSWORD

DOWN:

- A popular style of music in Guinea is _____.
- Theology is the study of _____.
- Guinea is in _____ Africa.
- Where will Dave and Cristyn Wakefield be serving?

ACROSS:

- Theological education can be _____ or non-formal.
- Phinehas and Deborah train new leaders through _____.
- What spice is used in Ginjan?



YOU WILL NEED

- 3 cups of boiling water
- 1 cup ginger root, grated
- 1 1/3 cups sugar
- 1 tsp whole cloves
- 1 cinnamon stick
- Lime zest (optional)
- 1/2 cup fresh lime juice
- 1 cup orange juice
- If diluting straight away: 8 cups of cold water (still or sparkling)

TO MAKE

- Boil the kettle (ask for help from a grown up!).
- Pour three cups of the hot water into a bowl.
- Stir in the ginger, sugar, cloves, cinnamon and (optional) zest.
- Cover with a tea towel and leave for an hour.
- Pour it through a sieve into a different bowl.
- Add the lime and orange juice.
- Cover the bowl and leave for an hour.
- Strain the liquid into a jug and throw away the bits.

A single portion is half juice and half water.

Store the juice in the fridge.

Add 8 cups of water first, if you want it ready to serve.



DON'T LIKE IT HOT (GINGERY)?

If the ginger flavour is a bit strong, try one of the ingredients below.

Which do you prefer?

Mint, pineapple, cucumber, maple syrup, honey, vanilla.

WORD SEARCH



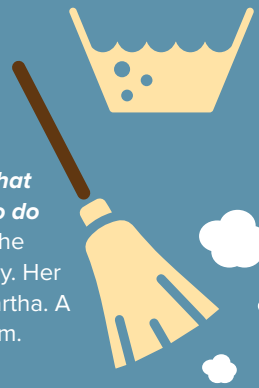
BIBLE	LEADER	MUSIC	TEACHING
DRINK	MANINKA	SCHOOL	THEOLOGY
GUINEA	MISSION	STUDENT	UNIVERSITY

M	G	T	Z	R	E	X	O	D	O	Y	G
B	U	M	N	L	E	W	I	L	G	U	A
S	T	S	B	E	U	D	H	J	I	Q	K
P	C	I	I	S	D	E	A	N	I	P	N
E	B	H	O	C	P	U	E	E	J	X	I
T	R	K	O	S	M	A	T	L	L	I	N
Y	G	O	L	O	E	H	T	S	U	Y	A
X	I	U	W	G	L	D	R	I	N	K	M
A	A	D	O	G	N	I	H	C	A	E	T
U	N	I	V	E	R	S	I	T	Y	S	O
M	H	F	B	N	O	I	S	S	I	M	M
G	H	C	T	N	K	Y	A	S	J	N	D

CROSSWORD ANSWERS
1. Manda 2. Formal 3. God 4. West 5. Kenya 6. Discipleship 7. Ginjan



COME AND SIT AT HIS FEET



Martha was frustrated. Here she was slaving away in the kitchen, preparing a meal for their guests, and Mary had the cheek to simply sit at Jesus' feet. It was unthinkable. That was no place for a woman. What must Jesus think of her? Never mind the fact that there was work to be done, food to prepare, a table to lay, drinks to pour. This wasn't the time to sit and listen.

No matter how many times she tried to catch her sister's eye, Mary simply leaned in that little bit closer to listen to Jesus. In a huff, Martha slammed the bowl she was holding down on the table and marched across the room to where Jesus and the others were gathered.

"Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself?" she snapped, glaring at Mary. Her sister stared back at Martha. A hush fell across the room. *"Tell her to help me!"*

Jesus gave her a gentle smile. *"Martha, Martha,"* he answered, *"you are worried and upset about many things, but few things are needed - or indeed only one."* He gestured to Mary, who had flushed pink with embarrassment. *"Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."*

Martha suddenly felt ashamed; she was the one in the wrong. The best thing she could do was to sit and listen to Jesus.

Life can be busy with school, chores, talking with friends. But we should always make sure that we spend time listening and being with Jesus. He has so much to teach us, and spending time with him, studying the Bible, praying, and praising him (in song, dance and being thankful), will help us grow closer to him and have a stronger faith we can share with others.

GIVE THANKS THAT JESUS WANTS US TO SIT AT HIS FEET.

FIND SOME TIME EACH DAY TO SPEND WITH HIM AND LEARN FROM HIM.



AIM is a missionary organisation that helps churches send people to work among Africa's people and tell them the good news of Jesus Christ.

SAY HELLO...

Africa Inland Mission
Unit 3A Beeston Business Hub, NG9 2JG
+44(0)115 9838 120
mailings.eu@aimint.org

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