



Serving God worldwide by writing about His work

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Brian's ministry:

- Seek, gather, and share the stories of African and Caribbean educational ministries as experienced by teachers, students, and parents.
- Create, edit and publish stories and press releases, in print, online, and through words, pictures, audio, and video.
- Equip and encourage missionaries and their supporters with materials and information.
- Help African teachers and administrators develop curriculum and tell their visions for their schools.



Please pray:

- that I finish my training efficiently and well.
- that God clearly reveal His will about which possible trips I make.
- that God guide us in gathering prayer and financial supporters.

Yalla baax na. Baax na lo chi mon.

Nine years ago, Tracy and I began *our* journey toward missions.

One of us was eager and excited, and the other resistant but obedient. She had begun her journey in her youth and participated in her church's first medical mission to Senegal in 2001. We were dating then, and she came back on fire for God; when she asked me to go with her on a trip someday, it seemed like such a little promise to make.

That promise seemed a lot bigger by 2004, when Tracy, by then my wife, asked me to keep it. I resisted for all sorts of selfish reasons, but God spoke in my life and clearly showed me that I was to go. I acquiesced, we went, and I saw.

I saw how differently others sometimes live and how much we have in common. I saw how much others have to struggle and how much we take for granted. I saw a world in need of Christ, and then I came



Senegal, 2004

home and saw afresh how much my world needed Christ, too.

As Tracy had done three years earlier, I came back transformed and inspired. As a reporter, I wrote about the trip and its lessons. I grew dissatisfied with secular reporting and explored both reporting about missions and teaching.

I tried to do both, traveling to Mongolia in 2005 to report on SIM's work there and becoming a certified teacher. In the end, though, teaching high school English took more time than I'd expected, and we did no more missions for seven years.

However, God will not let go so easily. A mission trip to visit orphans in

Zambia last summer reignited that neglected passion, and I sought an opportunity to serve full-time. I saw that SIM needed someone with reporting and teaching experience and a passion for missions in Africa.

Yalla baax na. Baax na lo chi mon. "God is good. He is so good to me."

For nine years, Tracy and I have quoted those words from a Wolof song we learned together in Senegal. They have reminded us of both God's work in our lives and our love for Africa.

After nine years, I am finally that missionary journalist I started becoming when my wife held me to a promise I'd never known I would want to keep.

Yaala baax na.



Zambia, 2012

"How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?" - Romans 10:14

So, what is SIM?

Founded in 1893, SIM (pronounced as three letters) is an international mission organization with over 1,600 missionaries serving in more than 65 countries worldwide. SIM workers represent more than 50 nationalities and serve in a wide variety of career fields. From evangelism to medicine, and education to sports ministry, SIM is committed to cultivating multi-cultural mission movements that respond to need, proclaim the gospel, and equip the church.

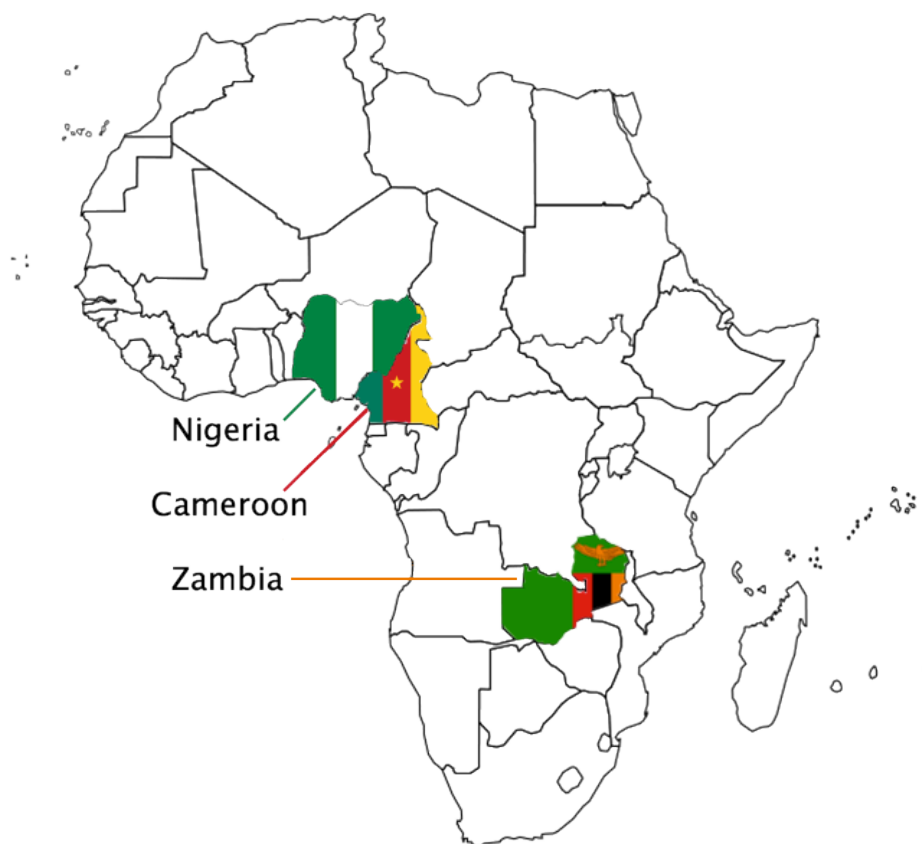
Learn more at www.sim.org and www.simusa.org.

... and TEN3?

TEN3, the Transformational Education Network, is an organization with which SIM partners to develop an education system that is dynamic, sustainable, reproducible, and God-centered. Students are equipped with knowledge and skills that help them succeed in jobs and further schooling, but they are also prepared to approach life with godly values and practices, thereby transforming themselves, their communities, and their nations.

TEN3 initiatives include helping new and existing schools develop curriculum and teaching methods, consulting with schools on administration, and providing laptops with instructional software in computer skills, the Bible, and comprehension. TEN3 has founded or partnered with schools in Cameroon, Nigeria, and Zambia and is developing or exploring new partnerships in Haiti, South Sudan, and several other nations.

Learn more at www.ten3.org.



SIM's Core Values

1. Committed to Biblical Truth
2. Dependent on God
3. A People of Prayer
4. Mission-Focused
5. Church-Centered
6. Concerned About Human Needs
7. A Christlike Community
8. A Learning, Growing Community
9. Strengthened Through Diversity
10. Responsive to Our Times

Important Note:

Because of the nature of missionary work or religious persecution in some countries, we ask that you not share these newsletters or their contents publicly without asking us first.

Thank you for your support, and please include us in your prayers.

Save a tree?

Email me or scan the code to subscribe electronically instead of by paper.



Respond to Need. Proclaim the Gospel. Equip the Church.