



BELONG TOGETHER MINISTRIES

Winter 2021
Quarterly Update



TAYLOR'S NOTE

In a year when it was hard to make plans, *the Lord's purposes stood.*

In a year when it was easy to get discouraged, *God's Word reminded us of the eternal hope we have in Jesus Christ.*

In a year when bad news choked headlines, *the Good News of the Gospel continued to save and give true, everlasting life to undeserving sinners, such as ourselves.*

We have so much to be thankful for as 2021 comes to an end. By God's provision through your generous giving, we were able to not just retain our staff in Rwanda, but to add two more! While our programs took new, creative approaches, not one had to close. And while lockdowns continued, the Lord graciously allowed us to take steps to register what will now be called **Belong Together Ministries** for our permanent legal status in Rwanda, which we pray will be completed soon after the year's end.

Our hearts are filled with joy for who God is, for His Holy Word, and the redemption that was accomplished in Christ Jesus, our Lord. And we thank God for supporters like you who love Biblical truth, who want to stand with us, and who have a desire to see the Word of God spread around the world and in Rwanda.

In this Quarterly Update, we look forward to sharing with you about **our exciting plans for the year ahead**, and to reflect back on all the Lord made possible in 2021.

With gratitude and joy in Christ,



Taylor Gakundi
Founder, Belong Together Ministries



In 2021, you helped contribute 30 books to the start of
Belong Together Ministries' Christian Library!

One of our ministry goals for 2022 is to grow this library, providing
resources for young men and women in Rwanda who desire to grow in their
faith and learn more about Christianity.

OUR NEW PROJECT: BTM'S HOMESCHOOL EDUCATION ACADEMY!

Parents have always been concerned about what their children are learning, and this year, school curriculum has been dominant in the headlines.

The reality is, no education is neutral. And most school curriculum worldwide does not support what God's Word says as truth.

In Rwanda, young Christian families have expressed their desire to see their children learn all facets of their education from a Biblical lens. Knowing their children spend a majority of their days in the classroom, they want to make sure those young minds are being fed Biblical truth.

In hearing these concerns, Belong Together Ministries has spent the last year researching a project that would focus on Christian education. **We are excited to share with you the ministry's decision to begin a Homeschool Education Academy in 2022!**

BTM's Homeschool Education Academy will serve as a place where parents will be trained under an expert leader to homeschool their children using a Bible-based curriculum called Accelerated Christian Education (ACE), which is used by homeschool families and private schools across the world. Parents will not only receive thorough training before beginning their homeschool venture, but will also have support and regular check-ins throughout the year. Additionally, the center will serve as a place where homeschool parents and students can interact, attend special classes and events, and have access to a library of resources.

Our first year's budget for this new project is \$20,000. Before spring, it's our goal to have this project fully funded, that we may be able to hire a new staff member who is an experienced teacher in ACE, to outfit the Homeschool Education Academy with all necessary equipment, and to order the supplies parents and their children will need to begin their first year of homeschooling.

Would you be willing to partner with us so that we may begin this project in 2022? On behalf of the ministry and all the Christian families eager to homeschool their children with a Bible-based curriculum, we would be so grateful to have your support to see this project become a reality.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2021 AND HOPES FOR THE YEAR AHEAD

2021 was a year when the Lord deepened our dependence on Him, to trust in His perfect timing, and to acknowledge how He is sovereign over all.

We're excited for you to hear directly from the team leaders of Belong Together Ministries about what they saw the Lord doing in the ministry in 2021, a note of praise from their personal lives, and their prayers for 2022, just around the corner.

ORNELLA
BIBLE STUDY LEADER AND
COUNTRY DIRECTOR



ORNELLA

2021 BTM Highlights: "2021 wasn't an easy year in regard to the practicality of how we reach the young men and women we preach and teach the Gospel because of COVID-19 and the restrictions that came with it. But through these times, we were able to appreciate God's providence more in that He provided online tools and skills to use in our studies. Personally, He used this time to strengthen my commitment to His word and to the work He gave me in BTM, and to increase my trust and faith in His way of ruling and controlling the universe He created.

Surprisingly, some of the BTM members became even more committed, too. Together with some of the young women, we were able to memorize the book of James and the book of Ephesians during this year, using a Whatsapp group for encouragement and accountability!"

2021 Personal Highlight: "God blessed me with a lot of things this year but I'm especially grateful that I got engaged to my best friend and brother in Christ, Jerry Junior Mutoni! He's such an amazing, godly man that I can hardly believe God chose to give him to me! It's enough that He unconditionally loved me before the foundation of the world and gave me salvation through His son! That He would keep blessing me this much fills my heart with joy and gratitude. I'm taking this opportunity to tell you all our Belong Together family that we're getting married next year, March 26th."

2022 BTM Prayer Request: "I pray that God uses all of us to faithfully preach and teach His word, and that He uses it to regenerate the hearts of all the people He enables us to reach out to. I pray that in 2022 BTM becomes fully and totally registered and that God enables the Christian Education project to be implemented for His glory and for the good of the students and parents who will benefit from it. I pray for all the means needed for everyone involved to be ready for it financially and spiritually, so that we may soon see the impact of it, namely a generation of educated young people who honor God in their education and careers, and parents who successfully raise their children to truly love and serve our Lord."

EMMANUEL
BIBLE STUDY LEADER AND
CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT



EMMANUEL

2021 BTM Highlights: “The year 2021 has been a year of blessings from the Lord as we continued to minister as the BTM family in Rwanda. The Lord has blessed us with seeing his word being proclaimed to young men and women from the refugee camps, as well as other youth that we could reach out to.

We created a men’s group where we went through the book “Thoughts for Young Men,” by J.C Ryle. We did this book with the men from both Gihembe (Gicumbi) and Kiziba (Karongi) refugee camps. And we were also enabled by God to produce a Bible Study material for BTM in Kinyarwanda, which is in the form of questions for discussions on various topics in the Christian faith.”

2021 Personal Highlight: “I thank the Lord for his goodness and love that enabled me and my wife to have our first baby, a daughter Heather Macrina Masengesho. The Lord was so gracious during my wife’s pregnancy until the day of her delivery. Heather is now 2 months old and she is so beautiful. We pray that God will regenerate her heart even at her young age.”

2022 BTM Prayer Request: “It is my prayer that the new group of youth from Kigali that we started might be strengthened by God, and that more would come to the saving faith through it. I also pray that the Lord would enable BTM to support the church in various evangelistic and equipping ministries according to how the Lord will enable us.”

**BRIAN
BIBLE STUDY LEADER FOR GROUPS
IN THE MAHAMA REFUGEE CAMP**



BRIAN

2021 BTM Highlights: “Firstly, I am thankful to God who brought us from darkness to his kingdom by his Grace. I am thankful to God who enabled our leaders to begin BTM, especially in Rwandan camps of refugees, which has impacted the lives of many young men and women like those in the Mahama camp through spreading the gospel in bible studies. One thing the Lord has done this year in BTM is the redemption of souls through knowing the true gospel of our Lord Jesus, his mission and his will to mankind. This has impacted me as I have seen people come to true faith during bible study sessions. These are some of the testimonies from young men and women from the Mahama camp before they came to know BT bible studies: that they were under condemnation, slaves to sin, hopeless and under satanic rule, but when BTM came to preach to them the gospel, their lives were changed to Christ likeness and they now belong to God’s family. They are no longer slaves of sin, but children of God.”

2021 Personal Highlight: “Something the Lord has done in my life this year is the gift of having life and being protected by his Grace. Secondly is the gift of giving us a baby boy.”

2022 BTM Prayer Request: “That God’s will for BTM is to see its vision and mission becoming true in the lives of many sinners, and to be fully registered in Rwanda in 2022”.

MEET GRACE, OUR ACCOUNTANT AND NEWEST TEAM MEMBER

Grace was born in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and raised in Rwanda. She is a mother to Iteka and wife to Seth.

She came to Christian faith in 2014, after her father became a believer and taught her family correct biblical teachings.

Grace has grown up with the intuition of knowing how difficult it is to be displaced and not have your own nation -being displaced from her original country, DRC, due to civil wars- but most significantly, to know what it means to not have the peace of God.

As a result of her life experience and conversion to Christianity, Grace has persevered in godly principles and made it a personal aim and aspiration to teach and guide in a way that glorifies God.

Grace studied finance at University of Rwanda, and has worked for several companies in Rwanda, as well she did an accounting internship at Concannon Lumber company in Portland, which has sharpened her knowledge and professional life aspect. Currently, she is pursuing her CPA.

Grace loves the Belong Together Ministries team that she works with, saying it feels more like a calling than a job, for she knows it's all done for God's glory.



PARTNER WITH US

If it is God's will for you to be part of Belong Together Ministries in a financial capacity, we thank God for what He has given you, that you would share with us for the furthering of the Gospel in Rwanda.

Recurring donations are a great help to continue in our commitments in ministry!

\$40
Month

Provides homeschool materials for one student

\$120
Month

Provides for 20 people in the Mahama Bible study group

\$200
Month

Provides rent expenses for the Homeschool Education Academy facility

One-time gifts make a huge difference!

\$1,300

Registering the Homeschool Education Academy

\$2,000

Office equipment for the Academy

To give, you can do so online through PayPal on our website

belongtogether.org/donate

Or, you can send your support via mail! As we are relocating our US office, please make checks payable to:

Belong Together
6670 Gulf of Mexico Dr
Longboat Key, FL 34228

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