



**Equipping global pastors to study the Word**

**April 2025**

**Dear ministry partners,**  
**Gideon and Excel Umukoro** are an amazing Nigerian couple who regularly train groups of pastors at their home and who are passionate to equip preachers with skills in handling God's Word well through Pathways. Numerous times during the training I was offering last month in Akure (see picture above), Gideon stood to his feet to reinforce my point and share testimony for how desperately healthy **Bible study principles are needed**



**Gideon and wife Excel, and my co-trainer Ryan**

in Nigeria and throughout Africa. He is starting a business of filtering water, packaging it, and selling it to support his ministry endeavors. Gideon shared with me today, *"Pathways training has been a helpful tool in how to study the Bible for all its worth. Participants are receiving these tools for the first time in all their years of ministry. Many are strategically sharing what they learn with their church leaders and friends."* Gideon is just one example of the many incredible people I get to work with all around the world. To hear more about our newly launched Nigeria network, [click here --> Nigeria](#).

### **Looking Back**

Pathways has penetrated the **Pacific Northwest!** Three weeks in a row we brought Pathways to the PNW in various venues: 1) a [Pathways for Women workshop](#) Holly helped coordinate, 2) a training for [pastors and ministry leaders](#) which I led, and 3) our annual [EFCA PNW district conference](#) where I made many helpful connections. Please **pray** for more pastors to join us in equipping global leaders with healthy Bible study patterns.



**Pathways for women at our home church**

For various reasons, the **Midwest** seems to be a **hub for expository preaching**. We also have more pastors active in our Pathways ministry from this region than anywhere else in the US. So every year we gather our team and active Pathways global trainers together in **Iowa** to

offer additional coaching, share fresh vision, and empower key leaders in the work. Immediately following this four-day event, I bounced to **North Dakota** to preach, present, and encourage a partner church with the calling of intersecting God's Word, indigenous leaders, and God's activity globally. Sweet times! [Midwest Ministry](#).

For a guide on some continent specific prayer requests: [Pray for Africa](#)

**Looking Forward** – Please **pray**.

- April 21-28: **Burundi**. New connections w/ training toward launching more Pathways in East Africa.
- May 2-10: **Kentucky**. Preaching, training pastors, and Adam's graduation from seminary.
- May 27 – June 7: **Japan**, then **Indonesia** via **Malaysia**. Training missionaries, meeting our former pastor, then offering our "Whole Story of the Bible" workshop in East Sumatra.
- June 19-26: **Iowa**. Pathways lead team and curriculum meeting, then EFCA bi-annual conference.

We continue in our Lord's service with **gratitude both to Him and to you** for the partnership we share. Thank you for your prayers, and you likewise are in ours! *Eric and Holly*

*"Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth." (2 Timothy 2:15)*