

# CHURCH PLANTING MISSIONARIES IN WEST AFRICA





# Over 60% Muslim and Growing

#### **WEST AFRICA FACTS**

15 Countries

Approximately 900,000 people in Sub-Saharan Africa die from Malaria each year, most without ever hearing the Gospel

Africa is the second most populous continent with about 1.1 billion people or 16% of the world's population. Over 50% of Africans are under the age of 25.

The continent's population will more than double to 2.3 billion people by 2050.



## MINISTRY OBJECTIVES



**Evangelize the Lost:** We desire to see men, woman and children come to know Christ as their personal savior. We will spend our time presenting and preaching the gospel to the lost.

**Disciple Believers:** It is our desire to teach those who are saved to "observe all things" and to grow in the faith so that they are able to stand alone in their faith.

**Train Leaders:** The greatest priority of our ministry will be given to training leader who are able to teach others also (2 Tim 2:2). We desire to see sold out West African men sharing the gospel with others.

**Plant Churches:** We wish establish churches that are independent, self supporting, self propagating and self governing to continue the work long after we are gone.



## TESTIMONIES

#### DALLAS BIRTHDAY - JUNE 28

I was blessed to have parents that raised me in Church. At a young age I realized my need for a savior. I found out that the punishment for my sin was an eternity in hell and I had to find an answer. Fortunate I didn't have to look very hard to find that Christ was the answer to my sin problem. I accepted Jesus Christ as my personal savior.

Around the age of 10 I was given the opportunity to go on my first missions trip. I went with a group from my church to Mexico to help build a church building for a local Pastor. That trip changed my life forever. From that day on I wanted to serve the Lord in missions. Since then I have been able to spend time with missionaries in South America and West Africa, learning from them and their ministries. I have spent a few year on staff at my local church serving with my Pastor Derik Lawrence preparing for the mission field. I spend 6 months with veteran Missionary Keith Shumaker in Burkina Faso, West Africa learning and preparing for the ministry. Now my wife and I are following the Lord's call on our lives and moving to West Africa to be missionaries and reach those who have not heard the Gospel of Jesus Christ.



#### BIRTHDAY - NOVEMBER 6 ASHLEY

I was saved when I was 12 years old while attending a Wednesday night youth service that one of my friends invited me to. During the service I heard the gospel and knew I had to respond. I went down and was told that Jesus Christ was the only one who could take away sin and I had to respond. I wasn't heavily involved in church throughout high school but I knew that there had to be something specific that God wanted to do with my life, I was looking for purpose.

I started attending Victory Baptist church where I first met my husband and was introduced to the concept of missions. I knew that I had to get involved. I started serving in different ministries around the church and growing closer to the Lord. Dallas and I were married on July 25th 2015 and we began preparing for the mission field. I am so excited to be able to serve that Lord alongside my husband on the mission field.

## RECOMMENDATION

It's with genuine joy that I can recommend Dallas and Ashley Brown worthy of consideration as missionaries to the country of Burkina Faso. Having the privilege of knowing Dallas for a number of years, I have watched him and Ashley follow the Lord in His leading of their lives. Dallas has served here at the church in a number of ministries, both as paid staff and on a volunteer basis...ranging from the Bus Ministry to Junior Church Ministries, teaching SS, interning, maintenance, and working with teens and special event days. He has been actively involved in the outreach ministries of Victory as well. In addition to his service, Dallas has been willingly receptive and active to the "hands on" mentoring and training of the leadership here at VBC. Dallas also was a graduate of our Training Center here and fulfilled both his academic and practical ministry requirements.

Many men will come through your lives as potential candidates for missionaries and I am confident not many will be like Dallas and Ashley...I'm positive Dallas will assist in fulfilling your desire for world evangelism, training others and planting churches. He and his wife will honor the Lord with their lives and service, at the same time bringing confidence that your investment in their lives is trustworthy.

I would love to assist you further, if need be, in answering any question you might have in regards to their ministry or background.



Serving Him with you,
Derik Lawrence, Pastor of Victory Baptist Church



## contact info



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## sending church



88 Brand Rd. | Loganville, GA 30052 (770) 466-4040 | victorybaptist.church Derik Lawrence, Pastor

### mission board



PO Box 442 | Alpharetta, GA 30009 (770) 456-5881 | visionbaptistmissions.com Austin Gardner, Pastor

please send support to PO Box 442 | Alpharetta, GA 30009 "Dallas Brown" in memo line

## DOCTRINE

#### The Bible

We believe that the BIBLE is the WORD OF GOD, and that it is divinely inspired. We believe in the plenary, verbal inspiration, that it is the only complete and final revelation of the will of GOD to man, and the supreme, infallible authority in all matters of faith and conduct. We use the King James Version for all teaching and preaching in English. II Timothy 3:16; II Peter 1:20,21; Mark 13:31; John 8:31,32; John 20:31; Acts 20:32

#### God

We believe in the Trinity, the unity of the Godhead. There are three persons: The FATHER, The SON, and The HOLY SPIRIT. They are equally perfect in every divine quality, and execute distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption. (A) We believe in GOD the FATHER (B) We believe in JESUS CHRIST (C) We believe in the HOLY SPIRIT. Genesis 1:1,26; John 1:1,3; Matthew 28:19; John 4:24; Romans 1:19,20; Ephesians 4:5,6

#### The Father

We believe in God the Father, an infinite, personal spirit, perfect in holiness, wisdom, power and love. We believe that He infallibly foreknows all that shall come to pass, that He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of men, that He hears and answers prayer, and that He saves from sin and death all who come to Him through Jesus Christ. Luke 10:21,22; Matthew 23:9; John 3:16; 6:27; Romans 1:7; I Timothy 1:1,2; 2:5,6; I Peter 1:3; Revelation 1:6

#### Jesus Christ

We believe in Jesus Christ, God's only begotten Son, conceived by the Holy Spirit. We believe Jesus Christ is God. We believe in His virgin birth, sinless life, miracles, and teachings. We believe in His substitutionary atoning death, bodily resurrection, ascension into heaven, perpetual intercession for His people, and personal visible return to earth. Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 1:26-38; John 1:1; 20:28; Romans 9:5; 8:46; II Corinthians 5:21; I Peter 2:21-23; John 20:30, 31; Matthew 20:28; Ephesians 1:4; Acts 1:11; Romans 5:6-8; 6:9,10; Hebrews 7:25; Hebrews 9:28; I Timothy 3:16

#### The Holy Spirit

We believe in the person of the Holy Spirit who came forth from the Father and Son to convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment, and to regenerate, sanctify, and empower all who believe in Jesus Christ. We believe that the Holy Spirit indwells every believer in Christ, and that He is an abiding helper, teacher and guide. John 14:16,17,26; 15:26,27; John 16:9-14; Romans 8:9; I Corinthians 3:16; 6:19; Galatians 5:22-26

## DOCTRINE

#### Man

We believe that all men by nature, choice and practice are sinners, but that "God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." We believe, therefore, that those who repent of their sins and by faith receive Christ as Lord and Savior will rejoice forever in God's presence, and those who refuse to receive Christ as Lord and Savior will be forever separated from God. John 3:14,16; 5:24; John 5:30; 7:13; 8:12; 10:26; Romans 9:22; II Thessalonians 1:9; Rev. 19:3,20; 20:10;14,15; 21:18; Psalm 51:7; Jeremiah 17:9; James 1:14; Romans 3:19; 5:19; Proverbs 28:13; I John 1:9; John 3:16; John 1:13; II Corinthians 5:17; Romans 8:1 4:5,6

#### **Eternal State**

We believe in a literal Heaven, the eternal home of the redeemed. We believe Heaven to be the literal place where the saved will live forever in the eternal bliss and blessings of God. We believe in Hell, the Christless eternity for the lost, where there will be burning and tormenting for those without salvation, who have refused to receive the gospel and Jesus Christ as Lord. We believe that Hell, unbelievers, Satan and all the fallen angels shall be cast into the lake of fire to be tormented day and night forever and forever. Matthew 13:41-43 Mark 9:43-48; Luke 16:19-24; John 14:2; 2 Corinthians 5:8; Revelation 21-22

#### Salvation

We believe salvation involves the redemption of the whole man, and is offered freely to all who accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, who by His own blood obtained eternal redemption for the believer. In its broadest sense salvation includes regeneration, justification, sanctification, and glorification. There is no salvation apart from personal faith in Jesus Christ as Lord. Genesis 3:15; Exodus 3:14-17; 6:2-8; Matthew 1:21; 4:17; 16:21-26; 27:22-28:6; Luke 1:68-69; 2:28-32; John 1:11-14,29; 3:3-21,36; 5:24; 10:9,28-29; 15:1-16; 17:17; Acts 2:21; 4:12; 15:11; 16:30-31; 17:30-31; 20:32; Romans 1:16-18; 2:4; 3:23-25; 4:3ff.; 5:8-10; 6:1-23; 8:1-18,29-39; 10:9-10,13; 13:11-14; 1 Corinthians 1:18,30; 6:19-20; 15:10; 2 Corinthians 5:17-20; Galatians 2:20; 3:13; 5:22-25; 6:15; Ephesians 1:7; 2:8-22; 4:11-16; Philippians 2:12-13; Colossians 1:9-22; 3:1ff.; 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24; 2 Timothy 1:12; Titus 2:11-14; Hebrews 2:1-3; 5:8-9; 9:24-28; 11:1-12:8,14; James 2:14-26; 1 Peter 1:2-23; 1 John 1:6-2:11; Revelation 3:20; 21:1-22:5.

#### **Baptism**

We believe in baptism by immersion after salvation with no merit for salvation in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost (Spirit). We reject infant baptism and any form of sprinkling for infants or adults. Baptism is an outward expression of our faith in Jesus Christ and simply a public testimony of what God has done by His grace. Romans 6:1-5; Acts 8:36-38; Acts 2;41; Matthew 3:16; Matthew 28:19-20.24; John 14:2; 2 Corinthians 5:8; Revelation 21-22

## DOCTRINE

#### The Church

We believe in the local church, consisting of a company of professing, born-again believers in Jesus Christ, immersed on a credible confession of faith, and associated for worship, work and fellowship. We believe that to those local churches we are committed, for perpetual observance of the ordinances of baptism and the Lord's Supper, and that God has laid upon these churches the task of proclaiming to a lost world the acceptance of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and the enthroning of Him as Lord and Master. Its scriptural officers are pastors and deacons. While both men and women are gifted for service in the church, the office of pastor is limited to men as qualified by Scripture. Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; Acts 2:42; Romans 6:3-5; I Corinthians 11:23-26; Ephesians 2:19-22; Ephesians 5:19-21; 1 Timothy 2:9-14; 3:1-15; 4:14; Hebrews 10:23-25.

#### The Relationship between Church and State

We believe that every human being is responsible to God alone in all matters of faith; that each church is independent and autonomous and must be free from any ecclesiastical or political authority; therefore, Church and State must be kept separate as having different functions with each fulfilling its duties free from the dictation or patronage of the other. Matthew 22:21; Mark 12:17; Luke 20:25; Acts 5:29; I Timothy 2:5; Romans 13:1-7; 14:7-9,12

#### Spiritual Gifts

We believe that spiritual gifts are given to the church for the express purpose of winning the lost and edifying other believers. The Holy Spirit is given to each believer upon acceptance of Christ and His purpose is to exalt and bring people to Christ. Speaking in tongues was the least important of these gifts and was given as a sign for unbelieving Jews. That is why Vision Baptist Church does not teach or practice speaking in tongues. John 7:37-39; 14:17; Acts 2:38; 1 Corinthians 1:22; 3:16-17; 6:19-20; 12-14

#### **Eternal Security**

We believe in the eternal security of all blood-bought individuals or believers and that such inheritance is incorruptible, and undefiled, and that each believer is kept by the power of God and nothing can separate us from Him, ourselves included. We believe that believers can lose the joy of fellowship with God, can grieve God and can quench the Spirit of God in him or her, but not lose his/her salvation. John 3:16; 5:24; 6:37-39; 10:27-30; Romans 8:35-39; Philippians 1:6; Titus 1:2; 1 Peter 1:5; 1 John 5:11-13; Jude 24

#### World Evangelism

We believe that the apostolic office ceased with the death of the Apostles. We believe that it is His church that He promised continual existence, to continue the work He started until He comes again. We believe that the ministry of reconciliation is committed to every believer and all are saints/priests of God. The Lord Jesus Christ has commanded the preaching of the gospel to all nations. It is the duty and privilege of every follower of Christ and of every church of the Lord Jesus Christ to endeavor to make disciples of all nations. Matthew 16:18; 28:18-20; Mark 16:15; John 20:21; Acts 1:8; 2 Corinthians 5:18-21; 1 Peter 2:9; Revelation 1:6; 5:10