Bridgeworld College

The Agents of Change

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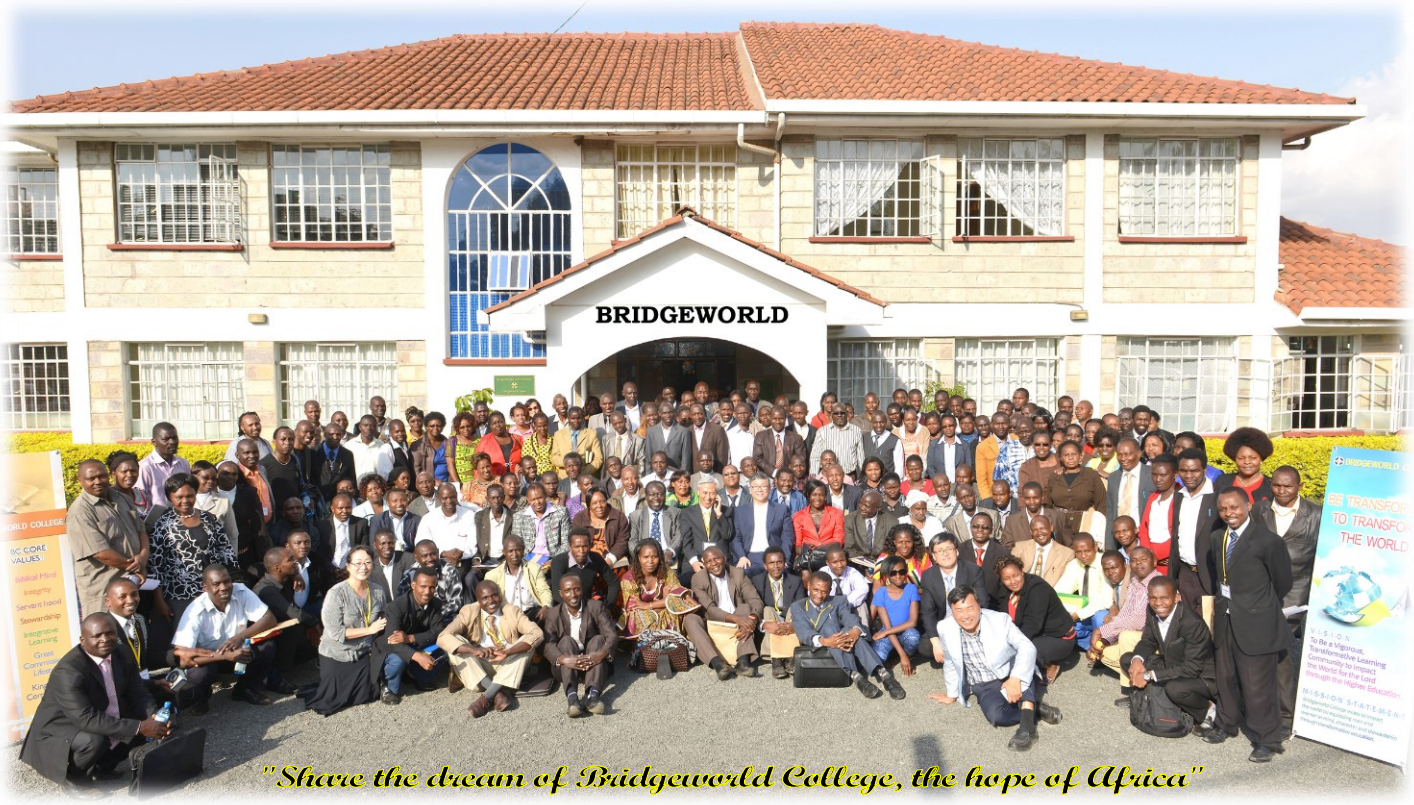


The Apostle Paul experienced so many hardships in his lifetime as a missionary: "We do not want you to be unaware, brothers, of the affliction we experienced in Asia. For we were so utterly burdened beyond our strength that we despaired of life itself. Indeed, we felt that we had received the sentence of death. But that was to make us rely not on ourselves but on God who raises the dead (II Cor. 1: 8-9)." However, he confesses, "We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed (II Cor.4: 8-9)." What were the secrets of his successful life?

Treasure within believers: Secret of successful life

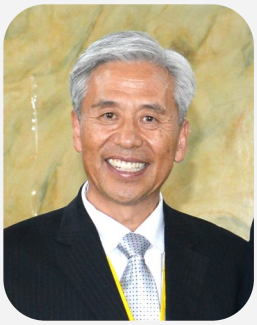
The Apostle knew he has the source of power within himself. When a believer is born again, he comes to receive divine life from heaven. So the regenerated person has two natures: the divine nature and the human nature. Paul uses an analogy to explain the two natures the believer has. He likens the believer to one who has treasure in a jar of clay. In this analogy, the jar of clay means our human weakness. Human beings are physically, emotionally, and mentally weak indeed. We are likely to be hurt by small problems. But, believers have a treasure within themselves, which is strong. The Apostle says, "But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us (II Cor. 4: 7)." He argues believers are those who have the source of power within them. The treasure in the jar of clay has the surpassing (superior) source of power.

He trusted the source of power within himself. "But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. " How can the power of the treasure be shown?

The power of the treasure within is shown when the jar of clay is broken. It indicates that only if the poor, indecent and breakable jar is broken, treasure within comes to shine brightly. Conversely, if the earthen vessel is strengthened, the light of the treasure inside the vessel will be blocked. As our earthen vessel is broken, a treasure within us reveals its light. In a like manner, when our human things are broken, the life of Jesus within us will be manifested. How much do we trust in our human fame, pride, money, etc.? That is the way we block the light of the treasure within. When being broken, the power of treasure within us is manifested: "Always carrying the death of Jesus in the body (= breaking the jar of clay), so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies (II Cor. 4: 10)." That is why precious treasure is placed in shabby, indecent, unattractive, breakable vessels.

The Bible proves that, "For we who live are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh (11)." The source of power within us will be manifested as we break our earthen vessel covered by our human sinfulness like pride, self-centeredness. This is the secret of how to live a successful life: break human weakness and trust in the treasure (Jesus) within us.

In conclusion, Jesus our Messiah within us is our source of power of life. When we break our human weakness (jar of clay), the power of treasure within us is manifested. That is the secret of Christian victory. We will not lose heart in whatever situations we are placed, by whatever challenges we are surrounded by, when we trust our treasure within us. Paul acknowledged that he has that source of power within himself and trusted Him. That was the secret of his successful life. That's why he was able to confess: "I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me (Gal.2:20)."



Rev. James Jongdo Lee, Ph.D.
Principal

SCRIPTURE AS DOORWAY TO THE DIVINE

Many people have the Bible in their homes but if you ask to see sometimes it is often dusty, judging by the spin rarely is opened. The Bible is not like any other book we have in our homes. If we are to gain anything from the scripture we have to take up and read. For it is written "we error because we do not know the scripture or the power of God." (Matthew 22:29 Mark 12:22).

But this simple instruction fraught with difficulties. Modern literature is unlike the past. We read quickly and silently. We always read while at the same time doing something else.

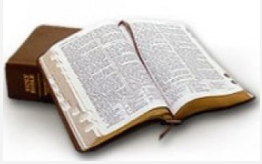
As recent as the nineteenth century, those who could read could read aloud. Many people were illiterate. The Bible is a library of ancient texts which were largely spoken before they were written down. So if we were going to benefit from reading the Bible as the word of God we need to read it aloud ourselves sensing the cadences, listening to our voices and asking if we hear the ring of truth. That's one of the reasons why the monks spend so much time in the church reading aloud and sometimes singing the scriptures. We are continuing a tradition that religion is a public matter not just a private one. We are all here for the sake of the world as well as for the salvation of the souls.

Regular reading of the Bible is essential for the Christian growth. We need to put aside quality time for it. If the scriptures are all a bit of a mystery to you, then find a Bible that subdivides the text with the heading and begin with one of the gospels. Read one section slowly aloud. What word, phrase or image strikes you? What are they evoking? Whatever is capturing your attention can become the focus of prayer and meditation. Like sucking on a candy, don't try to analyze it, just let it sink.

The Bible is not just a book of the intellectually curious. It is there to draw us into the life of God. Familiarity with the Bible is a start not an end in itself. An early fruit of the study is humility. God seeks a personal daily relationship with you and me. He values our taking time and efforts required to build the relationship. Read the scripture and inscribe the word in your heart.

Rev., Canon., Dr. James Mwaura ,
Provost

THE INSPIRED WORD OF WORD



As Christian pastors, preachers, and teachers, we are called to serve the people of God with the authorized and inspired word of God. As a matter of fact, we might have a query of how to elucidate the meaning of the scripture precisely? I would like to share this briefly with you.

The blind leading blind will be all together ruined. As we do our ministry given by God, we should put ourselves under great strain of studying the word of God carefully. Most priority job of the pastors, preachers and teachers is to interpret the word of God accurately and to explain them precisely to the congregate. Nothing else can be more important than this duty even if we have a lot of things to do for our ministries. How can we do our given duty faithfully?

Most of all, the road map must be drawn as a big picture. The scripture we have was given in real life of ancient time. That's why we need to put ourselves into their experience by studying the context of socio-cultural environment of biblical times. Even Non-historical books such as Prophets, Psalms, and Letters were given in the cultural-historical context, not in a vacuum. To do so, we need to rearrange the books of the bible in chronological order to understand the lifestyle of biblical times in the given situation. The chronological bible will be helpful to catch up with the mainstream of the biblical history. In addition to it, the study of the international historical background of Ancient East would be required to know of the interrelations with the situation of Israel.

Subsequently, we need to pull ourselves out of the historical scene to the text. To analyze this, we first need to distinguish which literary genre was picked up to deliver the message. In doing so, we have to deal with the scripture meticulously. We are also demanded to understand the first writer or editor's purpose of writing the book within the textual structure with grammatical usages and the thoughtful units because they used the unique formation of the textual relations so as to let the first reader catch up the message quickly. The passage we are about to explain the meaning has a sequential continuity bond. So we have to scrutinize the flow of the previous and subsequent context carefully. And then we should check if the analysis makes any contradiction with the larger context. The books of the bible are textually intertwined with the larger context of Old Testament theology, New Testament theology and Redemptive historical mainstream at large.

Afterward go to first reader's context. It is truly related to writer or editor's purpose of writing. At the time the first readers receive them, what was their situation? What was a connection with writer at the moment?
We can bring the clear meaning into the world of our every day experience to be transformed and transform the world.
I hope we, as pastors, preachers and teachers, would have well done by being faithful servant of the word of God until Christ's return.

Rev. Sungho Lee, Academic Dean

There I was, seated upright, looking at the gentle 'Mzungu' man. I was trying very hard to practice some interview techniques that I had been taught recently. The interview questions increased in tempo and difficulty with time. The room is the one that currently visiting lecturers sit to prepare for class. Very few if any are aware that one afternoon, the room was used as a 'theatre' to 'operate' one Joshua Kiti.

The last statement 'you are the right person for this' made me sigh with great relief and happiness to join Bridgeworld College. This college has been a home away from home ever since I was incorporated to the teaching fraternity for over two years. Apart from growing my profession, the college has been a centre for my spiritual inspiration. It has provided me with an opportunity to interact with people from South Korea, Ethiopia, Sudan, just to mention but a few.

The vision of the college is to transform the world, but the responsibility and requisite condition is for one to allow transformation to take place inside self.
This principle has carried me through to this end. The truth is that, unless one gets transformed he or she will never transform anything or anyone.
May the Lord bless the visionary principal of the college and the entire family of Bridgeworld College. God is faithful to bring whatever He started to accomplishment.

Mr. Joshua Kiti
Lecturer, Community Development

From the Classroom

When I first stepped at Bridgeworld college three years ago, two thoughts were running through my mind… *One*; the school fees must be too high for me, since I was sponsoring myself and *Two;* I cannot make it on time for the lectures as I come from quite far, Eastlands, Donholm. As I was pondering about this, I met with the dean of students who dispelled all my fears by telling me that "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." I felt encouraged and decided to give it a try before giving up.

I came to realize that the school fee was very much affordable, especially in comparison to our neighboring theological colleges, and yet most of our lecturers teach in those colleges too. The management has been very lenient to us financially; this is because paying school fees is a hustle free as is allowed to pay school fees in installments something I have comfortably done for the last three years.

For a long time unknowingly, I had been teaching the word of God in our church wrongly, being heretical and feeding the congregation the wrong food. Thanks to the studies at this college; it has enabled me to know how to interpret scriptures and apply them appropriately. Those who had heard me before can clearly tell the difference and are eager to hear more from me. This has given me another mileage to the ministry as I am being sought by church leaders to go teach their congregations.

It is my earnest prayer and plea to all clergy, church leaders and alike to join our institution for the best learning environment and knowledge. God bless you as you plan to come. Long live Bridgeworld, as you transform many more. May many branches of this kind should be opened in Kenya, East Africa and all over the world. Amen

Pst. Irene Kavata Musyoki
Theology Program Student

Social Science Department

I joined Bridgeworld College in February 2014 to study for a diploma in social work and community development program. At first the environment seemed to be hard because I met people from different countries such as Eritrea, Uganda, Ethiopia and South Sudan and this made me wonder how I could cope up with such diversities. However as time went by and by going through communication skills class, I learnt and was able to relate well with the other people and create rapport.

The college is well organized and equipped with qualified lectures, conducive environment, enough facilities and professional staff. I have been transformed socially, emotionally and spiritually to fulfill what I believe is God's purpose in my life.

To the people who are out there worrying maybe because of age, finance and other things, I encourage you to enroll and all this will be put into consideration as you are given an opportunity to be part of this wonderful community as you work on your various issues. My acknowledgement goes to the entire Bridgeworld college fraternity. May God bless you all.

Kelvin Macharia
2015 Graduate (Social Work & Comm. Development Program)

Growing as a young man in this digital generation bombarded with a lot of life issues, I felt a strong need of having to go through some life skills lessons. I began the search of where I could find this and luckily my finger fell on Bridgeworld College. Going through its prospectus I came across counseling psychology course which attracted me. I enrolled and there I was! It has helped me to understand who I am, why I exist and my purpose for life. I have come to know the qualities, convictions and the things I need to regard so much that have made me to be who I am and where I am today.

The lectures were so well structured, interactive and educative and through these sessions, I have learnt how to offer moral, socio-psychological and spiritual advice and support not only to me but to others. The theory has given me framework and a road map of understanding and facilitating the integration of self and external knowledge in terms of how to go above helping myself and others effectively. As I go out to the field, am ready to accomplish what I was called for.

I thank the leadership of Bridgeworld College for giving me a chance to study here and I will forever treasure the institution. I encourage others to come and experience the same. Thank you so much Bridgeworld College.

Elkanah Nyauma Ondieki,
Counseling Psychology Program Student

A Partnering for a Change

This year has been a unique one that has made Bridgeworld College to be a college with a difference in its operations. It is a year of reaping the benefits of partnerships with several Christian and educational institutions like Northwest University-South Africa, Christian Reformed World Mission Eastern and Southern Africa, Timothy Leadership Training, Institute of Advanced Technology, Spring Pastures High School and Elyon High School among others.

In August, Bridgeworld College managed to send a team of 16 people (staff, alumni and current students) to Africa Bible University in Uganda for a five days International conference on Theological Education in Africa. The conference had been organized by the Christian Reformed World Mission (CRWM) spear headed by Dr. Mwaya wa Kitavi who is also a leader of Timothy Leadership Training

Bridgeworld College is bridging many gaps which include sponsoring students from unreached people groups, and also supporting the desperate students in college education in order to add value to their lives. As a Christian institution, accredited professional institution which is mission minded, the college is making communities come together, families and churches,. This way we are able to transform the society for His glory.

Rev. Philip Gichohi,
Deans of students/Public Relations Officer

Not Laboring in Vain!

Our beginning: Narok Extension Campus was started officially on 16th of March, 2013 at Chambai Springs Hotel in Narok County with a pioneer class of 26 students. This was Christian Ministry class which is run by Bridgeworld College in collaboration with Christian Reformed World Missions Eastern and Southern Africa.

Our programs: We have been running it in three modes; day program from 9.00 am to 4.00 pm, evening program 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm and weekend program on Saturdays and soon we will be launching; Theology, Counseling, Business Management and Social work programs.

Our dream: Is to impact the people of God with not just theory in class but knowledge that begins in class and extends to the communities, countries and to the world (2 Timothy 2:2). Competition is not our motto but learning and reading the signs and seasons of both our students and the world view in relation to growth, transformation and development.

Join us: Are you educated? Bridgeworld College has something unique to add and offer you. Come all and enjoy the unique fruits of education that is rooted from the real biblical foundation from Bridgeworld College of transformative action. (Philippians 2:16) we are neither running aimlessly nor laboring in vain, but we have faith in Christ whom we serve that at the end, we will accomplish the target and goal of Narok Campus as our mission informs all the people we serve " Be transformed to transform the World.

Rev. Sarah Okwemba,
Narok Extension Campus Coordinator

Meru Extension Campus

What goes on in Meru the extension?
We have been conducting theological training for local pastors, a primary school and churches.

When did you begin the extension?
We began in 2011, so we have been up and running for the past 4 years.

Where in Meru do you conduct your classes?
We started in Mitunguu then spread to Kaare Mwimbi, Nkubu-Chogoria and Kanyakine in Meru County.

How do you conduct them?
We begin at certificate level as a bridging course for pastors who are not able to directly enroll for diploma or degree programs. In the next year, 2016, we are set to begin a Diploma distance learning program in collaboration with Mukhanyo Theological College of South Africa.
Training is done every week with each class allocated a specific day of meeting.

Have you had any class completed?
Yes. So far we have had two graduation ceremonies in 2013 and 2014 awarding certificates to 50 graduates and waiting to have another in December for 16 students.

What about the primary school and the churches?
By the grace of God in 2014 I was able to plant two churches in February and June under Deliverance Church and together with my wife we started a primary school with eighteen pupils.

How has it been so far?
Despite the challenges of fees payments and distance between students' homes and the school, we are grateful to God for seeing us through to this far. We Thank God for Bridgeworld college main campus's support. God bless Bridgeworld family!

Pst. Josphat Njeru Ngari,
Meru Extension Campus coordinator

- Bridgeworld Legacy -

After serving as a missionary in Hola for five years, I realized that this town is surrounded by five unreached people groups (Somalis, Waata, Wardhei, Upper Pokomo and Orma) and yet no church has been actively engaged these people with the gospel. It is with this concern that I felt compelled to join a bible school that would combine intercultural studies and theology to equip me for the cross-cultural work. The Lord led me to Bridgeworld College through a missionary friend from Serving In Mission (SIM) in 2011 and completed my degree course in 2014.

My four years of training were very transformative as I experienced a complete doctrinal overhaul in my belief system. My interaction with qualified and competent trainers has not only changed my doctrine position, but my lifestyle as well. We are called to earnestly contend for the faith that was once and for all delivered unto the saints (Jude 1:3) but sadly a majority of the clergy in this nation are busy contending for material blessings. This 'polluted ministers' cannot effectively wage a successful battle against the principalities of darkness.

In this regard we therefore need a college like Bridgeworld that has zero tolerance on the gospel of prosperity that has reduced most of our clergy to mere 'scarecrows' in spiritual battles. This college has distinctive features on its sharpening surface to sharpen blunt iron to shiny sharp ones.

Working with students from south Sudan, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Egypt and Congo also helped me to learn that unity is not uniformity; we can be united in our diversities. This essence helps us to be able to accommodate others and expand our worldview in ministry.

I want to appreciate the college for having considered me worthy of a scholarship. Am now back to Hola a different and effective agent of change and engagement. I look forward to a lasting partnership that may involve pioneering an extension program in Tana River to train lay pastors and missionaries. To God be all glory!

Tom Nathan Manywanda,
Local Missionary, 2015 B.th Theology Graduate

My first day at the Bridgeworld College in 2011, left me speechless as I walked through a completely clean and tidy compound with beautiful ornamental flower gardens dotting the fence line. As I entered the building, on the left side of entryway were a series of portraits capturing every academic milestone (graduation ceremonies held in the years gone by), and on the right, stood a colorful college banner. As I took the flight of stairs heading up to the head office, I beheld another fixture, "the mirror of personal reflection"; in other words if you thought you are "fully equipped for every good work" (2 Timothy 3:17), pause, take a look and reflect, for you are about to take a journey of discovery into the Biblical Worldview instilled by BC.

Time and space will not allow me to share and relieve every moment I spent at BC, but suffice to say, it was the most memorable time of my life. My friendly and easy going personality endeared me to the student fraternity, lecturers, senior staff and the rank and file. As student assistant librarian, I earned the nickname 'mobile library', for my efficiency as well as being an avid reader of books. In the final analysis, my spiritual and academic life grew by leaps and bounds.

Upon graduating this year (2015) with a Bachelor's degree in Theology, and having served at KAG Buru Buru, as a youth leader, my first task was to craft a series of teachings addressing the challenges faced by the youth today. My efforts bore fruit in the month of April when I launched a two day seminar titled: "A Ray of Hope in the 'Mess – Age' of Youth Today" (Ecclesiastes 11:9 – 12:1). This seminar had its debut at my local village where I currently reside and serve (Voi), and later in August I went on a mission to Rabai teaching the same. I am currently working on a 'tent making' idea that would be instrumental in supporting local pastors to give themselves "continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word" Acts 6:4.

Rufus Shimba Mwayasi,
Local Missionary, 2015 B.Th Theology Graduate

Bridgeworld College has been in partnership with North-West University of South Africa in offering degree in theology and we have been beneficiaries of this partnership as we were enrolled in the program and graduated in March 2015.

The content of North-West program was very comprehensive and of high standard keeping us on our toes to meet its demands. As we engage in preaching and teaching the word, as well as training church leaders through International Leadership Institute program (ILI), we are more confident than before in handling the word correctly, as Paul admonished in 2nd Timothy 2:15 "Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved a workman who does not need to be ashamed, and correctly handles the Word of truth" (NIV).

We express our gratitude to God, to the administration and teaching staff of Bridgeworld College for their committed support accorded us including the partial scholarships.

We wish to encourage Pastors and those aspiring for Christian ministry to join Bridgeworld College for training. May God bless Bridgeworld College to become full-fledged University to continue equipping ministers to propagate the whole Gospel to the whole world. We give God all the glory, Amen.

Psts. Zechariah & Elizabeth Gathuka
2015 B.Th Theology Graduate

Extensive, Intensive and Comprehensive Leadership

On 23rd September, the college sponsored by The Global Mission Church in Seoul Korea held a Biblical Leadership Seminar at our campus in Karen. On 24th and 25th the Presiding Bishop of Redeemed Gospel Church in Kenya, Bishop Kepha Omae hosted the top Kenyan Christian leaders at Weston Hotel for Africa Leadership Summit.

Dr. Chin (the senior pastor of Global Mission Church in Seoul Korea) who was the main speaker in the conference was a great blessing to Kenyan spiritual leaders. He is a servant of God with a difference. Having lived and served in Kenya for three years in the last twelve years, the memory was as fresh as yesterday. During his service as a missionary in Kenya twelve years ago, Dr. Chin had managed to plant the Nairobi Mission Church, and served as an adjunct professor in International Leadership University (ILU) formerly, Nairobi International School of Theology (NIST). During his meeting with Kenyan spiritual leaders Dr. Chin reflected that Kenyans are precious people whom God could use and therefore came to give back to society.

In these three days, the man of God was able to introduce Kenyans to a type of leadership service that is lacking in the ever changing society. It is a leadership with influence; in the holistic, extensiveness and intensiveness level. It was a great blessing to all the delegates. Bridge-world is extending services to the community within and outside the country for the sake of realizing our goal of transforming the society by biblical mindset.

Discipleship

As much as we go out to evangelise, we must care, and share with others the love and character of Jesus Christ. Discipleship is modeling and teaching Christians the precepts of the Bible, which means having an attitude and heart that worships Christ.

The purpose of this course was to make the students conversant with the stages, themes and methods of Jesus' disciple making work and assist them in making application to multiple ministry venues in Africa.

Through intensive lecture discussions, small groups' discussions, written assignments, role play, videos and projects, the students examined the biblical usage of the word "disciple" and then looked at how Christ made disciples, emphasizing the content unique to the stages of discipleship i.e. following up, teaching, and mentoring.

Dr. Mark Olander
(Africa Missionary with AIM)

Christian Leadership & Development in a Globalizing World

The best kind of classroom experience involves freedom to talk "the stuff" with truly interested and lively people who have invested in the subject and want to see it work for their ministries. Whether that subject is biblical studies or some other discipline, freedom to explore what lies in common between them makes for a powerful and illuminating experience. Our investigation of Christian leadership in globalizing environments this week at Bridge-world was indeed one of those wonderful classroom experiences;

I enjoyed it because all these ingredients were present. I even hesitate to call those who attended "students" because in so many ways they are peers in kingdom ministry. This week has been my first ever in Kenya, and if this kind of classroom experience is typical of what Bridgeworld has to offer, I can only hope that many more Africans will be privileged to participate here over the years to come.

My thanks go to all who have welcomed me here so warmly! And my commendations go to everyone who helps make this a truly loving Christian community of learning!

Dr. Jonathan M. Watt
(Prof., Geneva College, U. S. A)

Evangelism to Muslims

Due to the rapid growth of Muslims not only in their traditional power base, the Middle East, but also around the world, Christians need to be awakened to counter this powerful force. As a result of this, Bridgeworld College has designed a course unit to equip students with theological tool with which they can analyze and evaluate Islamic theology and effectively communicate the gospel to them. As culmination of this semester's class sessions, our final year students had a rare privilege to visit Jamia mosque together with their lecturer Mr. Jared Oginga to gain firsthand experience on what goes on in the mosque. It was awesome time of learning experience in a new religious setting.

The Agents of Change

Bridgeworld College is a Christian College existing to impact the world by equipping men and women in mind, character and stewardship through transformative education. We are accredited by the Ministry of Education Science & Technology (MOEST) and Kenya Counseling & Psychiatric Association (KCPA).

BRIDGEWORLD COLLEGE

Be Transformed to Transform the World

- Diploma In Christian Ministry
- Diploma in Theology
- Degree in Theology
- Diploma in Social Work, Community Development & Health
- Diploma in Business Management
- Diploma in Counseling Psychology
- Diploma in Information Communication Technology (ICT)
- International Computer Driving License (ICDL)

Academic schedule:

1st semester: January – June
2nd semester: July - December

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