



**Richard & Laurie Godsil
November 2024**

To conclude the fellowship, Pastor Kato asked a few of the youth to share what they had learned. We were incredibly impressed by their thoughtful responses, which directly reflected the key points of our message. The youth leaders were so inspired by their potential that they've invited me to provide virtual youth ministry training sessions via Zoom.



MARRIAGE & FAMILY CONFERENCES UGANDA

HAPPY THANKSGIVING 2024

We cherish your presence in our lives, Laurie and I. Your friendship and support are a constant source of strength and joy.

This year has had its share of trials, but with God's guidance and your prayers, we have persevered.

May this festive season be filled with love, peace, and a profound appreciation for God's boundless love and compassion.

On Sunday, I had the privilege of preaching on "**Love One Another**" at Bishop Kamanzi's church. The worship was truly inspiring, and the congregation was attentive to the message. Afterward, we were warmly welcomed by Bishop John and Pauline at their home for a delightful lunch.

On Monday, we visited the Uganda Martyrs Museum Namugongo, a poignant reminder of the sacrifice of 45 Anglican and Catholic martyrs. The annual pilgrimage on June 3rd draws over 800,000 people.

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP CONFERENCE IN UGANDA



Our journey to Uganda and Cameroon was an incredible experience. We began our trip by speaking at a youth fellowship outside of Kampala. The young people were incredibly talented, leading worship and providing technical support. We shared messages on Christian relationships and the story of Samson and Dahlia by Bishop John was inspiring the youth with timeless truths.



The Q&A session was particularly enlightening, with the youth asking thoughtful questions that demonstrated their deep understanding of the topics.



Tuesday and Wednesday, we led a conference in Kampala with over 200 attendees. I shared messages on various topics, while Bishop John provided insights on marriage. Laurie and Pauline Kamanzi addressed over 100 women, and I spoke to over 30 men about the importance of fatherhood.

It was both surprising and concerning to learn that many fathers in this culture don't play with their children and that married couples often avoid public displays of affection. I demonstrated simple acts of affection, like holding hands while walking, encouraging the participants to incorporate these practices into their own relationships.

I also challenged the fathers to prioritize spending quality time with their children. Reminding them that who ever spends time with them influences them.

On Thursday, we ventured into the stunning countryside, where we were captivated by the breathtaking beauty of coffee bean, banana, and tea plantations.

We held a conference at a small church, creating a space for heartfelt conversations. During this time, I received numerous questions about marriage, including the deeply troubling issue of domestic violence. I passionately challenged this harmful practice, emphasizing the biblical imperative for husbands to love their wives sacrificially, lovingly, and protectively. The church leaders were moved by this message and expressed a strong commitment to addressing this issue and taking a leadership role in promoting healthy marriages.

On Friday and Saturday, we concluded our conferences at a larger church surrounded by a serene landscape of palm trees and lush fields. Despite a delay caused by thunderstorms, the attendees' enthusiasm was unwavering. The message on loving one's wife as Christ loves the church resonated deeply with the audience, and the men were particularly engaged during the fatherhood discussion. We fielded a multitude of questions, witnessing a genuine desire for guidance and support.



The church was incredibly enthusiastic about learning how to build a Christ-centered marriage. They were particularly touched by the simple act of Laurie and me walking hand-in-hand, which served as a visual reminder of the love and intimacy that should characterize a godly marriage.

We ended the weekend at Pastor Richard's church outside of Kampala.

It was heartwarming to be surrounded by such a joyful congregation.

The worship was truly inspiring, filled with energetic music and contagious smiles.



MARRIAGE & FAMILY CONFERENCES CAMEROON



We embarked on our adventure to Douala, with our conference coordinator Pastor Kang who met us at the airport. After an overnight journey, we reached the bustling capital city of Yaoundé.

Our first conference in Cameroon empowered pastors, church leaders, and ministry leaders with biblical insights for building strong marriages and families. The Q&A session was a highlight, fostering a rich exchange of ideas and experiences.



The lead pastor's vision to involve larger churches in next year's conferences is truly inspiring.

We then returned to Douala for the evening.

The next morning, we taught at **Chapel of Love**. The worship service was a joyful celebration, filled with energetic music and lively dancing. The worship team's heartfelt song dedicated to Laurie and me was a deeply touching moment.



The following day, we held a conference at **Real Life Church**. Over 150 people attended, and the event was live-streamed on TV.



We dedicated over an hour to answering a diverse array of questions, ranging from dating to adultery and romance. This Q&A session was a unique and insightful experience, providing us with the opportunity to address a wide range of concerns and challenges.

Following the session, we embarked on a journey to Limbe, a picturesque coastal city nestled near the Atlantic Ocean and mountains.

On Sunday, I preached at CCM at Dr. Gilles request and Laurie wore her new dress.



The CCM Women welcomed Laurie and marched her into the church building!



Afterwards Laurie and I were interviewed on CCM's Facebook network.



On Saturday, we held our final conference at **Christ Centered Ministries**. The event was live-streamed on Facebook, reaching a wider audience.



We finished the weekend with grilled fish at Limbe Beach and a beautiful sunset on the Atlantic Ocean!



The conference was a transformative experience, showcasing the beauty and power of a Christ-like marriage. The attendees were deeply touched by the closing ceremony, where the women surprised Laurie with a breathtaking dress they had made especially for her. The room was filled with joy and gratitude as everyone celebrated this heartfelt gesture.



This ministry trip ignited a spark of hope, inspiring many leaders and attendees in Uganda and Cameroon to embrace a biblical vision for marriage and family.

Both countries have eagerly invited us to return next fall to continue this transformative work.

We are deeply grateful for your support in making this life-changing trip possible.

Love, Richard & Laurie