

NEWSLETTER

January

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DISCIPLES
GO
MINISTRIES

Planting **BIG TREES** with small seeds...

In order to plant **large trees** for the Kingdom of God, we at *Disciples Go Ministries* have made it our life's objective to seek and find the **mustard seeds** (Matthew 13:31). As you get the opportunity to work with these **mustard seeds**, God makes them **grow** into becoming **big trees**, who's lives attract so many others, who is destined for heaven (cf. Mat. 13:32).

Through the grace of God, we are seeing the impact this is making in advancing His Kingdom across our beautiful continent.

It is therefore with great joy and thanksgiving that we share with you what God is doing through some of these precious people.

We give God all the honour and we pray that He will make all of us faithful to Him, in planting more and more *trees* this year!

In His love

Giepie Van der Merwe

(DGM Co-Ordinator)



IN THIS NEWSLETTER

Ugandan, Zambian
and South African
trees

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planting

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another tree

THE TREES IN HIS GARDEN



UGANDAN TREES

James and Esther are both second generation Ugandan disciple-makers. Through the grace of God, disciple-makers affiliated with Disciples Go Ministries have laboured to help both of these mustard seeds grow into becoming *trees* for the Kingdom of God.

As James and his disciple-making team set out to find receptive people amongst the lost and start *Discovery Bible Study* groups with them and their people, these groups have now *multiplied* into the *fifth generation*, as groups have formed new groups, who formed new groups, who formed new groups... Up to now **54 Discovery Bible Study groups** have been formed in this way, consisting of between 3 and 14 people in a group.

Some of these groups have already transitioned into *becoming movement Churches* focused on *worshipping the Lord* and *reaching the lost*.

Through Esther on the other hand, the Lord has established **58 Discovery Bible Study groups**, multiplying into the *fourth generation*, as groups formed new groups, who formed new groups, who formed new groups...

This is the type of multiple and lasting fruit coming forth from these two mustard seeds, who are growing into becoming trees for the Kingdom of God!

Look at the nations and watch and be utterly amazed. For I am going to do something in your days that you would not believe, even if you were told" (Hab. 1:5)

THE TREES IN HIS GARDEN

ZAMBIAN TREES

We were privileged to cross paths with Goodwell, while he was still living in South-Africa. Being a mustard seed, God made him grow, through South-African disciple-makers who laboured with him. Since he went back to Zambia he has found his own *mustard seeds* and have laboured hard to establish a strong disciple-making team with them.

Taking the command of Jesus seriously he and his team have been going from town to town healing the sick and driving out demons in His Name.

This has resulted in God connecting them with numerous *people of peace* so that **28 Discovery Bible Study groups** have already been established amongst the lost, as some groups have even formed new groups.

She invited him to come to her home, where she will gather her family and neighbours.



Paul, who is one of Goodwell's teammates, shared with us a couple of days ago how he facilitated a *Discovery Bible Study* where a lady was present, who was touched by what she discovered about God.

She invited him to come to her home, where she will gather her whole family and her neighbours to hopefully start another *Discovery Bible Study* group amongst them.

We stand in awe of what God is doing through the lives of these mustard seeds like *Goodwell and Paul*.

He is making them *grow* into becoming such *big trees*, that their lives are attracting so many others to become part of His Kingdom!

THE TREES IN HIS GARDEN



SOUTH AFRICAN MUSTARD SEEDS GROWING QUICKLY

At Bible Institute while busy practicing the Discovery Bible Study (*Johannes second on the left)

A couple of months ago we were privileged to train students at a Bible institute in the Eastern Cape province of South-Africa. At opportunities like these you are always on the lookout for those few amongst the crowd who catches the vision and who start implementing it. Those are the mustard seeds that you want to labour with so that God can make them grow to become trees in His Kingdom.

Be on the lookout for those few amongst the crowd who catches the vision and who start implementing it. Those are the mustard seeds...

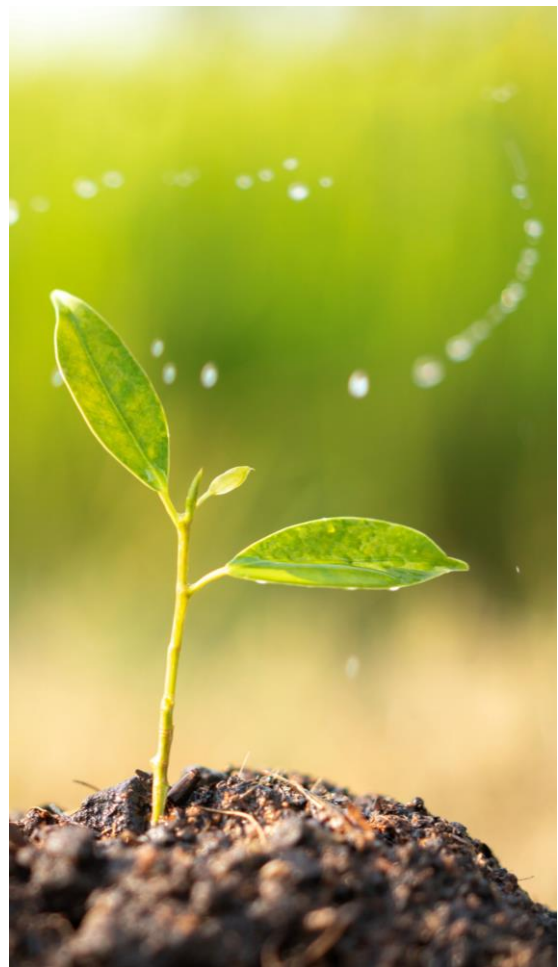
Johannes is such a mustard seed. As soon as he heard about making disciples in this way, he took on the *Luke 10 - disciple-making lifestyle* and started looking for people of peace in his community. After finding such a person he started a Discovery Bible Study group with him and the people who is part of his social network. Since then this group have started two more groups with different people in their communities. We thank the Lord for Johannes' immediate obedience to the commission of our Lord Jesus and we pray that he and these new disciples will grow in Christ and in their calling to make more disciple-makers!

Where we stand in planting

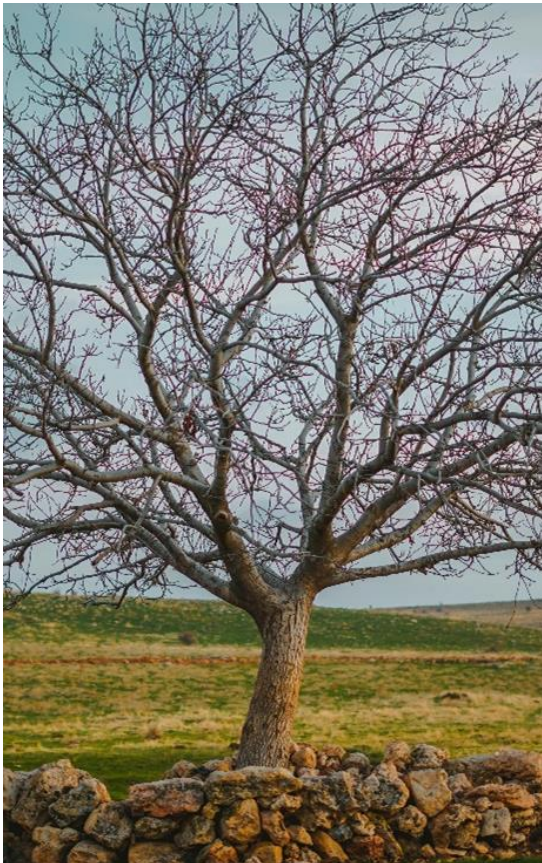
At this point in time we are privileged to be working with **28 disciple-making mustard seeds**, across six African countries (South-Africa, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Zambia, Uganda and Rwanda).

It gives us great joy to invest our time, energy and resources into them and see how God is turning them into big and beautiful trees for His glory and for the advancement of His Kingdom. All of them are giving their lives to making disciples, who make disciples!

We trust the Lord for a great harvest and therefore for more *mustard seeds* this year!



One more year with another tree..



At our first training session with some of these disciple-makers this year, we studied **Luke 13:1-9**.

According to this passage Galileans were killed in the temple, which made many ask the question:

“Why did this happen, why did they die?”

Jesus’ response struck all of us.

He responded by telling the parable of the unfruitful fig tree which was almost cut down, had it not been for the gardener who pleaded with the owner to give him one more year, to work with the tree in order to bring forth fruit.

In this we see how Jesus actually turned around the people’s question, telling them: “Don’t ask why did this happen, why did they die? **Rather ask why you are still alive, why did the Father keep you for one more year...?”**

“It all started by Jesus calling a few men to follow Him. This revealed immediately the direction His evangelistic strategy would take. His concern was not with programs to reach the multitudes, but with men whom the multitudes would follow. Remarkable as it may seem Jesus started to gather these men before He ever organized an evangelistic campaign or even preached a sermon in public. Men were to be His method of winning the world to God”

(Robert E. Coleman on Luke 6:12-13)

Thank you for reading! If you want more information on Disciples Go Ministries, go to our website:

www.disciplesgo.co.za

Or if you want to make a Kingdom contribution, please find banking details below:

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Swift Code:	ABSA ZA JJ
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“He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches.”

Matthew 13:31-32