## Newsletter Spring 2025



Join Our **\$55,000** Matching Challenge

### TEACHING PASTORS, CHANGING LIVES: OUR GLOBAL MISSION

The seed of Shepherds Global Classroom took root beneath a tree in Africa (teaching pastors). Our goal has always been to provide pastor-trainers with FREE theological resources and to foster the growth of grassroots Bible schools and seminaries in areas where they currently don't exist. We know this is happening in many places, but sometimes, we find ourselves especially encouraged.

#### Guatemala

On March 1st, Steve English, a missionary in Guatemala, reached out to us with an encouraging note. He and his wife have wanted to start a Bible training program in that country for some time, and the discovery of SGC courses has helped make it possible. "We are so grateful for SGC," he writes, "Thank you so much for providing these courses of



Steve English & a group of students he is training using the SGC curriculum

study. We have 18 enrolled, and I was just informed that two more will join the group. We're starting out studying *The Life and Ministry of Jesus* and *Principles of Biblical Interpretation* on Saturdays for 10 weeks. Again, we are so appreciative of you and your ministry. ¡GRACIAS!



SGC President Tim Keep & SGC Bengali Translator Dr. Arun Sarkar at ICETE 2025

#### Afghan Refugees

Our team was privileged to attend the 2025 ICETE (International Council for Evangelical Theological Education) conference in Albania this past week with about 650 other theological educators.

One afternoon, I was leaving the lunch area when I was stopped by a missionary serving among Afghani refugees in northern Turkey. I chocked back tears as he shared how he's been using the SGC curriculum to systematically train 45 Afghan students and how these courses impact their spiritual lives. It was a wonderful gift to glimpse into yet another way the Lord is using SGC curriculum tools. This missionary thanked us repeatedly, and I wanted to pass his gratitude on to you!

#### India

The next day, Tim Jr., Dr. Randall McElwain, and I enjoyed a meal with Dr. Arun Sarkar, a humble man and our lead translator for the Bengali translations. We enjoyed our time together and worked on some plans for future training. But as we rose to leave, he became very emotional. "Please tell your supporters how thankful we are. None of us can imagine the abundant fruit of their generosity!"

You're making a difference in many more lives than you can imagine. Stories like these remind us of the importance of our mission together.

Grace to you,

Tim Keep Founder & President

## A CERTIFICATE PROGRAM!

## Dr. Matt Hallam

Vice President for Enrollment Services God's Bible School & College

God's Bible School and College's partnership with Shepherds Global Classroom is equipping everyday believers with accessible, high-quality ministry training in both English and Spanish. The program has been a blessing to homemakers, teachers, retirees, laypeople, and many others who want to grow in their faith but cannot commit to a traditional degree. Students can just take classes or earn a ministry certificate that helps them serve more effectively in their churches and communities.

For more information, visit www.gbs.edu/certificate.

# GLOBAL TRAINING

So far, in 2025, our Global Training team led by Dr. Randall McElwain has conducted 5 Global Training events and trained over 150 local leaders.

These training events are meant to assist indigenous leaders who desire to launch their own training programs but don't know where to start. Dr. McElwain and his team spend several days training men and women on how to launch their own selfgoverned and self-sustaining classroom using the SGC curriculum.

#### 2025 Training Locations to Date:

- Uganda (Rwamwanja Refugee Camp)
- Uganda (Jinja)
- Uganda (Mbale)
- Nigeria (Imo State)
- Nigeria (River State)

## "

This is great curriculum and should be a core requirement for all churches.

Esdras Vasquez - Brazil



Dr. Randall McElwain and Johnathan Arnold with a group of pastors at the conclusion of their training in Nigeria.

## Join Our \$55,000 Matching Challenge!

One goal that our team has set is to publish 100 course translations in 2025. This goal will require \$285,000 over the course of the year.

It cannot be overstated that SGC is a by faith ministry. A generous donor has stepped up and offered a \$55,000 matching challenge, which means that the first \$55,000 will be doubled! We can only serve the world's pastors as God's people stand with us, and no gift is too small! Every gift is received with thanksgiving.

Renewed pastors are the key to the spiritual renewal of the global church, and our obedience, together, will help bring about that renewal.

Tim Keep Founder & President

## Ways to Give

### **By Mail**

#### PO Box 541043 Cincinnati OH 45255

Use attached donation card and check "matching challenge"

### Online

Scan QR code or visit shepherdsglobal.org/give & select the matching campaign

### **Become a Monthly Donor**

DONATE

Monthly donations are the lifeblood of our ministry, providing the consistent resources we need to make a lasting impact. Your recurring gift, no matter the size, will help us plan ahead and serve untrained pastors more effectively.

### Legacy Gift

For legacy gifts, significant contributions or unconventional donations (such as in-kind gifts, securities, or other non-standard assets), please contact President Tim Keep directly at **513-982-1200** or email **president@shepherdsglobal.org** to discuss your gift and ensure it is processed smoothly.

# TRAINING GLOBAL CHRISTIAN LEADERS: A VISION FOR 2025



### Dr. Michael Avery

Founder of Deeper Life Ministries Shepherds Global Classroom (SGC) stands at a pivotal moment in our mission to equip Christian leaders worldwide with comprehensive theological training and practical ministry tools. We are passionate to help the eightyfive percent of Christian workers in Majority World countries who lack any biblical training. Our ambitious vision for growth in 2025 includes:

- Translating and publishing 100 courses in the most in demand languages internationally, ensuring that pastors and ministry leaders in even the most remote areas have access to quality biblical education. These materials will serve as cornerstones for spiritual development in communities around the world.
- Conducting Global Training Events in six countries: Uganda, Nigeria, India, Peru, Pakistan, and Egypt. These events are strategic and will create hubs of learning and leadership development, multiplying our impact across continents.
- Extend our reach globally through specialized training conferences in Guatemala and Albania, bringing vital resources to regions hungry for biblical training.
- In a groundbreaking initiative, we're adding 24 audio courses specifically designed for the blind and visually impaired, ensuring that no one is left behind in their pursuit of biblical education. This innovative program will open new doors for countless individuals called to ministry who cannot receive training otherwise.

Your partnership is vital to making this vision possible. Together, we can build a stronger, more biblically equipped global church.

- A gift of any amount makes a huge difference!
- A gift to underwrite the development of a course or to cover the cost of a training event has the potential of impacting thousands of lives.

Join us today in this sacred mission to prepare God's servants for effective ministry worldwide.

## Key Features of the SGC Curriculum

- 🔅 20 Foundational Courses To Choose From
- Se FREE Online Downloads
- 🔅 Theologically Rich Content
- 🔅 Easy To Understand
- 🔆 Available In Over 30 Langauges
- Purchasing A Course Supports Pastors In Need Of Training

"

I saw my congregation deepen in their faith, learn tactics to face a post-modern world, and become more scripturally sound. I believe using SGC in my local church was one of the best decisions I ever made as a pastor.



- Pastor Doug Eads

