



*New Course
Announcement*

Bottom of page 6

*End-Of-Year
Giving Opportunity*

Bottom of page 4



2025 GLOBAL TRAINING EVENTS

JANUARY

UGANDA

In January, three Global Training events in Uganda helped expand the impact of local ministry. At Rwamwanja Refugee Settlement, pastors studied *Doctrine and Practice of the Holy Life*, led by the Africa85 team. In Jinja, 15 pastors committed to launching structured programs using SGC under the leadership of Pastor Allan Taffin. In Mbale, Pastor John Kato trained new instructors to help him expand his village-based programs across southern Uganda.



FEBRUARY

NIGERIA

In February, our team conducted two Global Training events in Nigeria that powerfully advanced our mission to equip grassroots leaders. At Calvary College of Theology, students and pastors trained together to launch SGC programs in their local ministries. One seminary leader shared, "This is exactly what we need," and committed to using SGC courses in his curriculum. Among the participants was a trainer from a Muslim region who plans to disciple new believers using SGC materials. Another highlight was a shy young woman who discovered her God-given gift for teaching during the seminar.

JULY

PERU

In July, Dr. Randall McElwain conducted two Global Training events in Peru, strengthening efforts to equip pastors across the country. The first event was hosted by leaders of the Pilgrim Church of Peru, representing more than 300 congregations. They plan to use the SGC curriculum in their new John Wesley Academy to train rural pastors, teachers, and missionaries through a mix of in-person and virtual classes. The second training brought together 23 pastors from the Amazon basin, some traveling over 24 hours by boat to study *Doctrine and Practice of the Holy Life*. Many left inspired to begin new local training programs using SGC courses.





September

EGYPT

In September, our Global Training team, led by Tim and Becky Keep, Dr. Randall McElwain, Glenn Gault, and Maricka Herrer, conducted two training events in Egypt. The first, held in Alexandria with Hope 4 All Ministries MENA, equipped church planters and evangelists serving across 31 countries in the Persian Gulf States and North Africa, including four Sudanese pastors leading dozens of refugee churches. The second event in Cairo, hosted by Pastor Shenouda Samy, brought together pastors and church leaders from Upper Egypt and Sudan. Both trainings were met with great enthusiasm, and many participants committed to launching new SGC-based training programs in their local communities.



NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN

In November, we held our second training event in Lahore, Pakistan. Our first, in January 2024, was conducted for the Antakya Bible Institute, connected to Holiness Pilgrim Mission, which provides non-formal training for pastors, church planters, and missionaries across Pakistan. The institute now oversees more than 25 training centers using SGC with 492 students enrolled. During this follow-up visit, Dr. Oliver and Dr. McElwain focused on helping trainers strengthen their teaching methods, emphasizing ways to increase student engagement, improve class discussion, and reach different learning styles. They also led a one-day "Teaching the Bible" seminar for about 60 pastors and Bible teachers. A highlight of the week was attending two graduation ceremonies for 72 students who each completed at least eight SGC courses.



- ✿ 11 Total Training Events
- ✿ 262 Leaders Trained
- ✿ 75,000+ Miles Traveled



Download a free course today!

VISION

D I N N E R

Event Sponsor:



It was an incredible night! In September, nearly 200 friends and partners gathered for the Shepherds Global Classroom 2025 Vision Dinner.

We are deeply grateful to **Liberty HealthShare**, our event sponsor, as well as our production sponsor and the many table sponsors who made the night possible.

More than just a fundraising dinner, the Vision Dinner has become one of the most meaningful moments in SGC's year. It's a time that our growing community comes together, where new friends are introduced to the mission, and long-time supporters are encouraged by stories of God's work around the world.

By the end of the night, the generosity in the room went above and beyond what we hoped for. **Dr. Saji Lukos** delivered an inspiring keynote address on the importance of urgency in missions.

Even if you weren't able to join us this year, we hope you'll make plans to be part of the next Vision Dinner. You won't want to miss it.

2 0 2 6

VISION

D I N N E R

Save The Date!
September 15, 2026

If you're interested in sponsoring the 2026 Vision Dinner, we'd love to partner with you! Please reach out to us directly.

- 513-982-1904
- info@shepherdsglobal.org

While in Thailand recently, I had the amazing privilege of sitting down with a Filipino, Muslim-background pastor whom the Lord is using to plant house churches in dozens of Muslim villages in the southern Philippines. He told me of his sinful past, of his dramatic conversion through a dream about Jesus before he'd ever heard a gospel message, and of his calling to reach his own people for Christ. He and his co-workers live and work in constant danger. He spoke of secret gatherings, of persecution, of hardships, but also of miraculous signs and wonders and of entire families turning to Christ.

"The question we ask new converts before we baptize them is, 'Are you ready to die for Jesus?' This is a real possibility we live with."

But despite these challenges, or perhaps because of them, 150 house churches have been planted among Muslims in his area, and they are believing God for many more. As I listened, my heart was deeply moved.

Consecrated, indigenous pastors like this are the focus of SGC because they are the force of gospel proclamation in the 21st century. They are the key to taking the gospel to the 7,662 unreached people groups scattered across tens of thousands of cities and villages throughout our world. Their advantages of being immersed in their communities and of already knowing the local languages and customs position them to reach people faster, more efficiently, and often more effectively than outsiders. They are not a replacement for foreign missionaries, but they make up two-thirds of today's missionary force. God has called them. The Church needs them. And the Lord is positioning SGC to better equip them. This is an exciting time!

By the grace of God and your partnership, 2025 has been a year of tremendous growth and accomplishment. We've equipped thousands of pastoral trainers through our in-person training events and the online delivery of our curriculum tools. And these men and women have trained thousands more. Classrooms have popped up in surprising places this year, including among Afghan refugees in northern Turkey, and in Iran, where 750 students are using the courses!



Tim Keep Sr.
Founder & President

End-Of-Year Giving

As we turn our attention to 2026 and wonder what good things the Lord has in store for us, I want to encourage you to make your best year-end gift. Our capacity to serve the body of Christ globally is especially increased with *translations and training*. More courses in more languages help us train more Christian leaders, and more Global Training events will help us launch more training programs in many more places. So, your generous gifts will position us to translate more, train more, and serve more in 2026 and beyond. Thank you for standing with us so faithfully.



WHY DOES TRAINING MATTER?

Dr. Randall McElwail
Director of Global Training

‘Do we really need to expend the money and effort to send training teams to other countries when there are so many other needs for missions and the church?’

This is a question I have been asked more than once. It is a valid question! Given the vast number of needs around the world, should global training be a priority? There are at least three reasons training matters for the global church:

1. Training deepens the biblical and theological understanding of the global church.

Martin Luther warned that anywhere God builds a church, the devil builds a chapel next door. He meant that although Satan cannot prevent the spread of the gospel, he tries to sow confusion by offering counterfeit versions of the message.

Today, we see many examples of Satan’s efforts to confuse believers through false doctrine. Alongside great revival in Africa, Satan has built a “chapel” of syncretism that blends elements of biblical Christianity with pagan practices such as consulting with witch doctors and the occult. Alongside the growth of the church in Asia, Africa and Latin America, Satan has built a “chapel” of prosperity theology that promises health and wealth to anyone who has true faith.

Millions of sincere believers have been misled by these false teachings. Because these believers do not have a clear understanding of biblical truth, they are susceptible to “YouTube evangelists” who teach heretical doctrines.

The answer to these false versions of the gospel is to build a solid foundation of biblical doctrine. This must start with the pastors. Because more than 85% of pastors lack adequate biblical and theological training, they are not always prepared to respond when their church members are being led astray.

As global trainers teach solid doctrine, pastors are equipped to combat false doctrine. Earlier this year, Johnathan Arnold taught dozens of pastors in Nigeria about the importance of sound doctrine. They learned biblical principles to refute false doctrine and to establish their members in sound doctrine. This training will equip pastors who serve in a country that faces both Islamic persecution from outside the church and false doctrine from inside the church.

2. Training increases the number of workers available to serve the global church.

It is easy for those of us who live in the United States to forget the great need for Christian workers in the Majority World. In the United States, there is one pastor for every 680 people. In addition, many of those who lead Bible studies, teach Sunday School, and direct music programs have access to some level of Bible training.

Compare this to the situation of the global church. The most optimistic estimates suggest that there is only one trained pastor for every 500,000 people outside the U.S. Most pastors in the Global South have received less training than the average youth pastor or minister of music in the United States!

The global church faces a desperate need for workers. Part of the answer to this need will come through traditional Bible colleges, seminaries, and long-term missionary training. We must continue to support these valuable ministries. However, most of the 85% of undertrained pastors in the Majority World have no access to this training. Informal training programs such as Shepherds Global Classroom can take the training to these pastors in their home villages.

I am writing this report from Pakistan, where Dr. Steve Oliver and I are meeting with a group of 15 church leaders who currently teach SGC courses to pastors and church workers. Because Pakistan is an Islamic Republic that

actively persecutes Christians, it is difficult to establish traditional Bible colleges. However, Shepherds Global Classroom has been given the privilege of partnering with Raja Samuel and the Antakya Church Leadership program to train a group of leaders to teach the SGC curriculum.

During the past two years, these leaders have established training programs in local churches throughout Pakistan. With no campus, no full-time faculty and few resources, they are training pastors and equipping lay leaders in villages throughout Pakistan. Through these informal programs, scores of Sunday school teachers, Bible study leaders, and lay leaders have been trained to serve in their local churches. Global training is serving the church in Pakistan by increasing the number of trained workers available for ministry.

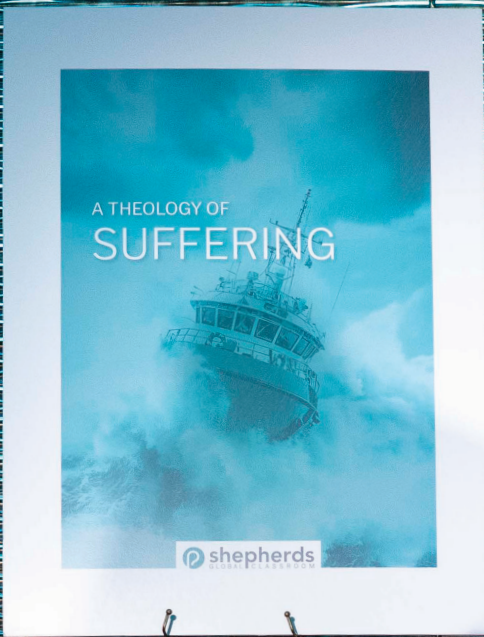
3. Training encourages unity in the global church.

From the beginning, Shepherds Global Classroom has sought to encourage unity and cooperation between churches. Our courses emphasize core doctrines that have been taught throughout the history of the church. As believers from

various backgrounds realize how much they have in common, the church is unified. To see one example of what this looks like, let me take you to the Mayukwayukwa Refugee Camp, a camp of more than 10,000 refugees in the middle of the Zambian desert. Several years ago, Pastor Allegri and a team from Africa85 began using SGC courses to train church leaders in the camp. There were 50 evangelical churches in this camp, but the churches were marked much more by division and strife than by Jesus' prayer "...that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me..." (John 17:23). As the church leaders have studied together, God has brought a new sense of unity among the churches at Mayukwayukwa. Pastors who had publicly condemned one another now are working together to see God's work move forward. Training has been one tool for bringing unity to the church.

Does training matter for the global church? Absolutely! By deepening the theological and biblical understanding of the church, by increasing the number of workers for the church, and by encouraging unity in the church, SGC's global training team serves hundreds of churches around the world. I am thrilled to see how God is using training as one tool to strengthen His church around the world.

COMING 2026



A THEOLOGY OF SUFFERING

We receive many requests for new courses, but one has been requested more than any other: a course that addresses suffering in the Christian life. Around the world, pastors and Christian leaders are walking with people through deep pain and loss, often without a solid biblical framework for understanding their suffering.

This new course, written under the leadership of Dr. Randall McElwain, offers that framework. It will help leaders guide their people with both truth and compassion, showing how God uses suffering to refine our faith, deepen our dependence on Him, and shape us into the likeness of Christ.



*Watch Video
Announcement*

12-MONTH SURVEY FEEDBACK

June 2024-June 2025



- ✿ **12,510**
Leaders Trained
- ✿ **7,386**
Of These Are Pastors
- ✿ **1,144**
Trainers Actively Using SGC
- ✿ **99**
*Countries Represented
In This Survey*
- ✿ **210,000**
*Courses Downloaded
In 2025*

In June 2025, Shepherds Global Classroom sent a survey to pastors and trainers who have indicated that they are actively using SGC resources. We received feedback from 51 trainers who oversee works in a total of 99 countries.

Because SGC materials are freely distributed worldwide in digital format, with open permissions for local printing, it is impossible to measure the full extent of their use. **The numbers and stories we receive represent only a fraction of the true impact**, which is far greater than what can be documented.

The Partner Survey is encouraging because it shows that the SGC curriculum is being used to train thousands of leaders worldwide, reaching into underserved areas with accessible, trusted curriculum, and equipping pastors who previously had little to no access to theological training.

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