

Possibilities Africa USA



Spiritual Leadership & Discipleship • Economic Productivity • Mentoring the Next Generation

USA.POSSIBILITIESAFRICA.ORG

A MESSAGE FROM OUR INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND FOUNDER, MARTIN SIMIYU

I grew up in a family of 9 children in the western part of Kenya, close to the border of Uganda. With God's provident hand and the encouragement of a hard-working and believing mother, my siblings and I grew up with a basic understanding of the Christian faith and had a chance to receive a basic education.

God provided an opportunity for me to leave my village and study in the capital city of Nairobi. Here, my eyes were opened to the power of the Gospel to save, starting my earnest journey as a disciple of Christ. Moving to Nairobi allowed me to build on my village education, eventually leading to an open door to study in the USA at Moody Bible Institute and Biola University. God used my journey from the village to the USA to open my eyes toward understanding how the Word of God works in people's lives, changing even whole communities and countries.

In 2002, while on a mission trip to Africa with students from Moody Graduate School, I shared my desire to start a ministry that would rally Africans to harness their innate, God-given ability to grow and develop from within the continent. In 2004, I worked to form and register Possibilities Africa USA as a 501(c)(3) in the USA.

Shortly after that, I returned to Kenya, where we formed Possibilities Africa Kenya, which works alongside Possibilities Africa USA to implement program activities in African villages. Over time, we have built the ministry's mission, vision, and model and, with God's grace, expanded to eight countries with plans to expand to many more.

We believe the people of Africa have the inner capacity, locally available natural resources, and strength, if harnessed and unleashed, to better their lives and transform the continent of Africa. Believers in Africa have the calling and mandate to be agents of change in equipping and championing the holistic transformation agenda for African people. In the following pages, we will tell you why we started, exactly what we do, and stories of people we have impacted.

We are grateful that God has brought so many people from all walks of life to invest in the mission and work of the African Church to transform poor communities in Africa.

...because with God all things are possible!

Martin Simiyu



THE QUESTION

WHY HAS AFRICA NOT SEEN SIGNIFICANT CHANGE DESPITE BILLIONS OF DOLLARS OF AID PROVIDED OVER THE YEARS?

THIS IS WHY WE EXIST

WE BELIEVE THAT THE WHOLE GOSPEL, IMPACTING THE WHOLE PERSON, TRANSFORMING THE WHOLE COMMUNITY IS THE ANSWER.

Although many people presume Africa lacks natural resources, it is, in fact, rich with diverse and abundant resources. But because rural villages have been especially plagued by decades of acute poverty, deprivation of opportunities, and corrupt government systems, many believe things can never change. People in poverty have become accustomed to waiting for the next handout because they haven't been taught that there is another way. Many lose themselves to illegal substances; nothing seems to matter, and the people have lost hope in a better tomorrow.

What would it take to see those impoverished do more than survive? What if they could truly thrive? This is where we come in. We do this in three ways:

- **Spiritual Leadership & Discipleship**
- **Economic Productivity**
- **Mentoring the Next Generation**

Possibilities Africa is dedicated to rebuilding hope by helping people realize they have the power to transform their lives, villages, and countries. This hope is not found in someone giving them another meal or handout but in a relationship with Jesus Christ. Through this model, we see a transformation beyond material things to people's spiritual, socio-economic, and psychological realities.



Cycles of extreme and all-inclusive poverty in Africa can be broken. Possibilities Africa strives to awaken every person, family, and community to their innate potential, responsibility, and opportunity that is within their reach for life-long transformation.

Possibilities Africa provides training and support to enable the God-given entrepreneurial spirit within Africans to grow and burn brightly. We come alongside the local church leadership and their congregation to give them a hand-up, rather than a handout.

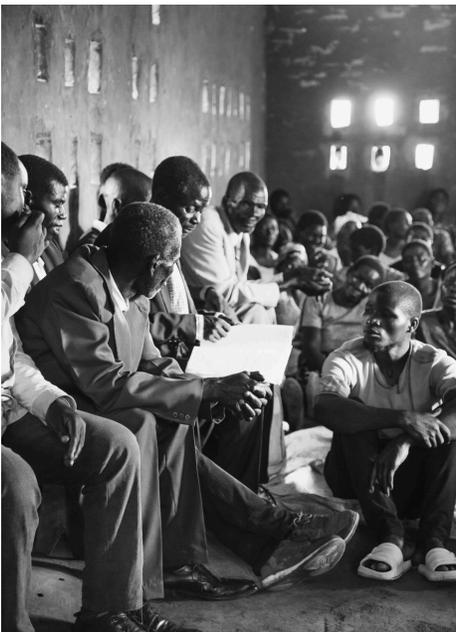
This model not only addresses a root issue of poverty, but also enables Africans to live with dignity and significance, rather than dependence on others.

Possibilities Africa cannot be quantified in numbers only but also mental shifts, cultural change, spiritual growth, and productivity.



WHY IS POSSIBILITIES AFRICA DIFFERENT?

- 01 **Possibilities Africa (PA) exists to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ.** Every training and program ultimately seeks greater Gospel access, regardless of a person's economic status or background. The heart of our business training is to provide financial stability for pastors to teach about Jesus.
- 02 **Possibilities Africa provides a hand-up** for economic productivity to the African people **instead of a handout.** While other programs ask Africans to stand in line for a temporary fix for their problems, **we believe people can change from the inside out.**
- 03 Possibilities Africa doesn't look for a problem to solve and impose a solution on Africans. **This may be the single greatest difference in our ministry. When PA gets involved, we allow the local people to define their problems for us.** Once they define the problem, Possibilities Africa works with them to find the best solution for them and the necessary resources for implementation.
- 04 **Possibilities Africa is African-led.** We have 20 staff members committed to serving and seeing change in their homeland. Knowing the language and culture is a huge advantage when recruiting and training pastors. **Decisions are made in Africa** by country boards and ministry staff.
- 05 Possibilities Africa brings the village groups to maturity, with each group having a structure, plan, and local drive to continue implementing activities under the three programs. We then relinquish the lead to the group so it can continue cultivating its agenda while we watch from an arms-length. **As we complete work in certain villages, they become self-sustaining.**
- 06 Most Africans believe ministry support ought to be provided by Westerners because Africa is a third-world country. **Possibilities Africa challenges this mindset by teaching local believers to grow in the culture of giving to community causes.**



OUR PROVEN MODEL

Possibilities Africa has witnessed how God transforms lives through **holistic transformation**. We do this by influencing the mindset of local pastors by inviting them to join a **2-year training** process where each pastor:

- Attends several weeklong training sessions
- Joins a local group of 10-30 other Possibilities Africa pastors that fosters encouragement, fellowship, and accountability
- Receives individual training and encouragement with onsite visits from the Possibilities Africa staff

Throughout this training we focus on three main areas:

1. **Spiritual Leadership & Discipleship**
2. **Economic Productivity**
3. **Mentoring the Next Generation**

3,150 SPIRITUAL LEADERS TRAINED



1. Spiritual Leadership & Discipleship

Most pastors in rural Africa have a calling from God but little or no formal training. They often lack the basic resources for ministry. This is why Possibilities Africa recruits pastors for a holistic, Bible-based training.

Possibilities Africa equips spiritual leaders who go through training to embrace holistic ministry in their communities using local accountability groups. They then model those groups to their congregations who are encouraged to start similar groups for further discipleship.

Only the Gospel of Jesus Christ has the power to change hearts and minds. When someone embraces God's love and mercy, that person is made new. **Family dynamics, workplace ethics, government practices—all these and more change as our leaders invite the presence of Jesus into every aspect of life.**

Through this lens of God's mercy, leaders preach the gospel, disciple believers, and apply life-giving Biblical principles so that every aspect of their community begins to flourish. **Over 3,150 spiritual leaders have been trained.**



Pastors training in Malawi



Pastors training in Ethiopia

Spiritual Leadership & Discipleship Testimony



MEET PASTOR EMMANUEL—A MAN OF FAITH WITH GREAT VISION TO TEACH AND APPLY EVERY ASPECT OF HOLISTIC TRANSFORMATION.

Possibilities Africa staff members describe Pastor Emmanuel as one of the most teachable, moldable pastors. He has implemented every aspect of the Possibilities Africa Bible Training known as **FEDS (Fellowship, Evangelism, Discipleship, and Service)** in his church and community.

Fellowship training casts a vision for warm and well-guided churches. The foundation is built on Acts 2:42, “They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.” **Evangelism training** challenges pastors to move away from what people in the United States would call “street preaching” and get creative about sharing the gospel. **Discipleship training** equips pastors to grow members in understanding how to follow Jesus in every aspect of life and be self-feeders of His Word. Lastly, **service training** compels pastors to seek the lost and the least including the poor, widows, and orphans.

When Pastor Emmanuel first returned home from Possibilities Africa training, he mobilized nine pastors in partnership with the local government to re-establish a much-needed dispensary. Today, the dispensary is fully functioning and his wife gave birth at that very hospital. Because he served his entire community through this initiative, **the church doubled in size from 60 to 132 members**, including a former drug addict who is now a born-again believer and church member.

Evangelism happened naturally through service in this example but Pastor Emmanuel also pursued people in two ways. First, he identified witches in his community and prayed for them by name. He encouraged his church to be bold in reaching out to them. Two witches passed away, another two moved, and one was saved by God’s grace. Second, Pastor Emmanuel organized a Bible study before youth soccer players took the field as a form of outreach.

Today, Pastor Emmanuel has financed Bible school for himself. He has equipped church leaders to care for the church while he is at school. Additionally, this pastor enrolled two members of his church in Bible school. All of this testifies to the power of training one pastor, as the result is a domino effect in the lives of many.



2. Economic Productivity

Every pastor who undergoes Possibilities Africa training is challenged to develop a micro-business to provide for their household. Their example is a model for church members who are also encouraged to start micro-businesses.

How it works:

1. Church members form small groups that create micro-savings and loaning enterprises. Possibilities Africa also puts money into these groups to make loans more available to group members.
2. Members take out loans on a rotating basis to create their micro-businesses.
3. The members repay the loans so the money can be loaned out again to another member. A small amount of interest is paid so the group's capital base can grow.

Local support and accountability have proven to be very effective in ensuring these loans are repaid, as **the repayment rate is nearly 100%**.



Through Possibilities Africa, people are developing businesses such as animal and vegetable farming, solar lighting, shops, and other economic projects in local communities throughout Africa that alleviate poverty.

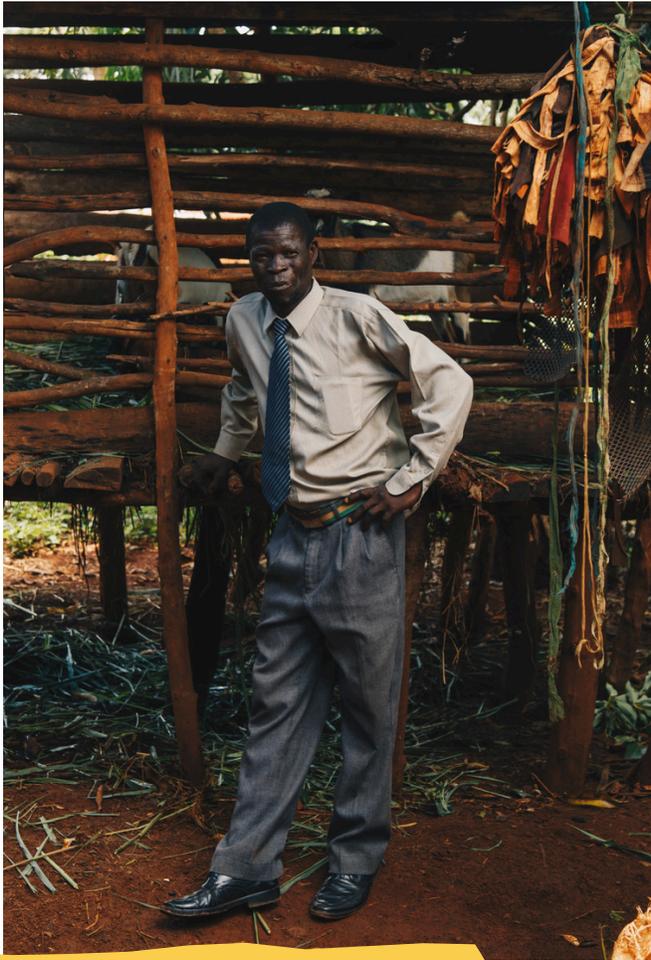
Over 20,300 micro-businesses have been

started. We have seen people jump from waiting for the next handout to believing they are made to do more. When this happens, they gain a sense of God's purpose in their lives, and their value is discovered!



A Possibilities Africa member in Kenya provides for herself and her family through sheep, chickens, produce, and a secondhand clothing store

Economic Productivity Testimony



PASTOR CHIMBALANGA'S FAMILY DISCOVERS HOPE FOR TOMORROW THROUGH MICRO-BUSINESSES.

Because most church members in rural Africa cannot tithe, pastors are left with little to no income. Therefore, business development creates greater opportunities for holistic health.

Pastor Chimbalanga began training with Possibilities Africa five years ago. Since then, he and his wife have started two micro-businesses, including sweet potato and goat production. Their businesses have enabled them to send their oldest of six to technical school. Technical school has the potential to break the status quo for their children and their children's children.

Additionally, Pastor Chimbalanga's family formerly lived in a hut-like home with a grass roof. With the income from their businesses, they were able to build a safer, new home with a tin roof.

The family's daily life has been profoundly transformed through economic opportunity, giving them genuine hope for breaking the cycle of generational poverty.



*Pastor Chimbalanga's
sweet potato garden*



*Pastor Chimbalanga and
his wife with goats behind*



*The family on the front
porch of their new home*



*One of Pastor
Chimbalanga's goats*



3. Mentoring the Next Generation

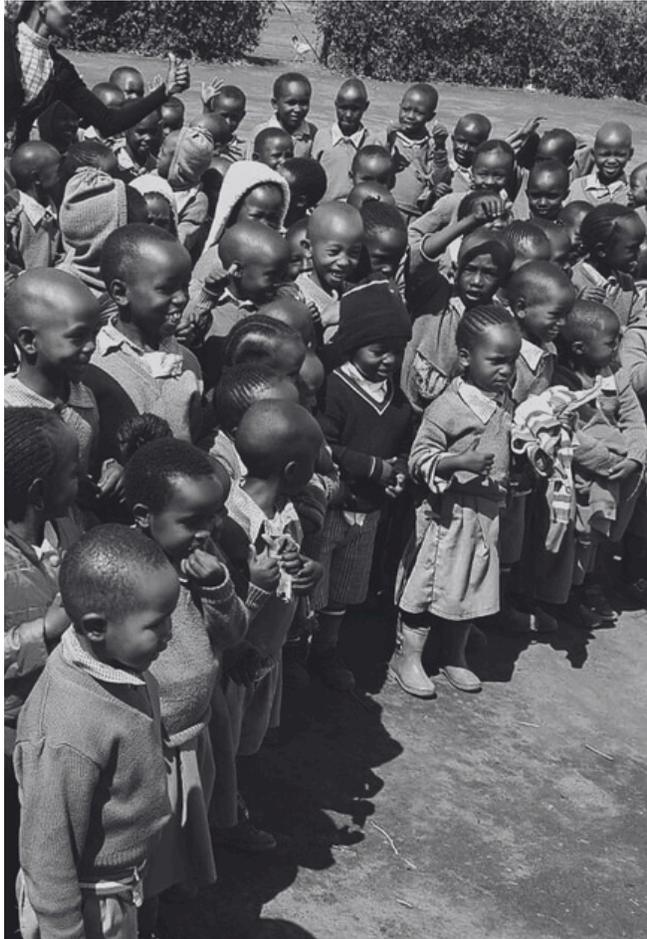
In the United States, it's common for our schedules to revolve around our children, their interests, and their activities. However, **in some areas of African countries, children are not even named until they reach an older age, when survival is more likely.** Birthdays are not celebrated, and many children do not receive schooling. Their role is to help support the family by gathering wood and water.

Yet, we know that today's youth will be tomorrow's leaders. This is especially important throughout Africa, as approximately 40% of the population is comprised of children under the age of 15. So, we train leaders to educate parents on the needs and value of children. Then, they decide what their children need and how to teach it. For example, some areas offer Vacation Bible School, and others have started preschools and Sunday school classes to teach Biblical truths.

Over 50,000 children are invested in annually because of the Possibilities Africa training that starts with the Bible. We also focus on casting a vision to the kids about how they can have a better tomorrow. At this age, we emphasize their spiritual growth, personal responsibility, and economic possibilities so they can become change agents in their families, communities, and countries.

An outcome of this ministry model we see is communities that are motivated and equipped to minister beyond children to orphans, the disabled, and widows.

Mentoring the Next Generation Testimony



PASTORS UNITE TO TRANSFORM CHILDREN'S LIVES THROUGH EDUCATION, SHOE OUTREACH, AND MENTORSHIP.

In rural Africa, children are often on their own for much of the time and left unprepared for school because men and women work in the fields. However, pastors in Malawi realized they needed to take responsibility for mentoring the next generation after receiving Possibilities Africa training.

A group of **25 pastors combined their resources to sponsor three early childhood development centers for 315 children between the ages of 2-5 years.**

The pastors' group in **the Ntchisi district of Malawi also developed the shoe distribution initiative. Now, 159 Children in central Malawi have shoes.** These children previously walked everywhere, including to school barefoot.

Beyond the physical need for shoes, children face several spiritual and cultural dilemmas. For example, in most African communities, boys and girls are initiated into adulthood through community rituals and rites that are harmful to the body and soul. Such traditional community events are filled with practices that cultivate unbiblical values.

Another group of **pastors in the Muranga community in Kenya started the "boys-to-men" program** after attending a PA training event where they were challenged to mentor the next generation in godliness. **Over 135 boys have been mentored** on topics including, drugs & substance abuse, the role of a man in society, holistic life with emphasis on the Word of God, self-discipline, the importance of education, sexuality, time management, and leadership skills.

This training is pivotal for many since most children do not receive training from their parents. The pastors encourage parents to be involved in this training, seeking to equip parents for mentoring the next generation.



WHY PARTNER WITH POSSIBILITIES AFRICA?

Possibilities Africa is making a radical impact in the lives of tens of thousands of people. Our model is reproducible, sustainable, and growth-focused. **We need you** because transformation cannot happen in this life-changing ministry without our generous partners.

We invest in **3,150 pastors and spiritual leaders** who are most familiar with the language and culture of their areas. **These leaders influence 1.3 million people** from their congregations and communities in eight countries: Kenya, Rwanda, Malawi, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Burundi, Zambia, and Uganda.

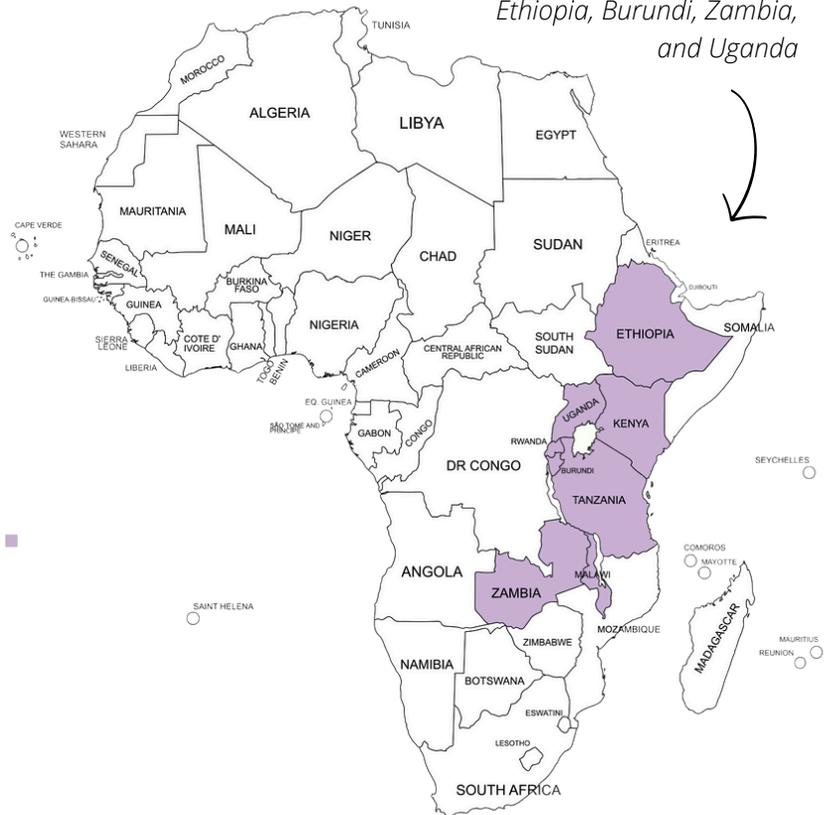
Looking ahead, Possibilities Africa seeks to expand its presence in African countries from 8 to 14 in three years.

In 2024, God expanded the impact of Possibilities Africa to Uganda. We're praying for God to take Possibilities Africa to Ghana and other countries in 2025. Our long-term vision is to reach every country on the African continent.

Many of these pastors live in communities where Islam is growing and they need to be equipped to share the good news of the Gospel.



We currently exist in Kenya, Rwanda, Malawi, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Burundi, Zambia, and Uganda



LEGAL STRUCTURE

Possibilities Africa USA (PA US) is a 501c3 non-profit US corporation. We are members of the ECFA (Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability) and complete a 990 report yearly. We use First Fruits, a financial firm based in Lincoln, Nebraska, for our bookkeeping records. Our partner, Possibilities Africa Kenya (PAK), is a legal nonprofit corporation in Africa. Each corporation has its own board of directors.

Financial accountability is verifiable and includes a written agreement with the ministry in Africa (PAK) detailing our mutual responsibilities. We must approve PAK's use of funds from PA US. We require a segregated account and an annual budget with regular financial reports and photographs to document the work in Africa.

We conduct regular visits to Africa to observe and evaluate the work firsthand, while a PAK representative travels to the United States to provide updates on ongoing initiatives. In addition, we perform thorough audits to ensure that all funds are used solely for their designated purposes. Possibilities Africa demonstrates spiritually mature leaders who are well-trained, children receiving quality education, flourishing micro-finance initiatives, and communities and nations experiencing measurable transformation.

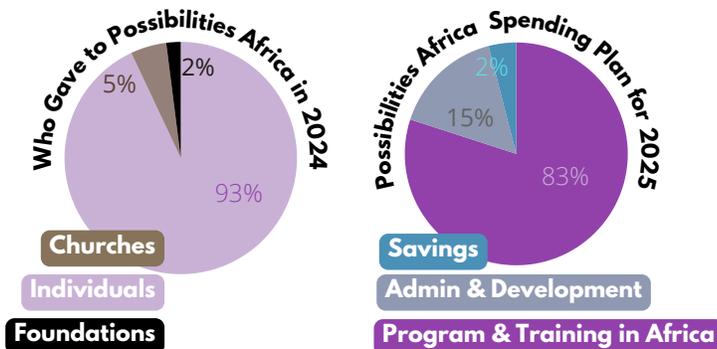


Some of the Possibilities Africa Staff with the 2024 USA team on the annual vision trip



FINANCIAL STRUCTURE

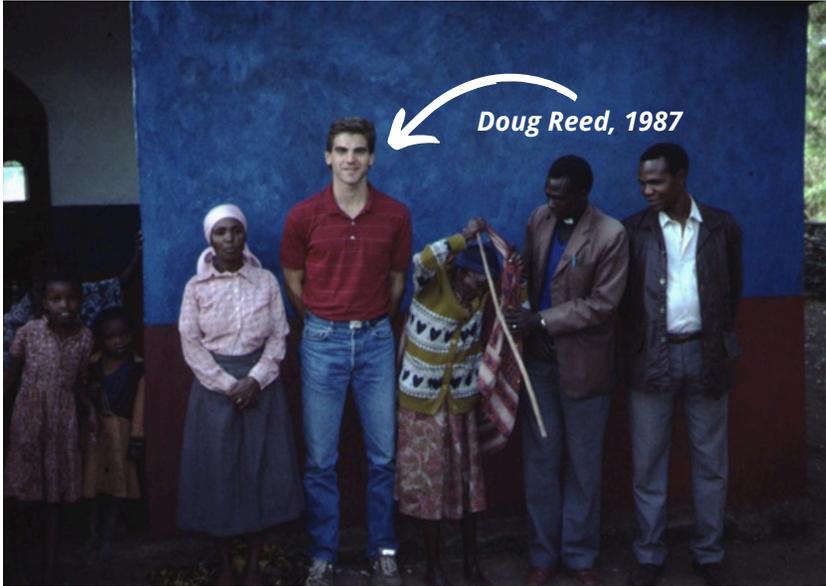
- **\$2,500** trains one pastor for a 2-year program.
- **\$25,000** trains 10 pastors (who together form a local accountability group) for a 2-year program.
- **\$250,000** launches a 2-year initiative in a new country. Once a new country is established, \$250,000 covers all costs for an entire 2-year period, including our specific goal of training a minimum of 200+ pastors in each new country in two years.



LETTER FROM THE MANAGING DIRECTOR

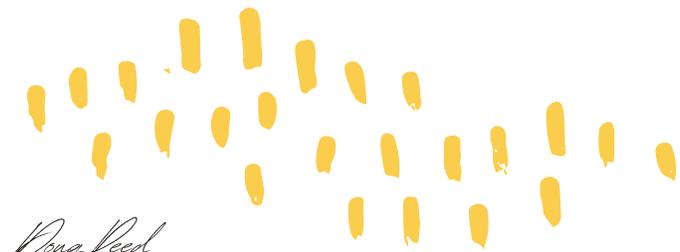
My name is Doug Reed and I am the Managing Director of Possibilities Africa USA. I am the only full-time staff person outside of Africa. I am married to Jill and we have three adult children. I have been working with PA since June 2019 and I believe more in this ministry now than the day I started. I was raised on a farm in south central Nebraska, the youngest of six children. I graduated from college with an Ag Education/Ag Economics degree.

After college, I farmed for 10 years and then felt called into the full-time ministry and served as a pastor for the next 21 years. During this time, I took classes at Bethel Seminary and earned a Master's in Divinity. My interest in missions began in 1987 when I spent a summer in rural Kenya showing the Jesus film with Campus Crusade for Christ (CRU). That summer our team of five college students showed the film to thousands of people with over 4,000 making a decision to follow Christ.



It was a privilege to see God work in this way. But one thing bothered me, who discipled these people? How many times have they raised their hands to accept Christ? I met the local pastors who loved God and had a calling to serve God but did not have an opportunity to be trained. I saw a need, but not knowing the language or culture I did not know what to do with it.

Fast forward to 2019, I was in Tanzania on a mission trip with our church when I heard more about Possibilities Africa and how for 15 years they had been training pastors, helping start small businesses, and educating children. This resonated with not only my education but also my passion. I love this ministry and I think you will as well. If you have any questions or would just like to talk, please don't hesitate to get in touch with me.



Doug Reed

Doug Reed
Managing Director PA, USA
dreed@possibilitiesafrica.org
308.991.0402

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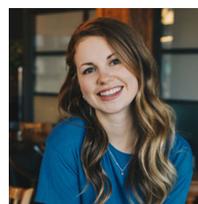


Martin Simiyu
Nairobi, Kenya



CREATIVE DIRECTOR

My name is Emily Frenzen and I work 30 hours per week as the Creative Director for Possibilities Africa USA. There are many colorful threads of my life that God has woven into a beautiful fabric for this role. I was raised on a farm in east central Nebraska, where the foundational values of stewardship, service, and benevolence were established in me. Writing and photography were my favorite creative outlets from an early age. This led me to pursue a degree in Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Communication. I spent six years as the Chief Storyteller for the Engler Entrepreneurship Program at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. During my last two years there, I earned a Master of Applied Science Degree, majoring in Leadership and Entrepreneurship with a minor in Advertising and Public Relations. This experience was incredibly formative in preparing me for my current role and teaching me the value of an entrepreneurial mindset. Fast forward to today and I'm eager to serve this organization because I am passionate about giving a voice to people who have been powerless or oppressed. As much as I love my work and the people I encounter, I am loved by my Savior all the more. I am fully convinced that His love is better than life. Until He calls me home, I'm grateful to have a small part in His grand work through Possibilities Africa. If you join us in shaking things up for the Kingdom of God, you won't regret it. Ask us about partnering.



Emily Frenzen

Emily Frenzen
Creative Director PA, USA
efrenzen@possibilitiesafrica.org
308.550.0931

CONNECT WITH US



Monthly Prayer via Zoom

Join us for 30 minutes of prayer for Possibilities Africa via Zoom on **the first Tuesday of each month at 9 a.m. CST**. Go to bit.ly/PAusaZoom or scan the QR code to join the virtual prayer room.

Meeting ID: 791 0886 4125

Passcode: paUSA418



4:18 Podcast

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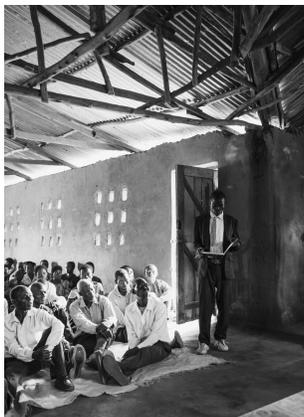
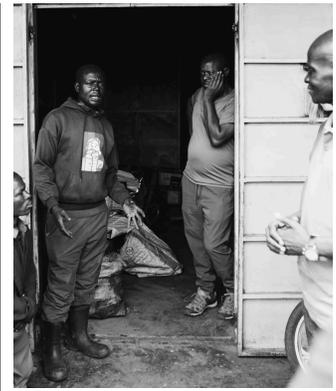


Scan the QR code or go to linktr.ee/possibilitiesafricausa to hear the untold stories of what God is doing in African countries.



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TRANSFORMING LIVES IN AFRICA FOR 20 YEARS

**“WITH MAN THIS IS
IMPOSSIBLE, BUT
WITH GOD ALL
THINGS ARE
POSSIBLE.”**

MATTHEW 19:26

