



Report to the Africa Assemblies of God Alliance

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By
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Director

Decade of Pentecost Update



On March 5, 2009, at their General Assembly held in Johannesburg, South Africa, the Africa Assemblies of God Alliance (AAGA) unanimously committed themselves to a “Decade of Pentecost” extending from 2010 to 2020. The Decade of Pentecost is a ten-year, cooperative Spirit-empowered missionary emphasis of our 50 national Assemblies of God churches in sub-Saharan Africa and the Indian Ocean Basin.

The cornerstone of the emphasis is the aim to see 10 million new believers baptized in the Holy Spirit and mobilized as Spirit-empowered witnesses, church planters, and cross-cultural missionaries. To date, this powerful spiritual emphasis has resulted in thousands of new churches being planted, millions of people coming to Christ, dozens of new African missionaries being deployed, and several previously unreached tribes of sub-Saharan Africa being engaged with the gospel.

AAGA Decade of Pentecost Goals

The African Church has set bold goals for the Decade of Pentecost. The central goal of the emphasis...

- ...is to see **10 million** new believers baptized in the Holy Spirit and mobilized as Spirit-empowered witnesses.

Other key goals which flow from this central goal include

- Raising up **100,000** intercessors who will pray daily for a Pentecostal outpouring upon the African church,
- Planting **tens of thousands** of new Spirit-empowered missionary churches,
- Training **thousands** of new Spirit-empowered ministers,
- Recruiting, training, and deploying **hundreds** of new Spirit-empowered missionaries,
- Engaging the **850+** unreached people groups of sub-Saharan Africa.

DOP Progress

On Pentecost Sunday last year (15 May 2016) the Decade of Pentecost entered into its seventh year. Reports from across the continent continue to encourage us. They point to an ever increasing momentum among the churches in the areas of evangelism, church planting, missions, and ministerial training. Thus far, in 51 Acts 1:8 Conferences conducted by AIA in 37 countries for 40 national churches in in Sub-Saharan Africa and the Indian Ocean Basin, our AAGA-related national churches have set the following specific Decade of Pentecost goals:

- Spirit baptisms 60% - 100%
- New church plants 49,612
- New believers/members 9,443,546
- Ministers trained 30,170
- Missionaries deployed 2,174 (by 2025)
- UPG's engaged 208 + the UPG's of Cameroon
- Intercessors 80,200

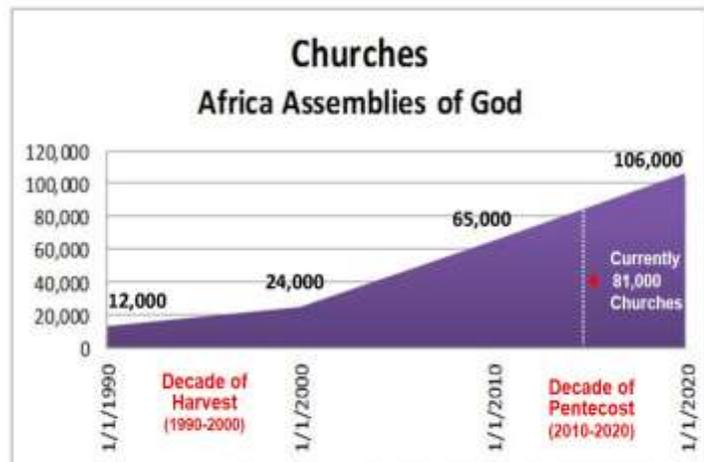
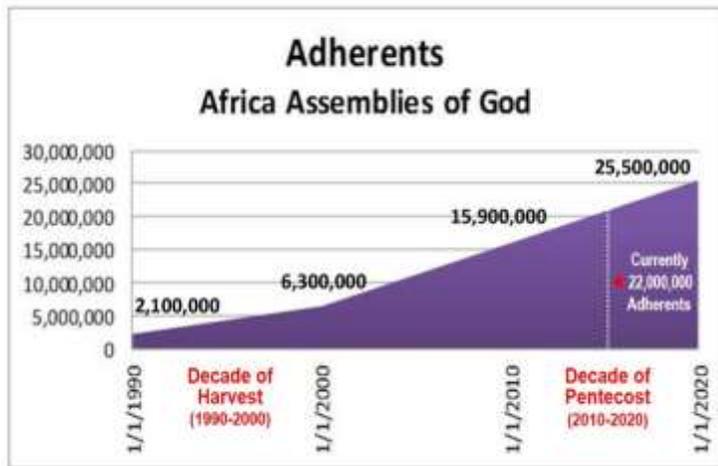
Note: A region-by-region and country-by-country breakdown of these goals can be found in the “Africa Assemblies of God DOP Goals Summary included in this report.

While some national churches are advancing rapidly, others are advancing more slowly. Nevertheless, all are committed to moving forward in the power of the Holy Spirit. They are taking significant steps to mobilize themselves for greater church planting and missions.

The Africa AG began the decade with 15.9 million members and adherents meeting in 65,000 local assemblies across Sub-Sahara Africa and the Indian Ocean Basin. At the end of 2015 (the latest available statistics) the movement cited 22,318,822 adherents meeting in 81,483 local assemblies.

This growth represents a net gain of 6.4 million members and adherents and more than 16 thousand new churches in six years. While accurate statistics on Spirit baptisms are difficult to compile, church leaders are reporting powerful outpourings of the Spirit in the churches.

Note: A projection of the hoped-for outcomes of the Decade of Pentecost emphasis is charted on the right.



Acts in Africa Initiative



In October 2004, in Accra, Ghana, AAGA commissioned AIA to help them mobilize the AG Africa for a continent-wide Pentecostal revival in anticipation of the greatest missionary advance in the history of the African church. At that time, AIA was given a twofold mandate:

First, AAGA called on AIA *“to serve AAGA and the national churches working in relationship with AAGA in calling for a powerful Pentecostal outpouring in our churches.”*

Next, AAGA called on AIA *“to plan and conduct Holy Spirit conferences throughout Africa aimed at calling the church to Pentecostal renewal.”*

Five years later, in 2009, when AAGA launched the Decade of Pentecost emphasis, AIA was asked to facilitate and help direct this effort. Today, AIA continues to work hard to fulfill those mandates. AIA’s mission is *“Mobilizing the African church for Spirit-empowered mission.”* To fulfill that mission, the ministry has committed itself to four tasks:

- **Inspiring** God’s people to passionately pursue Christ’s mission in the power of the Holy Spirit.
- **Training** believers in authentic Pentecostal principles and practice.
- Providing **Resources** for African leaders seeking to lead their churches into Pentecostal experience and practice.
- Leading an **Intercessory Prayer Movement** for an outpouring of the Spirit and for the evangelization of the yet-to-be-reached people of Africa and beyond.

Acts 1:8 Conferences

One way AIA serves AAGA is by conducting “Acts 1:8 Conferences” for AAGA-related national churches. In these missions mobilization conferences, pastors and leaders receive inspiration, direction, and the Spirit’s empowering. They also develop strategies and set goals for DOP advance. AIA has conducted conferences in the following countries:

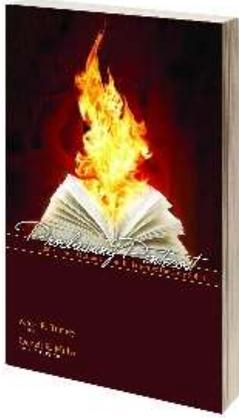
Benin	DRC (Isiro)	Madagascar (x3)	Togo (School of the Spirit)
Botswana	DRC (Lubumbashi) (x3)	Malawi (x2)	Senegal
Burkina Faso (x2)	Equatorial Guinea	Mali (School of the Spirit)	Sierra Leone
Burundi	Ethiopia (x2)	Mauritius	South Africa (x2)
Cameroon	Gabon (x2)	Namibia	Swaziland (x2)
Central African Rep.	Ghana	Niger	Zambia
Chad	Guinea	Nigeria	Zimbabwe
Republic of Congo	Kenya (x2)	Reunion	
Cote d’Ivoire	Lesotho	Rwanda	
DRC (Kinshasa)	Liberia	Tanzania (x4)	

AIA Highlights

Resources

One goal of AIA is to provide biblically sound, missional Pentecostal resources to our pastors and church leaders across Africa. To accomplish this goal, AIA continues to actively produce and publish books, booklets, tracts, and other Pentecostal resources. Those resources also include Sunday school lessons, sermon outlines, lecture notes, children’s ministry helps, and audio and video presentations. Tens of thousands of these resources have been distributed throughout Africa in paper and digital format.

Proclaiming Pentecost Project



In 2014 AIA launched its “Proclaiming Pentecost Project.” The goal of the project is to place a copy of the book, *Proclaiming Pentecost: 100 Sermon Outlines on the Power of the Holy Spirit*, into the hands of every AG pastor and Bible School student in Africa. Our hope is that this powerful resource will inspire our pastors to preach often and effectively on the baptism in the Holy Spirit and that, as a result, hundreds of thousands of AG members will be empowered by the Holy Spirit.

The book is now available in English, French, Portuguese, Spanish, Swahili, Moore, and Amharic. It is currently being translated into other languages. To date, we have placed the book in the hands of more than 35,000 pastors in the following 27 countries:

- | | | | |
|-------------------|------------|-----------------------|------------|
| Benin | Nigeria | Namibia | The Gambia |
| Cameroon | Congo | Sao Tome and Principe | Liberia |
| Cote d’Ivoire | Ethiopia | Sierra Leone | Niger |
| Chad | Tanzania | South Africa | Senegal |
| DRC | Botswana | Swaziland | Togo |
| Equatorial Guinea | Lesotho | Burkina Faso | |
| | Mozambique | | |

The ministry is working hard to distribute the book in other countries. (As a side note, the Spanish version of the book is also being used in several Latin American countries, including El Salvador, Peru, and Ecuador.)

In addition to *Proclaiming Pentecost*, AIA has just produced a second sermon outline book dealing with missions themes. This new book is entitled, *Proclaiming Christ to the Nations: 100 Sermon Outlines on Spirit-empowered Mission*. The new book is already available in English e-book format from the Decade of Pentecost website. It will soon be published in print format and translated into other African languages.



Inspiration

AIA also seeks to inspire the Africa AG to rise up in the power of the Holy Spirit and become the great missionary force God intends it to be.

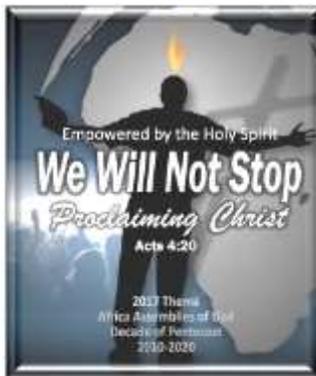
Decade of Pentecost Report

One way AIA does this is by producing a monthly e-newspaper called the *Decade of Pentecost Report*. In the *Report*, AIA reports on the various movings of the Holy Spirit and missions advances of the AG from across Africa. As a leaders in one part of Africa, read about what God is doing in other parts of Africa, they will be inspired to do more themselves. Each month the *Report* in is produced in English, French, and Portuguese. This month we sent out the 71st edition of the paper.

Intercessory Prayer Call

AIA also sends out the *Intercessory Prayer Call* each month. The *IPC* is part of our prayer mobilization strategy. Each edition features a different strategic emphasis. Recurring items include a country prayer focus, and a focus on a particular unreached people group in Africa. AIA has produced 91 editions of the *IPC*. It and the *Decade of Pentest Report* are sent out to about 10,000 recipients each month.

Annual Themes



Each year AIA produces a new Decade of Pentecost theme to help churches pursue their DOP goals. Each theme is carefully chosen to reflect Jesus' command to His disciples be empowered by the Spirit in order to fulfill God's mission of reaching the nations with the gospel. This year's theme is "*Empowered by the Spirit—We will not Stop Proclaiming Christ.*" The theme is inspired by Peter and John's words in Acts 4:20. When commanded to stop preaching and teaching in Christ's Name, they replied, "Judge for yourselves whether it is right in God's sight to obey you rather than God. For we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard."

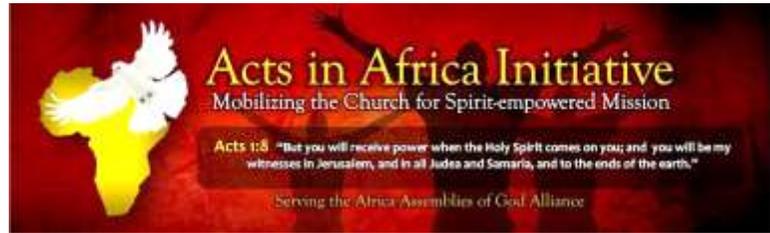
As we move into our eighth year of the Decade of Pentecost we could be tempted to move away from the message of Christ and begin preaching more popular messages as other preachers are doing. We must, however, resist this temptation and continue to preach Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit. For only the message of Christ will lead people to eternal life (Acts 4:12).

Embracing the 2017 theme will help to ensure that we remain true to our calling of proclaiming Christ to all. In His Great Name we will proclaim the message of salvation, plant Spirit-empowered missionary churches, and send missionaries to the unreached people and places of Africa and beyond.

African AG leaders have used these annual themes to promote Spirit-empowered witness in their churches. Helps, such as posters, bumper stickers, and sermon outlines can be downloaded from the DecadeofPentecost.org website.

Websites

Acts in Africa supports two websites to promote its ministries. This year both have been improved and updated. The Acts in Africa website (www.ActsinAfrica.org) provides current information on the ministry. It explains AIA's vision, core values and commitments to AAGA Audio and video messages taught and preached at Acts 1:8 Conferences can be listened to or downloaded from this sight.



Our second website, www.DecadeofPentecost.org, exists to help African churches and pastors connect with the Decade of Pentecost emphasis. Free downloadable resources on the site include digital books, booklets, DOP planning helps, national DOP declarations, audio and video messages, Sunday school lesson, tracts, sermon outlines, teaching outlines, and children's ministry links. You can also find active links to many Africa AG national churches and ministries as well as many other helpful Pentecostal links. We are also in the process of updating ActsinAfrica.org website also.



Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Denny Miller".

Denny Miller
Director