

Decade of Pentecost Report

Reporting on the Move of the Spirit in the Africa Assemblies of God

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The Assemblies of God in Zambia Look to the Future with Bold Faith

During a recent Acts 1:8 Conference, the Zambia Assemblies of God boldly committed themselves to the most aggressive church planting and missions outreach in the church's history.

On August 21-24, about 270 pastors and lay leaders gathered at the Chawama Assemblies of God church in Lusaka to engage with Jesus' final promise to His church: "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses...to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8).

During early morning prayer sessions, delegates interceded for the lost people of Zambia and the world. Then during teaching sessions, they learned about the role of the Holy Spirit in reaching them for Christ. Finally, in evening rallies, they called on God's Spirit to empower them for the task ahead.

The conference, conducted by the Acts in Africa Initiative, was chaired by Rev. Lipenga Banda, General Superintendent of the Zambia AG. Following the conference, Banda testified, "We have been encouraged and refocused through the Acts 1:8 Conference. We desire to see God use us in the next five years to bring about the transformation of our current 130 churches, and to birth 250 new Spirit-empowered churches."

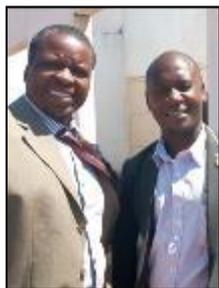
AIA team members participating in the conference were Denny Miller, Sandy Miller, Mark Turney, Enson Lwesya, and Christine Lwesya. Please pray with us for the Zambia Assemblies of God.

—Dr. Denny Miller, Director, Acts in Africa Initiative



Conference delegates listen intently to a lecture on "The Holy Spirit and the Mission of God"

The Flame Quickly Spreads



General Supt. Lipenga Banda with Pastor Keegan Choongwe

Following the conference on Saturday, Pastor Keegan Choongwe immediately returned to his church in Solwezi, some twelve hours from Lusaka. His heart was so aflame with the message of Pentecost that on Sunday morning he preached a message on the empowering work of the Holy Spirit.

He testified, "Just after returning from the Acts 1:8 Conference I shared message from Acts 1:8, emphasizing the need and importance of being baptized in the Holy Spirit." At the close of his message, he called the whole church forward for prayer. He continued, "The people cried out to the Lord, and a number of brothers and sisters were filled with the Spirit evidenced by speaking tongues." Concluding his testimony, he wrote, "The leaders of church have resolved to continue to emphasize the message of Acts 1:8." Pastor Choongwe's story is typical of many pastors who have participated in Acts 1:8 Conferences across Africa.

Church Adopts Declaration

At the close of the Acts 1:8 Conference in Zambia, delegates unanimously adopted an "Acts 1:8 Declaration" developed during the conference. In the declaration, they vowed, "We will seek God for a genuine Pentecostal revival, striving to see 100% of our members baptized in the Holy Spirit and empowered as Christ's witnesses to the lost." They will do this to prepare themselves to plant 250 new churches and to train 250 new pastors by the end of 2024.

Their commitment further states, "We commit ourselves to participate in God's mission through planting churches and mobilizing ourselves to send missionaries to unevangelized and unreached places." The declaration also listed 15 strategies for attaining these goals.



Church leaders and AIA team members pray over "Acts 1:8 Declaration."



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