

TRAINING LEADERS. REACHING MEN.



Men of Valor Going to Sierra Leone

On January 8, Brad and Peter Larison from Reston Bible Church will be traveling to Sierra Leone. Peter is an MOV veteran, having been to Haiti, Kenya, and Malawi. Thanks to the work of missionary Phil Schlener, MOV will go to three cities: Makeni, Kabala, and Daru, to conduct two-day conferences for an anticipated 450 men. We will teach on a man's position before God, his priorities, and his practices.

In Makeni and Kabala, the conferences will be attended by church leaders, laymen, and community men. In Daru, we will train just leaders, working with Pastor Musa Kpaka, Director of the Evangelical Free Church of West Africa, who has built a training center for church leaders at Sierra Leone's Army's 1st Battalion Headquarters.

This will be MOV's first time to Sierra Leone; however, Phil has already captured interest in launching an MOV team in Sierra Leone! One of Phil's contacts, Pastor Samuel Sesay, met with Brad on a recent U.S. visit. He told us that while studying in England a few years ago, he attended a large men's conference. *"And I prayed and cried out to God that someday could we have a men's movement like this in our country of Sierra Leone. Men of Valor may be God's answer!"*

The trip costs will top out at \$11,300. This covers airfare, visas, trip insurance, vaccinations/meds, in-country costs for our team, as well as Bibles, notebooks, certificates, and food and water for the men attending the three conferences. We are praising God to report that \$2,600 (23%) has already been given or pledged.

Would you prayerfully make a gift toward the trip? As you consider your end-of-year giving, please support MOV's trip to Sierra Leone. Thank you for praying about this and for the men that God is leading to attend the conferences.



Pastor Musa Kpaka and missionary Phil Schlener, Sierra Leone trip coordinators



MOV Can Help Your Church

Is your church involved in foreign missions? Are your missionaries and national pastors struggling to reach men? Let them know about Men of Valor. We'd be happy to come alongside and conduct a discipleship-launching men's conference. Write info@movinternational.org or call 703.989.1792.

Celebrating Like-Minded Ministries: Noble Warriors

Our friend and fellow ambassador to men, Mike Young of Noble Warriors, highlighted MOV in a recent newsletter (<http://noblewarriors.org/celebrating-like-minded-ministries-mov/>). Mike has been a mentor and advisor to Men of Valor for several years, and though he heads his own organization to foster men's discipleship throughout Virginia, he is also now the president of the National Coalition of Ministries to Men (<http://ncmm.org/>). So, Mike, right back at you brother! Please check out Noble Warriors at noblewarriors.org. If you live in Virginia and are looking for a plan to disciple men, Noble Warriors offers conferences, resources, and advice. Tell your pastor about Noble Warriors!



MEN OF VALOR

MISSION : *To be a catalyst for men's discipleship. MOV equips church leaders around the world to reach and engage men to live out their biblical position, priorities, and practices as men of valor.*

VISION : *To see flourishing families, thriving churches, and revived communities through God's men of valor.*

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MOV-Malawi to Conduct Conferences in Tanzania & Mozambique in 2018

Our vision is for men's discipleship to flourish in every country, and we are excited to report that Pastor Charles Mwase and his MOV Leadership Team will not only be conducting MOV conferences in Malawi but also in neighboring Tanzania and Mozambique. This is a huge step forward to have national pastors taking the MOV message across borders!

A pastor from Burundi spoke on behalf of MOV four years ago at Nyarugusu Refugee Camp in northeast Tanzania, but MOV has been invited to return, and Charles will take this conference. The refugees here are from the Congo as a result of civil disturbances that happened several years ago. Pastor Innocent Rahini, our local contact, says the camp continues to grow and now has about 141,400 residents - mostly from the Congo, but recent upheaval in Burundi and Somalia have brought more residents.

"However," Rahini writes, "men have no dignity in the church because they have no dignity in their society. So many of the humanitarian organizations only empower women, reserving for them the high place to occupy in the family... There are many rights for women but none for men." Rahini's concern about this is that men will no longer act responsibly if they "only consider the world's teachings and omit God's". He feels that "changing the men is everything and will help them, their families, and churches, and gradually impact the refugee community and citizen community surrounding the camp." Please pray for him and Charles as they work on this conference together.

The second conference in Tanzania would be for the Mbeya Baptist Association. Pastor Issa Mwasinyanga of the UHAI Baptist Congregation has asked for MOV to come to southwestern Tanzania since they were unable to attend the Mbeya city conference this past spring. Charles' Team will also do this conference. No dates have been set, but we anticipate the two conferences to take place in the summer.

Pastor Charles is also developing plans for a conference in Mozambique in August, 2018. He anticipates some 63 churches coming together based on his initial surveys.

Please consider supporting these nationally led conferences. Go online to <https://movinternational.donor-tools.com/my/funds> and select the "Across Borders" project. Or specify "Across Borders" with your check to MOV.



MOV-Malawi Team

Malawi Update

We received sad news this year. Charles Mwase reported that Bishop Daniel Thomas Chimphangu, a member of the MOV-Malawi team, died suddenly in early October. Our deepest sympathies are extended to Brother Daniel's family and friends. Please keep them and Charles in your prayers.



A Time to be Thankful

When David left Jerusalem and it looked as though Absalom would usurp his throne, David's world was falling apart. This was an upsetting, desperate time. The Bible records in 2 Samuel that he and many of his supporters wept as they departed. But it was in this situation that he wrote Psalm 63, "My soul is satisfied as with marrow and fatness, and my mouth offers praises with joyful lips. When I remember You on my bed, I meditate on You in the night watches, for You have been my help..." (NASB v.5-7a)

What strikes me here is that while he was in this sad, fearful situation in the wilderness (again!) David talks of being sated - satisfied, **full!** God has been his help throughout his life... and he is satisfied. Not upset, not begging God to help, but satisfied...content...and thankful.

Thanksgiving is supposed to be the time we remember the Lord's blessings. Of course, we often laugh about eating too much; maybe instead we ought to *remember* much. Our soul should be full. God has been our help!

I am grateful, satisfied with what He has done in and through MOV in these years. And especially this year: multiple conferences by a national team in Malawi; a burgeoning work in Kenya (more on that later!); prisoners, pastors, and ordinary men understanding who they are in Christ and taught how to live it; conferences in Tanzania, Kenya, and soon in Sierra Leone... with many more opportunities on the horizon.

"My mouth offers praises..." from a full heart.

- Brad

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1. ONLINE: movinternational.org/support-mov/
2. ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER: Contact MOV at 703.989.1792
3. MAIL: Men of Valor, P.O. Box 223793, Chantilly, VA 20153

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