

# DIGNITY UPDATE: Zambia

## Overview

The last two months have seen a lot of pioneering work take place in various locations. I (Jon) have spent time in Botswana and Namibia (to add to Kenya in August). Bernard and others have visited Siavonga Province, Nakonde and elsewhere. It's been busy!

In every location we are looking for those few people who become a foundation for the future. I was recently encouraged by the photo to the right taken 5 years ago. Often we have no idea what God is doing at a given time, it is when we look back that we see clearly. It is the same in all of the regions we are currently visiting. We do not see or realise what God is building for the future.



That said, we can take encouragement from planted Life Groups smashing through the 700 barrier and the extremely high percentage of Life groups continuing to stay the course, bringing Christ to people and transforming their community.

## Dignity Zambia

### Life Groups (including Deeper Campaign)

- We have smashed through the **700 groups being planted mark!** The official number of Life Groups planted is 734, of which **666 groups are actively meeting at present.** That is really amazing and a testimony to the efforts of every team member and person involved with Dignity.
- Stories continue to emerge of the change that the work of Dignity brings, such as the **story of the Talantata choir.** (<https://dignityonline.org.uk/the-staggering-choir/>)

## Impact Teams

- **Impact Teams have continued to grow.** A dynamic has in the last year has seen some older standing members step down to be replaced with newer members. That is exciting!
- **EQUIP training at Ndubaluba October:** Part of the regular support for teams are our EQUIP training courses. Having recently run training for new team members, we decided to focus on longer standing team members for October's EQUIP. The theme of the training was 'Follow the One' with the main sessions being about 'Following Jesus the shepherd', 'Follow the Lost', and 'Follow the Right Way'. As part of this process, I developed a leadership tool called 'The Journey' so each team can assess where they are up to on their journey with God to reach out.
- **EQUIP in 2019:** An exciting piece of news is that we have developed a way to enable our Impact Teams to run EQUIP training in their respective areas. The photo above is of a post where Jon and representatives from the main areas spent some time setting a programme and method of how to do this. This should enable more investment in a wider group of leaders.



# DIGNITY UPDATE: Developing Regions

## Namibia (with crossover to Botswana)

- With the work in Rundu in October, **we are actively attempting to make this team larger**. Currently the team is centred in North Eastern Namibia. With the new input, we are shifting the focus westwards and northwards towards the interior of Namibia and Southern Angola.
- About **35 people came to the training event in Rundu from wide area of about 500km**. The event felt good and we are doing some follow up and waiting to see what will happen in terms of new areas.



## Tanzania

- It seems that we are overcoming our communication problems. Through a volunteer translator in the UK and also through personal meeting and training, **the team seems to be coming together**.
- Life Groups in their area have **grown by about 40%** this year.
- We are working towards having a locally led EQUIP course in Tanzania at the beginning of 2019.

## Kenya

- Following on from our visit to Ganze, we are seeking a person in the region who can **build and maintain momentum**, acting as an encourager to existing Life Groups and helping others plant new Life Groups.

## 3 Key Items for Prayer

- Pray for the growing work in Southern Angola. This is linked to North Namibia. There are a handful of people who have planted and are interested in planting Life Groups in their areas. Pray that this will happen.
- Pray for the pioneering areas that we have struggled to make headway in. We need them to open up!
- Pray for every group leader and every team member as they take the light to their respective communities. Pray especially for Osia whose husband is ill, Pilius who has a seriously sick child and Moses who welcomed his new daughter into the world.



# DIGNITY UPDATE: The Numbers

From Southern Africa, including Developing Regions

Measurable	Number to date, 2018	Previous Update	End 2017	Comments <i>(*these numbers are cumulative since Dignity began. All other numbers are for the current year)</i>
<b>Number of Active Life Groups*</b>	<b>666</b>	606		These numbers are from the latest numbers audit and compiled from teams Life Group Reports.
<i>(Number of which meet seasonally)</i>	31			We have begun to track stopped groups and differentiate seasonal groups (where a group migrates part of the year due to farming, fishing etc.) This measurement will help us intentionally focus on areas that need extra input.
Number of Life Groups currently paused or stopped*	68	67		
<b>Total number of Life Groups Planted*</b>	<b>734</b>	673	574	
<b>Distinct Life Group Areas Planted*</b>	<b>232</b>	210		
Number of clusters*	34	34	31	We believe this number has grown but we have not verified the data yet.
<b>Trained Impact Team Missionaries *</b>	<b>61</b>	61	47	
Active Impact Team Missionaries this year to date.	43	43		We now note team members as inactive if they are not currently contributing. The number of trained members has risen.
Impact Team Areas*	15	15	13	Includes small beginnings in Kenya
Impact Team Training course (visit or central EQUIP)	12	9	10	Including Kenya and other assessment visits
<i>Intelligence Schools of Evangelism</i>	3	2	5	Including Rundu
Areas Initial Visit	118	93	71	Data from Zambia & Kenya only
Life! Group Training Courses	38	24	79	Data from Zambia & Kenya only
Encouragement visits	208	176	25	Data from Zambia & Kenya only
<b>Volunteer hours</b>	<b>31,440</b>	21,376	23,296	*Estimated figures based on 1 leader volunteering 4 hours/month per Life Group. <u>Now also includes 8 hours per initial visit and encouragement visit 36 hours per training course</u>

# DIGNITY UPDATE: Central Administration

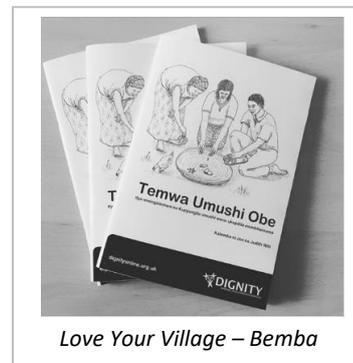
CORE

## Overview

Since our last report we have continued to work on materials and translation and the digital support to start publishing these online. We have also been working to build up our team here in the UK and preparing for *Beyond Zambia* and *Launch*.

## Core: Sharing our Knowledge

- We have pushed forward with our **Foundations Series** with each book progressing. We will do a print run of Book 1 soon.
- **Plant** has been translated into Kwangali (typesetting done, final edits to be incorporated), Luchazi and Lozi (both to be typeset). These languages are spoken in Namibia & Angola. When these are complete Plant will be available in 7 languages.
- **Love Your Village (Bemba)** and **Rooted in Jesus 4 (Lunda)** will make their way to Zambia this month.
- We are almost at the point of moving over to our new database system. This is the first big step towards **publishing our materials and training sessions digitally**. Our first set of **training videos is now available on YouTube** so we can share these with some of the new links that have opened up this year. Thanks to **Tom Nelson** for helping make these happen.



## Core: General

- We are now **sending money directly** to the growing teams in Namibia and Tanzania. We are currently operating on hybrid system of our normal funding request form and the exercise book system Dignity Zambia use.
- Work has progressed on our **Safeguarding Policy** and this is nearing completion.

## People

- As of 1<sup>st</sup> November 2018, **Katy & Impy** are officially trustee-directors of Dignity (Worldwide). Welcome to the team!
- **Kaili** has committed to helping us 2 days/week for 8 weeks. She has been a great help – thank you Kaili.
- Special thanks to **Lambert** for his help with communications with the Tanzanian team.
- We have advertised and interviewed for 2 new roles in the office. We will be welcoming **Rebekah** and **Lois** to the team later this month for 1 day/week each.

## Visits & Events

- ‘Friends of Dignity’ meets again this week as we gather for **‘Beyond Zambia’**. This is the second in our series of 3 evenings and we’re pleased to have a mix of 30 faithful supporters and new faces joining us.
- **Jon Witt will be speaking at Launch** in November and we will have a stand there. Please pray that God will connect us to the right people while we’re there.

## Fundraising

- We have been promised a gift as a result of our previous trust **fund applications** and have submitted 3 more applications. Through Lawrence we have begun to open up a conversation with another trust fund.

## Finances

- Since our last report 1 **regular gift** has been decreased. We have not received many **one-off gifts**.

## The Numbers

Measurable	Number to date, 2018	Number at end of 2017	Comments
Movement in regular monthly giving	+£152.50	+£340.83	Refer to finance report for further information
Total number of regular givers	52	48	Now includes churches and individuals
Trust fund applications made	6	4	
Prayer meetings held	1	3	
Events & church visits happened	4	3	
Bibles recycled this year	312 received 316 sent	180 received 112 sent	Total Bibles recycled to date = 915 (of which 156 are awaiting shipping)
Translations in progress/completed	7	8	<b>In progress:</b> , Living the Light (Bemba), Plant Tonga <b>Completed:</b> Plant (Bemba, Lunda & Swahili), LYV Bemba, RinJ 4 Lunda
Volunteer hours (UK)	79.25	309	