

INTERNATIONAL TEAMS

1:ONE

THE LOCAL CHURCH

DRIVEN BY OUR VALUES, LED BY LOVE

ONE SHARED STRIDE

RWANDA – During the last week of October, 47 Rwandan pastors gathered for the fourth session of a pastoral training series hosted by ITeams workers and the local Rwandan church. Many pastors traveled from rural villages that have low literacy rates, and embraced the opportunity to learn about biblical leadership through oral teaching and discussion. At the end of the session, the pastors received audio recordings of the teaching to carry home. There, they can share the training with others on solar-powered MP3 players, using the **Listen to Learn** technology pioneered by ITeams Canada (www.listentolearn.ca).

ITeams' fruitful partnership with the Rwandan church began three years ago, when ITeams missionary **Jennifer Kamari** asked the leader of 26 indigenous churches in Rwanda about his dreams. He answered, "Many pastors in Rwanda are self appointed and untrained. Help me train my leadership. Does ITeams have anybody that can help me do that?"

Jennifer's team promptly met this need by helping to organize a three-year pastoral training course in the rural area of Nyagatare. The team also brought this training to a refugee camp of 19,000 Congolese refugees. 13 different church denominations within the refugee camp have come together for leadership training and collaboration as a result. In addition, ITeams workers have assisted refugee youth in creating sustainable businesses – like solar cell phone charging stations – to support youth ministries. As they share both the responsibility and the joy of service with the local church, ITeams workers in Rwanda are seeing a new hope stir throughout their community.



Rwandan Christians and ITeams missionaries serve side by side to organize pastoral training, minister to refugees, and find safe homes for street youth.



Explains Bill Fitch, founder of the Listen to Learn program, "Rwandan pastors excel in evangelism, but they often lack teaching resources. We translate and distribute Christian teachings as audio recordings, to enable pastors to study the Bible more deeply in their own languages."

THE LOCAL CHURCH

It is our privilege to **come alongside** local followers of Christ and advance God's kingdom together.

We believe the church is **God's agent** to reach the world.

Therefore, we are profoundly **committed to the local church** in its mission.

Commitment to the local church is one of our twelve values. Learn about our other values at: www.iteams.org/about

“Through their love and counsel, Woody and Susan Roland became instruments of God in confirming our calling as missionaries. We also want to touch lives through our relationship with God and through our relationships with others.”

-LUIS DIEGO and SYLVIA CALDERON
DIRECTORS of ITEAMS COSTA RICA

ONE PROVIDENTIAL RELATIONSHIP

SAN ISIDRO, COSTA RICA – In 1998, ITeams missionaries **Woody and Susan Roland** arrived in Costa Rica to establish a central office for ITeams ministry across Latin America. One of the first things they did was start attending a local church named Principe de Paz (Prince of Peace).

At this church they quickly befriended two Costa Rican university students. The first, **Sylvia**, was the camp leader for one of the Rolands’ daughters, Kari. The second, **Luis Diego**, served with Susan in programming and music ministry. In time, Luis Diego and Sylvia began courtship. The Rolands counseled them, invited them to a group for young couples involved in ministry, and helped to plan their wedding. Woody even had the honor of marrying them.

While the ministry of ITeams Latin America grew over time, the Rolands mentored many youth in their church to become disciples of Christ. One evening eight years after their arrival in Costa Rica, the Rolands prayed for God to provide indigenous leaders to expand the ITeams ministry. A few weeks later, Luis Diego and Sylvia asked to meet with the Rolands. Says Susan, “Without having any idea about our present need, Luis Diego and Sylvia poured their hearts out to us...expressing a desire to be involved in exactly the areas we’d been asking God about!”

In early 2007, Luis Diego and Sylvia faithfully launched **ITeams Costa Rica** as a sending agent for Costa Rican missionaries to the rest of the world.



Luis Diego and Sylvia Calderon (above), directors of ITeams Costa Rica, first learned about ITeams while serving with missionaries Woody and Susan Roland in their local church.

INTERNATIONAL TEAMS OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

PRAY

Would you pray with us?

- » Praise God that the financial recession in North America cannot hinder the advancement of His kingdom, and pray for an abundant provision of resources for our workers.
- » Thank God for raising up ITeams missionaries from Costa Rica and over 50 other countries, and pray for their safety and language acquisition as they adjust to their host cultures.
- » Pray for wisdom as our teams build deeper relationships with the local church and governmental authorities.

GO

- » In **Rwanda**, positions are open for teachers and creative individuals who can design income-generating businesses for the poor. Short-term and long-term opportunities exist!
- » In **Costa Rica**, we are seeking short-term teams for building projects, and long-term workers with skills in the areas of administration, finance, pastoral care, and computer technology.

For more opportunities to GO, visit iteams.org/go

GIVE

Ministry of ITeams USA - Your gift to ITeams USA will help us support our workers as they develop transformational relationships with the local church, mentor indigenous leaders, and express God’s grace in places like Rwanda and Costa Rica.



A higher standard.
A higher purpose.

You can GIVE a gift online
at iteams.org/give