



Constrained by the Love of Christ

During their involvement in training young men and women for ministry under the direction of Benson Idahosa, Kent and Ruth felt drawn particularly to converts from Moslem backgrounds. To facilitate this training, Kent and Ruth raised funds in Australia to set scholarships in place for those students and initiated and developed the Hausa department at All Nations for Christ Bible Institute. This enabled converts who did not have the opportunity to learn English to be equipped to reach their own people groups with the gospel. Kent & Ruth developed strong bonds of fellowship with students from an Islamic past and those from Northern Nigeria. These included Emmanuel Tajudeen Razack since 1992, and Bashir Koshekai since 1994. Others such as Gideon Bwala, Henry Diamond and Paul Shettima stayed on to work at ANFCBI with the Hodges after they graduated. These men of God now form the core team, along with graduate Gabriel Aiso, at Christian Faith Institute in Jos, Northern Nigeria, where the vision of equipping, encouraging and enabling converts from Islam to reach their own people is central to the aims of the Institute.



T.E. Razack

Before CFI

Kent was born in Sydney, Australia, attending a Presbyterian Church as a child, while Ruth grew up in rural western NSW, Australia and was saved in a Methodist church. Kent, saved in 1982, attended the CRC church in Sydney where he met Ruth. They married and together completed a yearlong Bible College course at CCC before leaving for Nigeria in 1986 with their three-month-old daughter Esther.



In Nigeria Kent & Ruth worked in various capacities with Archbishop Benson Idahosa, who was a father in the Lord to Kent & Ruth until he went to be with the Lord in 1998. Kent continued working in Benin City until 2006, leading the All Nations For Christ Bible Institute founded by Benson Idahosa.

From 1986-2006 about 8,000 pastors were trained in ANFCBI, coming from all over Africa and today pastor thousands of churches around the world. Most of these students, many from areas where few or no churches existed, were trained on scholarships raised from Australian sponsors through Kent and Ruth. Many graduates remain friends and continue in contact with the Hodges.

Some graduates joined in the work as ANFCBII grew from 330 students in 1986 to 1,600, including all departments, by the year 2000. It became possibly the largest missions/church-planting institute in the world. With funds raised in

Evening College

Morning English speaking College



Australia, Kent & Ruth extended existing buildings, added new buildings, a printing press business and much machinery and equipment to facilitate the growth and smooth running of the college, all of which remains in use there today.

Over the years Kent & Ruth had a heart desire to reach more into the Islamic sections of Africa and the Middle East. As often as possible they would travel to the north of Nigeria on mission trips, helping northerners to plant churches in Islamic regions.



The Hodge family grew to include a daughter and four sons, home schooled in Benin City. Today the eldest two are studying medicine, the next two are studying law and the youngest is still in high school.

Looking back we can see the Lord's hand in developments. In 2006 Kent & Ruth knew their work in Benin City was complete and so, in February, praying about what the Lord had for them to do next, they left Benin. In July 2006 they began planning with Emmanuel Razack to start a Bible College in Jos, in northern Nigeria. Some whom the Hodges had trained wanted to go back to the north where they originated and joined with Kent & Ruth. So, in January 2007, the CFI was launched with a team of 14 staff/friends.



CFI Starts

CFI's doors opened January 2007 with 33 students, most from the north of Nigeria. Friends whom the Hodges helped train, working today in different denominations and missions, sent their disciplined converts from new frontiers. In the midst of many hardships some have given their lives, encountering violent opposition to the gospel message. These pioneers are people the CFI team want to help.

Jos is central to the vast Sahel (semi-arid) region of sub-Saharan Africa. It has historically been and continues to be a base from which to impact many nations and regions with the gospel. CFI's students come from Nigeria, Cameroon, Niger, Chad, Congo and other nations. In its first three years of operation CFI has had many Islamic converts enrol in the College who are now preaching the gospel and planting churches. The power of the gospel message is working with them, bringing about great results.

From 2007-2010 CFI has conducted pastors' conferences in northern cities. The largest was the Jos conference in June 2009. 2,500 pastors attended, 2,000 registered, from many denominations all over the north of Nigeria and from Chad, Cameroon and Niger. Speakers included the governor of Jos (and Plateau State), who preached from the word of God for over two hours. Other conferences so far include Maiduguri, Kano, Wukari, Dekina and Ndjamen, Chad; one is planned for Kafanchan in February and another for Alexandria, Egypt, October 2010.



The mission trip to Egypt last June was among the highlights in 2009. Thousands were reached with the gospel and many were healed. 2009 saw 23 guests visit CFI from Australia and the UK and other friends from Benin City.

CFI, still in rented accommodation, has been blessed with a great study library, a large student 24 hour Internet and computer library, an offer of government accreditation, an online Bible College, the children's primary school, TV and radio outreach, a mission station in Bauchi State and many churches planted out of the college. At the start of 2010 CFI has between 150 and 200 students studying at diploma and degree levels.



Christian Faith Academy

The Future

CFI has signed a contract for 30 acres of land in Jos, with a 20% deposit paid and a goal to pay the balance by the end of 2010. This is to reach out to the local community, to the wider sub Saharan region and across the desert to northern Africa and the Middle East through:



- Church planting, primary, secondary and vocational education, small business development, development of farming knowledge, first aid and medical outreach to the local community.
- Reaching the wider sub Saharan region through training of pastors, developing the training college on the CFI campus to cater for 1,000 students to equip them for church planting, evangelism, beginning outpost mission stations, TV, radio, printing and pastors conferences.
- Reaching northern Africa and the Middle East through evangelism, pastors' conferences, printed literature and the Internet.

All of these functions have already begun. As the site develops momentum will increase, the impact intensify.

Goals for 2010

- Pay the annual rent for the buildings currently in use
- Finish paying off the land
- Begin building on the new site
- Hold five pastors conferences including the ones in Kafanchan and Alexandria
- Expand the CFI student population
- Extend the student numbers in the children's school



- Expand the library
- Obtain a bus to transport students
- Build two mission stations and support others in mission
- Plant additional churches through graduates and pastors who join the ministry
- Through the churches hold evangelistic outreaches, open fellowships in universities, prisons and other places
- Obtain charitable status in the UK
- Be joined by more partners who can help with administration and promotion in the West

Christ in You

Written by Kent Hodge, this book reflects 25 years of experience in ministry and study, including a Masters degree from Wales University and a Doctor of Ministry from ORU. The book was written to form the introductory basis for student studies at CFI. Translation into both Arabic and Hausa are nearing completion.

The book was written not only to enhance the study of CFI students, but also to help equip the body of Christ worldwide. It is available in book form from website bookstores and in leading African Christian bookstores, and is available free on the CFM website in PDF and MP3 forms, and soon in Arabic and Hausa. It is the basis of a Sunday school manual currently being prepared.



The Mission

We know the gospel is for all people and we strongly feel the imperative of reaching those in the bondage of Islam. It is God's power that sets them free. We also feel the imperative to stand with those whom God calls, to contribute to training them and to sending them out in the power of the gospel, to reach many and establish churches that the kingdom may flourish in new frontiers. What a privilege to be called and enabled by God to be a part in His mission to the world He loves. Thank you for being a part with us. We ask you to be in contact with us, to see how you can join with us to help.