

## A Grace Seed Sprouts After 20 Years

In Kenya a new Grace fellowship has started Gikoe—Murang'a District, with Paul Kinyua. Pastor Paul, the man who led Pastor Stanley Mwangi to Christ and encouraged him to join Grace Bible School, invited us to have a fellowship and Bible study with his family and friends in his home. Gikoe is also the home place of Pastor Stanley who is currently a grace pastor in Nairobi.

Pastor Paul shared with me this very encouraging and moving testimony. He was introduced to Bible correspondence courses by a friend in 1992. He studied the correspondence courses from Embu with Jessie Easterly who was in charge of correspondence. The studies gave him much enlightenment and enriched him with the truth of God's Word. Paul introduced many people from his area to the Bible correspondence courses. One of these people was Stanley Mwangi, who he later encouraged to attend Grace Bible School with the hope that after graduating Stanley would come back and start a Grace Church. But after graduation Pastor Stanley was assigned in Nairobi to assist in church planting in Kayole-Nairobi. Due to the demanding task of church planting, Stanley did not have a chance to return to minister in Gikoe.

Despite this disappointment, Pastor Paul kept the truth he had learned, trusted in God that one day he would have an opportunity to preach it, and continued learning the message of grace in fellowship with grace believers. His hope was renewed in 2008 when he met Pastor Stanley and discussed planting a grace church in Gikoe. Pastor Stanley encouraged Paul and sent him grace materials to read and help him grow in grace and in the knowledge of the Word of God.

In December, 2012, Stanley shared with me (Director Titus Kivilu) about the desire of Paul to plant a grace church at Gikoe and together we visited him and his group for two days in May. We had a very lovely and friendly fellowship, and studied God's Word together. Paul and a group of 10 people have been meeting and holding Bible studies in his house for the last two months, and beginning in June they will start meeting regularly and holding Sunday services at Gikoe market. Pastor Stanley, Pastor Samuel Mwangi and I along with church members from both Kayole GBC and Thika GBC will visit on June 14-16 to have an outreach ministry and to formally launch the Grace Church at Gikoe.

How amazing that for all these 20 years God has preserved His truth in our brother Paul so he can be used to reach the people of Gikoe and Murang'a with the message of God's grace. Pray with us that this fellowship will grow and become an established and instrumental church to reach this region in central Kenya with the truth of the grace gospel.

*We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all God's people—the faith and love that spring from the hope stored up for you in heaven and about which you have already heard in the true message of the gospel that has come to you. In the same way, the gospel is bearing fruit and growing throughout the whole world—just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and truly understood God's grace. Colossians 1:3-6*

