

"We've Decided to Walk this Journey Together"

PASTORS FROM OPPOSITE SIDES OF THE GLOBE FIND COMMON GROUND AS THE PEACE PLAN LAUNCHES IN ITS 25TH AFRICAN COUNTRY, NAMIBIA

"It's amazing to me," says Pastor Steve Gallimore, "that God would take a boy from West Tennessee and use him in this way." His voice grows thick with emotion, and he shakes his head in disbelief as he looks out over the African skyline.

As Senior and Founding Pastor of Tennessee Valley Community Church in Paris, Tennessee, Steve has seen no shortage of ministry highs and lows, but the opportunity to play a part in the PEACE Plan has represented a new dimension in the way God is using his ministry.

It's been a whirlwind year for his church. It all began when they tentatively said yes to a "come and see" experience at this year's All Africa Pastor Gathering in February, an invitation that led to them becoming the International Partner Church for the nation of Namibia. Now, only two months later, they find themselves in Namibia for an in-country vision casting trip.

They have seen God's hand on the partnership at every turn. After being captured by the vision of the PEACE Plan, Steve's call to partner with Namibia was solidified by the instant connection Steve and his team felt with the Namibian church leaders.

"God had us seated at the All Africa Gathering with the nation of Namibia, and it was just love at first sight. We are all in, and they are all in and we've decided to walk this journey together," he shares.

As the pastors came together for the very first time to discuss the potential of working hand-in-hand, they found a surprising amount of common ground across cultures.

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"When we met the pastors from Namibia, we realized we were of the same DNA," shares Steve. "They are desperate for what I was desperate for when we planted

my church – they don't want to just own the gospel, but to move the gospel. We don't want the church just for us, we want it for our community and for our country. God truly brought us together."

This May, Steve and his team cast the vision for Purpose Driven Church and the PEACE Plan training to 30 pastors gathered at the River of Life Church in Khomasdal, Windhoek Namibia. The vision casting proceeded the nomination and commissioning of a Steering Team of Namibian leaders who will shepherd the

movement as it grows and spreads across their nation. They look forward in faith to see how God uses all of their churches in unity to make a mark on the lives of those across Namibia.



Pastor Steve and the team from Tennessee Valley Community Church with the Namibia Steering Team