



COMMUNITY
BIBLE STUDY
INTERNATIONAL MINISTRY

Africa Calebs and U.S. Africa Team

This US-based team is made up of hardworking, dedicated, passionate people willing to be used by God to expand CBSI in Africa. For more info, [email us!](#)



Paul and Debbie Annett: Calebs to Rwanda

The Annetts have been married 38 years and have a daughter, son, daughter-in-law and granddaughter. Paul and Debbie have lived in Minneapolis, Minn., since 1981.

Both Paul and Debbie grew up in religious homes and attended church on a regular basis, but became followers of Jesus through Bible study and fellowship with believers. They have been involved in Community Bible Study since 2003. They came to realize that becoming disciples of Jesus is a lifelong journey, with the finish line coming when believers leave this earth and go to live with our heavenly Father.

Paul first visited Rwanda with CBSI in 2006. As he left, Paul realized that he had left part of his heart with the people of Rwanda. He came home and told Debbie about the CBS Rwanda...

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Dick Augustine: Caleb to Ethiopia

I had the privilege and great blessing of being born into and raised in a Christian home where church was the norm for our family. As a result, I heard the message of Jesus Christ from the earliest age, and I personally accepted Him as Lord and Savior at the age of 10, while at summer camp. Through the work of the Holy Spirit, God gave me the wisdom and discernment to be able to make a mature recommitment to Him in my young-adult years.

I have had the further blessing of three wonderful children and four grandchildren who are the joy of my life. My wife, Mary Lou, is a faithful and loving partner in all that we do.

God has been ever faithful, through happy times and difficult times, to allow me a steady, joyful...

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Dennis and Lynda Blake: Calebs to South Sudan

Dennis and Lynda Blake were both raised in Christian homes. Lynda spent her childhood and youth actively involved in church activities. She invited Christ into her life, at her parents' bedside, at age 8. Dennis chose a different path. He spent his youth seeking the things the world had to offer. At age 21, on Mother's Day, Dennis gave his life back to the Lord.

Dennis and Lynda met and fell in love at Moody Bible Institute in Chicago, IL. At that time they both knew they wanted to serve the Lord in whatever path He chose for them. After retirement from education and public transportation they became involved in some Christian schools in...

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Jason and Lisa Bye: Calebs to Burkina Faso

Jason and Lisa are high school sweethearts who grew up in a small town in northwest Minnesota. They were married in 1992 and expected to live in Fargo, ND, and be near family their entire lives. God had other plans. In 2007, God brought an opportunity for Jason and Lisa to move to Denver, CO. They weren't sure what it all meant, but they moved to Colorado for Jason's job as they clearly heard God simply say "GO".

The church they began attending was taking a men's mission trip to a country in Africa, they said it was "West Africa" ... whatever that meant. Jason felt God telling him he was to go. Africa was not even on their radar but with Lisa's blessing, he went to Burkina Faso for 10 days with a group of guys from church. When Jason came home he told Lisa he left part of his heart there. Lisa thought, how nice, I have a missionary husband. Six months later, Jason, a friend of theirs, and...

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David and Patti Henderson: Calebs to Zambia

Patti grew up in a "religious" home, but never understood the reality of a relationship with Jesus Christ until she was in high school. The words of 1 John 4:9 spoke to her heart: "In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him." David did not encounter the true Jesus until college, where he played football. Through his athletic endeavors, God opened his eyes and heart to the truth of Ephesians 2:8, "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God."

Their marriage of 33 years has been a journey together, even with the bumps and detours into the heart of Jesus. As a business owner, David strives to maintain God's principles with his employees, vendors and customers. One of his greatest joys is teaching Sunday school, which he has actively done for 28 years. Patti's passion for God's Word started with an in-depth Bible study as a newlywed. When Community Bible Study started a new class 15 years ago, Patti...

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Melisa Jensen: Africa Regional Coordinator and C&Y Admin Supervisor

God sought an intimate relationship with me for many years. Not until my late 20s did I finally surrender and give my life to Jesus. Since then, God has blessed me with a loving husband and daughter, a wonderful church home, and an enormous amount of grace and mercy that has changed my life. He continues to mold me into the person He wants me to become.

As He has guided me through life's challenges, He has given me opportunities to trust Him while growing my faith and equipping me with what I need—and opportunities to serve Him through ministry leadership, teaching children, and outreach and missions work locally and abroad. He placed in me a passion for missions work; I now see how this passion and all of these steps on His path led me to be prepared for His call in 2010 to join the CBSI USA Africa Team. Again, God showed me His faithfulness, and I am so humbled and thankful to be able to be part of...

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Rich and Jeanne Larson: Calebs to Rwanda

Jeanne and Rich were high-school sweethearts; they married and have three sons. Now they have two daughters-in-law and two wonderful grandchildren in their lives. They worked together in creating and growing a business in which they worked together for many years.

Jeanne's spiritual journey started early. She grew up in a loving Christian home and committed her life to Christ at age six. Looking back, Jeanne sees she was an inactive believer well into her 30s. After being urged by friends, she became involved in Bible Study Fellowship and her in-depth walk with the Lord began in earnest. She began to see that God had a plan for her life.

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Arvid and Janet Liebe: Calebs to Zimbabwe

Traveling to explore missions around the world has been a life-long interest for Arvid and Janet Liebe. Throughout their married life (since 1983), they have visited many countries and appreciated the richness and variety of various cultures. Observing how God is working in many lands is an encouragement to their faith! Visiting Mutambara Mission in Zimbabwe has caught their passion since 2007.

Mutambara Mission was established over 100 years ago with a primary and secondary school, a church, 120 bed hospital and a farm. Initially, the Liebes assisted with building a new eye clinic before realizing the farm also needed an increase of support.

In response to trusting relationships being built, leaders are praying about establishing Community Bible Study International (CBSI) curriculum for studying the Word of God. CBSI has been presented to many pastors and trainings for class leaders and teachers are expected in the future.



Dave and Gretchen Mills: Calebs to Tanzania

How did an engineer turned advertising executive and a botanist end up spending the summer in Tanzania? Dave and Gretchen met in college in the '60s and pursued life in New York City for four years before settling in Southern California to raise a family. It was there that the Word of God became real to them. A friend encouraged Gretchen to attend an in-depth Bible study. At first, it was an intellectual pursuit. But when the truth of God and the Spirit convinced both of them that Jesus is The Way, they were baptized in Lake Arrowhead...

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John and Diana Nally: Calebs to Burundi

John is retired from a career in the food Industry and with a non-medical health care company. Diana is a retired "stay at home" mom.

In 1999 a friend in their area initiated a prayer group to start a Community Bible Study class. That prayer group developed into a class within one year. Diana was called to serve as ATD of that class for seven years and has been an Area Director since 2007. John has been in a CBS men's Core Group since 2011, and a supporter of CBS ministry since 2000.

Diana did not grow up in a church home, but believed there was a God. "My father's death,"...

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Tom and Dawn Treloar: Ambassadors to Burundi

Tom and Dawn Treloar are excited to be joining the CBS-Burundi team as Ambassadors. Tom grew up in Iowa and Dawn in Minnesota. They met and fell in love at a small, private, liberal-arts college in Iowa and were married soon after they both graduated. In their twenty-one years of marriage, they have been fortunate to call Maryland, Arizona, and now Hillsdale, Michigan, home. Tom and Dawn are parents of two busy children; a middle-school son and an elementary school daughter. As a family, they enjoy traveling, camping, cooking, and walking their dog, Max. Tom's passion for teaching is expressed in his full-time work at Hillsdale College where he is employed as an Associate Professor of Mathematics and curriculum adviser and teacher trainer for the Barney Charter School Initiative. Dawn is a stay-at-home mom who has served as a core leader and Associate Teaching Director for the Hillsdale women's day CBS class. Upon visiting the country of Burundi in March 2015 and assisting with the very first C&Y training in the country, Tom and Dawn formed an instant love for the country, its people, and the CBSI ministry.



Dennis and Kathy Wilson: Calebs to West Africa

Brought up in a traditional church, Dennis began his journey with God 53 years ago at a Youth for Christ Rally, and just a few years later he met his wife, Kathy.

They were married young—Kathy was 19 years old, and Dennis was barely 21. Soon two beautiful boys were added to their family, but tensions grew as they struggled to make ends meet in those early years.

One day Kathy sat down with her two small boys and cried out to God for help. Shortly after she gave her life over to the Lord, she was introduced to CBS. Kathy immediately felt called to the children's ministry, where she worked in the nursery and taught 2-3 year-olds for many years...

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