

Update

Summer 2025



APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN
HarvestCall.



GOSPEL CULTURE:

Living in Biblical Community

Imagine being part of a community so vibrant, so deeply connected, that it transforms lives daily. A community where love, faith, and purpose drive every interaction. This is the vision of Biblical Community, a concept modeled by the early church in Acts. Even in the face of persecution, they thrived – and we can too.

But what makes any community thrive? It starts with people choosing to come together, sharing language, culture, and values. It flourishes when leadership casts a compelling vision, and individuals commit to something greater than themselves. This is precisely what Jesus and the apostles cultivated – a movement of faith that spread like wildfire.

Let's explore six core aspects of the early church in Acts 2:42-47 that we can embrace in our own lives and our churches today. As we allow ourselves to be transformed, we will find our churches and communities transformed as well.



1. Teaching with Passion and Devotion

"AND THEY DEVOTED THEMSELVES TO THE APOSTLES' TEACHING..." – ACTS 2:42A

To be devoted means to be zealous in loyalty and affection. The early believers weren't just casual listeners; they were deeply committed to learning and living out the teachings of Jesus. With the Holy Spirit guiding them, they carried the message beyond their homes, into new lands, sharing the Gospel with anyone who would listen.

What about you? Are you actively teaching and spreading biblical truth in your home, school, workplace, and community? The Gospel isn't reserved for a select few – it's for everyone. Our calling is to communicate it boldly and faithfully.

2. Fellowship: More Than Just a Gathering

"...AND THE FELLOWSHIP TO THE BREAKING OF BREAD..." – ACTS 2:42B

Think of the most joyful meal you've ever shared. Laughter, deep conversations, and a sense of belonging. That's the heart of biblical fellowship. In the early church, sharing a meal symbolized intimacy, unity, and friendship – a glimpse of the heavenly banquet we will one day enjoy with our King.

Jesus shattered cultural barriers, eating with sinners and outcasts. Are you doing the same? Do you extend a hand of fellowship to those different from you? The call of biblical community is radical inclusion – following Jesus into relationships that reflect His boundless love.

continued inside ►



A New Normal

FOR GOOD VISION FARM

Cows are being milked. Fields are being plowed. Orphanages are getting delicious fresh milk to drink. Business as usual? Not exactly. Since December when Eric and Melanie Stoller returned to Ohio, there are no US missionaries at Good Vision Farm. It's not a secret that there is instability in Haiti, and the US Government currently discourages travel to Haiti. While HarvestCall wrestles with these challenges, things continue with some normalcy at peaceful Good Vision Farm, and we believe the Lord has blessed these efforts.

Anthony Kaeb from Cissna Park has assumed a new leadership role as Farm Manager at Good Vision Farm. Anthony has initiated bible study and devotions with the farm employees every Wednesday morning via Zoom, followed by an operations meeting to discuss what's been happening at the farm and what needs to be accomplished in the coming days. Anthony says, "bible study has given a different level of connection" between himself and the workers. Each employee has received a job description, and he has been very pleased to see how each employee has stepped up to this new situation. Workers have started giving their input on how to improve things and really seem to be taking ownership of their roles.



▲ Maxi and Kenken working together

Pierre Clerger (Kenken) is a Haitian financial manager who is a Christian living in Les Cayes. Kenken has been hired as financial management, a job that has been one of the most difficult components of not having US missionaries in country. His oversight has added valuable accountability to those involved. There are always improvements to be made, but this addition has made a big difference.

In addition, others have taken an active role on the US side. Roger Herrmann is often in contact with Maxi or Samuel at Good Vision Farm, determining what parts are needed for equipment issues. He is ordering and shipping parts to the farm regularly. These parts are flown into Haiti by a treasured aviation ministry, Agape Flights in Venice, Florida.

Communications with people who don't speak Creole on one side or don't speak much English on the other can have its challenges and lead to unintentional mistakes. Mechanical issues and electrical issues remain difficult problems. Samuel, the main equipment operator at the farm, mentioned to Roger, "I want to be a good mechanic." Working together again in person is something this group is longing to do. It is such an encouragement to Roger when Samuel reaches out directly with a video of him on the tractor or just to say hello.

In addition to the members of the Haiti Dairy Board of Directors, Doug Leman is often in contact with the farm about issues with the cattle, how they are being fed, and staying current on the day-to-day milking operations. Eric Kaeb stays in close contact with the crop operations. Matt Steiner, as chairman of the Haiti Dairy Board, stays informed broadly with the entire operation, and LuAnn Troxel works with the financial systems. These meetings are generally on Zoom, and although it has limitations, with God's blessing operations continue reasonably well with good attitudes in Haiti and oversight from the USA.

9th Annual Haiti Dairy Benefit Dinner

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME,
THIS IS A FAMILY-FRIENDLY EVENT.**

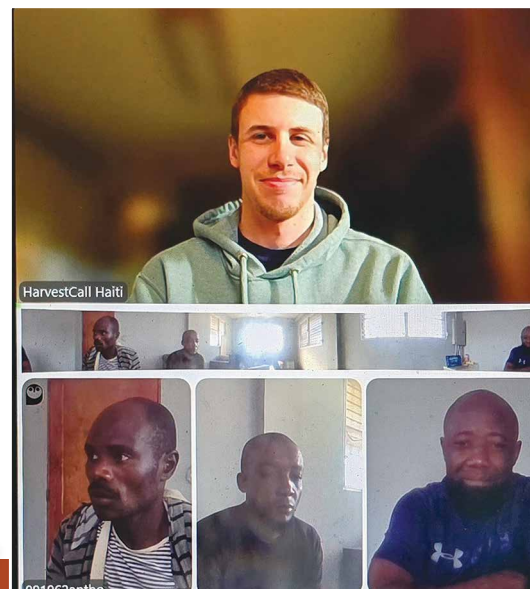
Learn more about the events and challenges and hear of the many ways the Lord has shown his provision for this ministry.

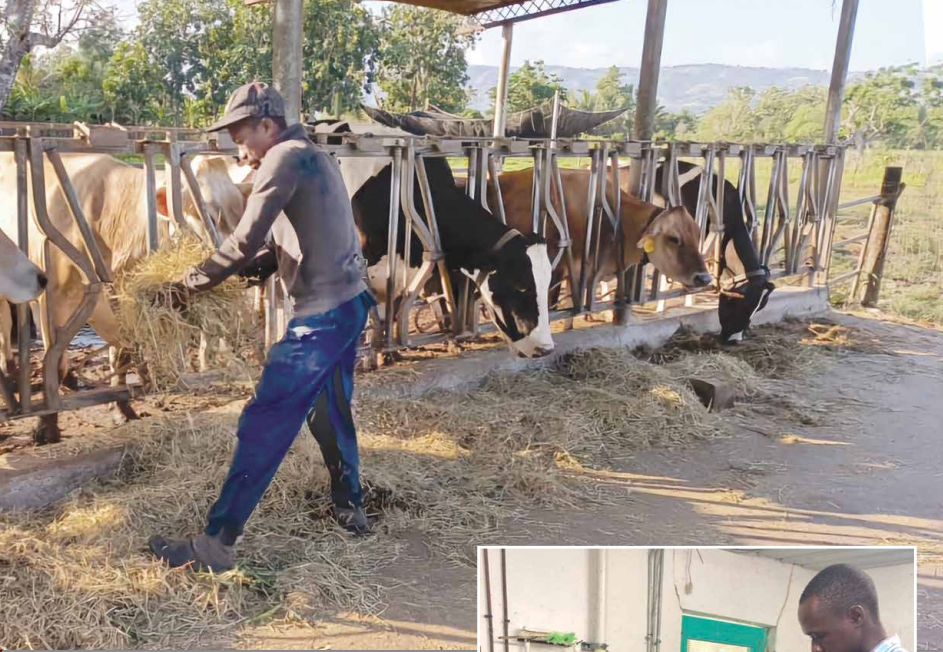
**SATURDAY, JUNE 14, 2025,
5:30 PM EASTERN TIME
DINNER & PROGRAM
ELLINGTON, CONNECTICUT**

**JUN
14**



Save the Date!





▲ Mesye Dye milking cows

Elize pasturizing ►

By staying in communication with these ongoing efforts, the Haiti Dairy Board is optimistic that Good Vision Farm can continue serving the community; however, ongoing discussions regarding the best way to navigate this “new normal” and establish the farm in a healthy way continue. Please be prayerful that God will continue to grant wisdom to those working with Haitians, that doors may be opened for travel to and from Haiti, and that there can be appropriate decision making to enable the farm to fulfill its purpose.

The 9th Annual Haiti Dairy Benefit Dinner is planned for Saturday, June 14, 2025 in Ellington, Connecticut, beginning at 5 PM Eastern Time.



Everyone is welcome.

This is a wonderful opportunity to hear first-hand what is happening at Good Vision Farm. Please visit www.harvestcall.org/awareness-events for up-to-date details about this event or contact LuAnn Troxel at (219) 508-3433.

By LuAnn Troxel

◀ Dairy Wednesday
Zoom calls



Gospel Culture

SIX CORE ASPECTS
CONTINUED
FROM FRONT



3. Prayer: The Fuel of the Church

“...AND THE
PRAYERS.” –
ACTS 2:42C

Prayer isn’t a formula for an easy life; it’s an invitation for God’s will to be done, no matter the cost. The early disciples had learned prayer from Jesus Himself, understanding that true prayer aligns our hearts with God’s kingdom, even if it leads to suffering.

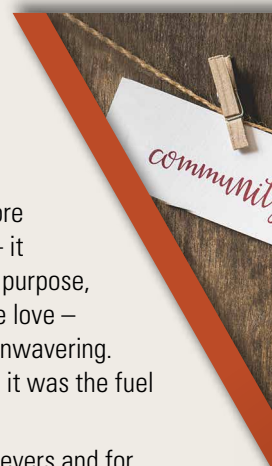
Do you pray with this kind of passion? Are you prepared to embrace both God’s blessings and His refining trials? Prayers of people and churches propel the Gospel forward – forward in faith, no matter the challenges.

4. Together: A Bond That Couldn’t Be Broken

ACTS 2:44 – “AND
ALL WHO BELIEVED
WERE TOGETHER...”

To be together meant more than physical proximity – it was a unity of heart and purpose, woven together by agape love – selfless, sacrificial, and unwavering. This love wasn’t passive; it was the fuel that drove their mission.

Is your love for other believers and for the lost evident? Do you stand, shoulder to shoulder, with the saints in commitment to Christ and His mission?



AND LET US NOT BE WEARY IN WELL DOING: FOR IN DUE
SEASON WE SHALL REAP, IF WE FAINT NOT ▲ GALATIANS 6:9



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5. Generosity: Living Open-Handed

ACTS 2:45 – “AND THEY WERE SELLING THEIR POSSESSIONS AND BELONGINGS AND DISTRIBUTING THE PROCEEDS TO ALL, AS ANY HAD NEED.”

The early believers lived with radical generosity. Needs weren't just acknowledged – they were met with sacrificial giving. Their generosity wasn't just charity; it was an open door to the Gospel, a tangible demonstration of God's love.

Are you aware of the real needs of your community? Do your efforts create opportunities to share the Gospel? Let's be known for open hands and open hearts.

6. Worship: A Lifestyle, Not Just a Service

ACTS 2:47 – “...PRAISING GOD AND HAVING FAVOR WITH ALL THE PEOPLE.”

Worship wasn't confined to a Sabbath gathering – it was the heartbeat of the early church. In persecution and in peace, their praise never wavered because their worship wasn't about circumstances; it was about the unchanging goodness of God.

Do you worship with authenticity and passion? Is God being glorified and praised in everything you do? Is your worship a lifestyle? True worship draws people in – it reveals His presence in a way that words alone cannot.

By Erik Wiegand

Bringing It Home



The early church was a powerhouse of faith, action, and love. They weren't just a community; they were a movement – and that movement changed the world. We are called to do the same. As we practice and live out these six Biblical Community concepts, transformation occurs within us, our churches, and communities.

Are you devoted to truth? Committed to fellowship? Passionate in prayer? United in love? Generous in spirit? Wholehearted in worship?

LET'S NOT JUST STUDY BIBLICAL COMMUNITY – LET'S LIVE IT.

Bible Distribution

UPDATE 2025

Jesus taught in Mathew 9:37 that “The harvest truly is plenteous.” Sometimes, I find it easy to look around at the brokenness of our world and feel a little skeptical. However, like Peter had to remain focused on Christ to walk on the water, I need to direct my focus to Christ. When I do that, I find great encouragement in the number of souls that are seeking reconciliation and hope by looking to God’s word. I recently saw a

tremendously exciting statistic that during 2024, sales of Bibles surged 22% in the United States. Reports show that for the first 10 months of 2024, sales were over 13.7 million bibles compared to only 9.7 million for the same period in 2023. These numbers clearly communicate that there is a fervent desire for God’s word and reflects the truth in Christ’s statement that the harvest is plenteous.

We are thrilled to report that the HarvestCall Bible Distribution efforts have seen similar growth in the number of bibles distributed. 2023 saw

a 360% increase in Bibles shipped from the warehouse. In 2024, we increased an additional 30%.

This increase has been exciting. Additionally, to ship this increase in orders in a timely manner, we are also increasing our staffing at the warehouse in Goodfield. The harvest is truly plenteous, and we are thankful for the countless laborers working so diligently in the warehouse and across the country distributing Bibles.

A couple of years ago, Bible Distribution began offering the Action Bible. This year, we also began offering The Action Bible: Faith in Action Edition. This new addition includes QR codes on most of the pages linking to additional multi-media content. Studies by the Barna Group have found that younger generations are much more inclined to read the bible on phones or tablets. We are hopeful that the QR codes will increase the engagement of these generations with the Word of God.



▲ Bible stocks at the Goodfield warehouse

We would also like to encourage the use of display kits as an efficient method for initiating a distribution display. They come with a three shelf stand and an assortment of Bibles, storybooks, and pamphlets. It is a ready-to-go kit for setting up at any restaurant, coffee shop, salon, or other location where you can set up a display.

Anyone can order these materials free of charge by calling 309-965-2141, emailing bibledistribution@harvestcall.org, or visiting <https://havestcall.org/distribute-bibles> and clicking on ORDER BIBLES.

The surge in Bible sales shows that God’s Word continues to appeal to a broken world in search of the hope and transformation that only Jesus provides. Let this be a reminder that every bible

placed into a hand is a seed that may one day bring forth great fruit. We hope that each reader might always be prepared with a ready inventory of bibles and story book materials in their homes and vehicles to be prepared to provide God’s word anytime an opportunity arises. For more information and ideas on how you can join the mission, visit <https://harvestcall.org/distribute-bibles> and listen to both episodes of the Around the Table podcast, titled ‘Stories from the Bible distribution mission field’.

This year, let us embrace the incredible opportunity before us. May we all be motivated by the great commission to work diligently as laborers in the harvest and to continue spreading the gospel in our communities and to every corner of the world.

By Brett Hodel



Bringing the Word to Life

IN JAMAICAN SIGN LANGUAGE

The Jamaican Sign Language Bible Translation (JSLBT) project continues to make meaningful progress in its mission to bring God's Word to the Deaf community in Jamaica. Rooted in the belief that Scripture should be accessible to all people in their heart language, this initiative seeks to make the Written Word alive in sign language, enabling deeper understanding and spiritual growth.

JSLBT is committed to producing a video translation of the Bible in Jamaican Sign Language (JSL) along with integrated Country Sign (CS). This is essential because sign languages are visual and lack a written form. Without access to Scripture in their native language, the Deaf community often faces barriers to fully engaging with God's Word. By providing translations in video format, the ministry ensures that Deaf individuals can experience "light bulb" moments where biblical truths become clear and personal.



▲ A window into the JSLBT editing process

Translation Progress Update

Over the past months, the translation team has been diligently working on key passages of Scripture. The first nine chapters of Genesis and the first chapter of Ephesians have been translated to various stages of completion. Some portions remain in the exegetical review phase, while others have been reviewed by consultants or are undergoing further refinement. Each step ensures that the translations are both faithful to the original text and naturally understood by native JSL users.

This work is carried out by a small but dedicated team. Their commitment and expertise are vital in ensuring that the translations accurately reflect the meaning of Scripture while being clear and natural in JSL.

The Process in Brief

Bible translation into sign language involves multiple stages. It begins with in-depth exegetical study of the biblical text to ensure accuracy and clarity. Translators then work through drafting, internal reviews, and community feedback before finalizing a video recording. Consultant checks are performed throughout to maintain theological soundness, and once a passage is approved, it is distributed through accessible platforms for the Deaf community to engage with and grow spiritually.

Unlike spoken or written language translations, sign language translations require unique considerations. Since sign languages are visual rather than written, the Bible must be translated into video format rather than text. Additionally, the use of facial expressions, hand movements, and spatial positioning conveys meaning in ways that

written words cannot capture. This makes the translation process highly intricate, requiring both linguistic and theological expertise.

A Ministry of Transformation

The work of JSLBT goes beyond translation. It fosters spiritual formation, provides educational resources, and builds relationships within the Deaf community. By working alongside native JSL users and valuing their contributions, this ministry not only provides access to Scripture but also encourages leadership and discipleship among the Deaf in Jamaica.

HarvestCall is grateful to be part of this vital work, sharing in the mission to proclaim Christ and serve others. As this translation effort continues, we ask for prayers – for wisdom, perseverance, and for God's Word to touch the hearts of the Deaf in Jamaica in a profound way.

By Kirk
Plattner

STAY CONNECTED

Prayer support is needed in every part of HarvestCall work. Here are two ways to learn about projects, how to be involved and how to pray specifically.

E updates | Get occasional emails with news and info by going to the HarvestCall website (www.harvestcall.org) and selecting "Join our email list" on the home page.

Social Media | Engage with us on Facebook or Instagram for the most current information.

[Facebook.com/harvestcall](https://www.facebook.com/harvestcall)

[Instagram@acharvestcall](https://www.instagram.com/acharvestcall)



HELP FINANCIALLY

Choosing "Where Needed Most" allows us flexibility to direct resources to ministries most in want. However, if you feel moved to support a specific project, just indicate that on the remittance envelope. If specified donations are greater than the need for any designated project, they will be rolled over to the General Fund.

An envelope is provided with appropriate boxes to check. Checks can either be given to your local HarvestCall Representative or mailed to:

Apostolic Christian HarvestCall
PO Box 3797, West Lafayette, IN 47996

Or if you wish to donate online, visit the HarvestCall website at:
www.harvestcall.org/donate

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