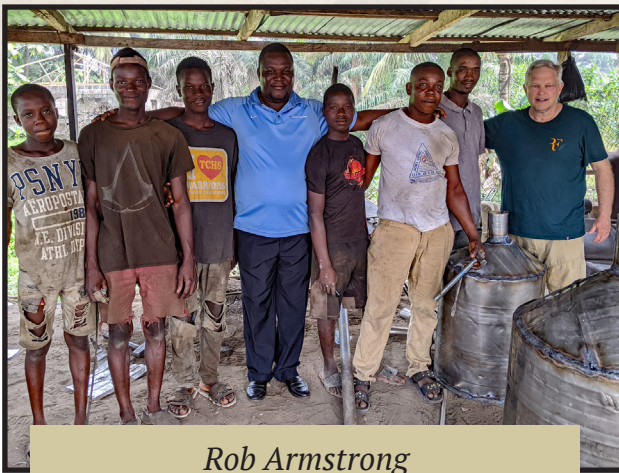


Liberia Workshop

A big highlight of our Liberia trip was having Cody Hughes and Alex Musser on our teaching team. These two young men quickly connected with the attendees, especially the young people. Several pastors commented on how encouraging it was to hear Cody and Alex teach the scriptures so effectively. There is a growing number of young people in our Liberia workshops who are eager to learn the scriptures. Many are now taking the material to other areas of the country (some very remote) where they are teaching their own DM2 workshops (2 Timothy 2:2 in action)!

Rob Armstrong



Rob Armstrong



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Alex Musser

This February trip to Liberia was certainly a blessing and an encouragement to me. Coming into the trip, I wasn't sure what to expect. I had never been to Africa and really had no idea what it was going to be like. The first thing that stuck out to me was the warmth and hospitality of the Liberians. They welcomed all of us very graciously. It's a beautiful thing to share the common bond of Christ even though we come from far different places. We taught the Panorama of the New Testament by teaching through Acts and tying in the epistles. That was fun. On top of that, on the weekends we taught at churches and learning centers. Safe to say, I have never talked that much in my life. The big thing that stuck out to me was the love for the teaching of grace. The Liberian pastors visually enjoyed every time we talked about the sufficiency of the cross and the free saving grace of God. They seemed to truly embrace the freedom that grace brings. It challenged me to have a deeper appreciation of God's grace.

During the week, there was a gas shortage and the prices skyrocketed to around \$20 a gallon. Despite that trial, almost all the pastors still made it to the conference. Some of them walked for multiple hours every day to attend. One pastor told me that coming and studying the Bible was worth more than even the money that he had. These displays of faithfulness were humbling and show the power of God's word.

It was also enjoyable to spend time with John, Cody, and Rob as we joked, fellowshiped, and suffered together. The workshop and the testimonies of the participants encouraged and strengthened me in my own spiritual walk. I need more grace!

Alex Musser

This was my first international mission trip. With our fearless leader (John Clark), our man of wisdom and comedy (Rob Armstrong), and my faithful partner in crime (Alex Musser), we had an amazing team. I didn't fully know what to expect, but what immediately stuck out was the poverty. Most Liberians usually eat only one meal a day, never knowing the next time they will get some food. Most things we take for granted they continually pray for.

As I quickly discovered, heresy is alive and well in Liberia. For example, one of our Liberian friends was told that if he played soccer, he would go to hell. The doctrine of grace and eternal security are constantly under attack. As a result, they were so appreciative of the grace teaching. One pastor would stand up and enthusiastically yell out, "That's it!" whenever grace was taught. Throughout the teaching of the Panorama of the New Testament, it was entertaining to see the pastors' love for the books that condemned false teachers. Many pastors in the country use religion as a way to control their congregations and win money from the people. Because of this, passages on false teaching and books like 2 Peter and Jude were big hits at this workshop. As we were teaching, a murmur would start up around the room as they were undoubtedly discussing how the passage applied to their individual communities. I was blown away by their zealous desire to understand the Bible and use it as the divine blueprint for conducting ministry and life.

Alex and I hit it off with many of the youth. They particularly enjoyed playing Rock, Paper, Scissors and the game of slaps. We also got to play basketball and tether ball. Everyone got a kick out of us failing in the Liberian handshake, but by the end of the week, we became quite proficient at it. We had some amazing laughs and fellowship.



John Clark



Cody Hughes

Even more importantly, many young men have taken the call of disciple making seriously. These young men are on fire for the Lord and have a longing to keep the gospel clear and share the message of grace with others. For them, Jesus is more than just a religious figure; He is a hero. The country of Liberia has a sad history and the effects of the civil war are still observed. But when Jesus returns, he will make everything right. And that fact gives these believers great hope.

I consider myself so blessed and undeserving to have attended this trip. Thank you for your prayers and support. Christ was exalted and the truth of the gospel went out!

Cody Hughes

Finally, brethren, pray for us that the word of the Lord will spread rapidly and be glorified, just as it did also with you. (2 Thessalonians 3:1)