

# AFRICA BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION NETWORK

“BY AFRICANS FOR  
AFRICA... FROM  
AFRICA TO THE WORLD”



# THEOLOGICAL FOCUS AND MISSIONAL FOCUS

- **BY AFRICANS FOR AFRICA:** Theological focus where African Baptist institutions, theologians and authors are addressing the theological issues facing Africa.
- **FROM AFRICA TO THE WORLD:** Missiological focus where African Baptists who have been trained and are theologically grounded are leading the way in taking the gospel to the rest of the world.



# IDENTITY AND MISSION DRIVE US:

- **Our Identity: (who we are and why we exist)**

The Africa Baptist Theological Education Network (ABTEN) is a cooperating body of Baptist theological institutions and committed individuals that long for and work toward healthy, biblically sound churches that exhibit both Baptist and African identities.

- **Our Mission: (what we do)**

ABTEN exists to impact local African churches through Baptist theological institutions, by strengthening and promoting sound, missional and contextual theological education that is rooted in the Bible and responsive to African socio-cultural realities.

# How Far Have We Come This Year?

- Our numbers have almost doubled
- We now have members in at least 22 countries (up from 18)
- We have at least 45 institutions in the network
- Our partners have started 3 new seminars who are present at this meeting
- AB316 has begun working and has a large social media footprint
- Partners around the world are hearing about ABTEN and are wanting to connect with the network. (This includes seminars in the West, publishers, printers, similar organizations)
- Opportunities are coming to our members for being published, for connecting and for partnership and collaboration.



# What is the Potential?

- ABTEN does not exist to grow ABTEN
- We exist to do more together than we can do alone... that is what makes us truly Baptist and that is why we rally together under that flag
- If our seminaries, bible schools and training centers can be more biblical, more effective and more fruitful then we will produce better leaders, pastors, missionaries etc. and the local church will be strengthened
- If our local churches are more biblical and more missional then they will send more out into the world and we will see a greater wave of gospel advance and it will be healthy.
- Reaching Africa and the world depends on the local church right here on this continent... the people in this room and those who would join us are the greatest influencers of the local church.
- We have the potential to influence the influencers... we have the potential to change the world.

# What are we aiming for?

- We are aiming for a theological reformation in our lifetime on this continent. We want to see Africabe known for having the healthiest churches on the planet.
- We are aiming for the African church to be the ones leading the rest of the world to theological health and balance, and we want to see African Baptists leading the way.
- We are aiming for the African church to be continually thrusting laborers into the harvest field and sending national missionaries to the far reaches of the earth.
- We are aiming for the completion of the Great Commission in our lifetime; and by equipping the church to fulfill that practical mission and by equipping her leaders, we are intending to actually influence and energize this missions advance.
- We are aiming for a vibrant, healthy network of institutions and individuals who serve for God's glory and seek to expand His kingdom and not our own.