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**Word of Life**  
**Africa & the Middle East**

## **Three Conferences In One Week!**

### **#1 - East Africa Leader's Conference**

We started the week with leaders who are serving in Rwanda, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, Malawi, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. What a privilege to learn together and from each other.

We realized after looking at the photo that there are more leaders represented in just the region of East Africa than there were at our first ever Word of Life Africa Regional Conference back over 15 years ago! Wow! God is increasing His laborers in East Africa!



Carlos Nogueira, Word of Life missionary from Brazil to Mozambique, brought our spiritual challenge from James 4:8 around the theme of "Continually Drawing Near to God." If we are continually drawing near to God, then we must:

- *Leave* - (Mark 10:29) Leave our home, spiritual family, physical family, possession because we love Jesus and the Gospel more than these.
- *Love* - Love like Jesus loves His Father, His followers, and those who don't follow Him
- *Labor* - Understand "who" we are laboring for which means the "ability to do ministry at a certain place, at a certain time, with a certain people." We must know the culture where we are laboring so that we can be effective with excellence and accuracy.



## #2 - "Family Matters" Conference with the Word of Life Uganda Staff

Family matters in the eyes of God. But too many time, missionaries and ministers put family over ministry. Dave and Carol Sue Merkh from Brazil, shared valuable, biblical truths about the importance of 1) having a personal relationship with God, 2) having an intentional relationship with your spouse, 3) making your family a part of your ministry and not separate than your family, and lastly, even as a single missionary, singleness can be used for the glory of God.



## #3 - One Day Pastor's Conference

Carlos played double duty as he also was the keynote speaker for the Pastors and their wives. He also spoke on the importance of our priorities as ministers being God first, Family second, and their our ministries. Too often the African pastor is so busy with his church that the wife and children can be neglected. It



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