



**WEST AFRICA OUTREACH OF
FAITH CHRISTIAN CHURCH**
Reaching the unreached people
of the Ijaw Tribe

****Summer 2005 Update****

January '05 Trip...

Dear Friends and Supporters of Nigeria-Ijaw Mission,

My trip to the Delta and crusades in the Ijaw Kingdom of Egbema exceeded our highest expectations.

7 Crusades - 7 Villages - 7 Days

In 7 days, between January 13th to the 19th, Wilson Okotie and I preached 7 crusades in the 7 villages where we have churches planted. During this week we saw the greatest progress we had witnessed to date among the Egbema Ijaw. We discovered that the Egbema Kingdom is home to approximately 1 million Ijaw - about twice the number we had previously thought. We saw large crowds and thousands responded to all the altar calls. In every meeting we prayed for the sick and broke the power of curses over the land and the people. The affect upon the villages has been phenomenal. Within a week after departing the Niger Delta, a messenger was sent to Lagos to inform us that many people in all the villages were reporting healings that had taken place during the crusades. In addition we received word that the 7 churches were filling with people coming in! The villages of the Egbema Kingdom are now eager for our missionaries to preach the Gospel and plant churches in them.

8 Churches And Growing!

Since the Spring of 2004 High Impact Christian Center (HICC) along with Nigeria-Ijaw Mission has planted 5 more churches. This brings our total to 8 churches presently operating and growing with Ijaw Pastors we have raised up and trained.

Thank You to Countryside Christian Center...

NIM would like to acknowledge the generous support we have received from Countryside Christian Center (Clearwater, FL). They raised \$12,000 in 2003 and over \$22,000 in 2004 for us, at their Annual Missions Conferences. These funds have been directly applied to 6 of our church building projects.

Our Current 8 Churches...

These are the present 8 churches of HICC. All 8 have church buildings that were provided by funds raised through NIM. And all of the Pastors have been trained and totally supported by your contributions through this ministry. The enormous fruit of your giving is difficult to calculate. Please pray for these churches and their Pastors.

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| 1. Ajakurama Village | Pastor DeRock Reje |
| 2. Abere Village | Pastor Imole Lagos |
| 3. Ugbolukanga Village | Pastor Alade Igbiriki |
| 4. Gbeuba Village | Pastor Daniel Ejeni |
| 5. Ofunama Village | Pastor John Kiliki |
| 6. Jamagie Village | Pastor Joseph Agwosi |
| 7. Ogbudgbudu Village | Pastor Oweijibor Goodluck |
| 8. Opuama Village | Pastor Ebitebe Reje |

9th Church Planting...

This Spring HICC, along with the resources of NIM, will be planting a new church in the village of Sekelewu. This is the largest of our villages, and our Pastors are presently in training to take this church once we have established it.

Rapid Ministry Development

When NIM was formed in 2002 for the purpose of supporting and assisting Wilson Okotie (General Overseer of HICC), there were only 2 HICC pioneer churches in the Egbema Ijaw kingdom. They were without support and demoralized. This great Gospel breakthrough among the Ijaw Nation had stalled out and was threatening to dissolve due to isolation and lack of support. Since that time God has greatly

blessed us to render assistance and see this foothold turn into a full-blown revival and church planting movement. NIM is tasked with the responsibility of supporting ministry trainees during their education, then supplying salaries to support them when they take positions as HICC Ijaw Church Pastors. NIM also raises the funds to build the church buildings and parsonages when the churches are established. Once the building is complete, we provide a one-time financial investment into a start-up private business that the Pastors operate (usually run by the wives), to provide a self-supporting means of income. This frees up the salaries, which at that point, are redirected to another new Pastor. 6 of the 8 Ijaw Pastors currently serving full-time, have been set up in their own businesses, and are self-sufficient. The remaining 2 will likewise come off salary in September this year. Besides the Pastor support and church building, we hold evangelistic crusades, provide support to Wilson Okotie and assist with special projects.

High Impact Christian Clinic

In 2004 we received a generous contribution of \$7,000 towards the startup costs for the HICC Clinic we had planned to establish. In every village we entered the Chiefs requested that we build a hospital (clinic) in the land and bring in a Doctor and Nurses. Presently, our own Pastor DeRock and Pastor John Kiliki provide the only medical treatment available in the entire Egbema Kingdom. They attend to wounds, illnesses and maternity needs. Anything beyond that requires transporting the sick and injured on a long and difficult journey to the nearest city. We have spent the last several months in the planning stages, evaluating the need and cost, and have arrived at this conclusion:

The Clinic will require a professionally trained doctor, with a missionary heart, who is willing to leave the comforts of the city, and move down to the Ijaw Villages. We will also need 2 trained nurses, and assistants to handle administration, housekeeping and security. In addition we will need a facility. Presently, travel conditions down into the remote Egbema Kingdom, are so difficult, that we cannot persuade a Doctor or Nurse to come. So until we are able to provide a motor boat, or improve the jungle road, the finances are on reserve for that project.

A Motor Boat

Down in the Niger Delta travel by boat is a necessity. To reach the Egbema Kingdom in a large twin-motor speed boat, takes over 3 hours from the nearest town. Without a boat travel is much longer and more difficult over the jungle trails. We are seeking contributions towards the purchase of a good motorboat, in order to provide transportation down into the area, and then travel in between the village churches. A boat for this purpose would require an investment of about \$10,000. The provision of such a boat would answer 3 important needs:

1. It would effectively increase our abilities to evangelize the remote fishing communities.
 2. It would allow us to attract medical professionals to work in our Clinic, since they would have access to the outside world and not be stuck down in the Bush.
 3. The boat would belong to our Ijaw churches, and when it was not being used for the ministry it could be used to generate an income by providing taxi service to the Ijaws.
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Upcoming January '06 Trip...

This January I will return to Africa with a team of 4 other men from Faith Christian Church. Accompanying me will be my Youth Pastor, Martin Span, Our keyboardist, Chris Dunn, and 2 zealous young men in their 20s, Donny Tucker and Justin Beatty. I am excited about bringing these men to the mission field, and the contributions they will make. I have made the previous 2 trips alone, to hold down costs. Much has been accomplished but the labor was very strenuous. I am looking forward to the help on this trip. Before our departure I will be training the team in effective prayer and spiritual warfare, how to minister to the sick, as well as how to preach in the jungle-crusade environment.

Expenses...

These men all have to raise the funds to cover the cost of their travel, approximately \$2000 per person. We all go to the mission field at our own expense and pay for the costs of our crusades, travel and accommodations while in country. Customarily missionaries are provided for as guests of their host churches. But since we are a Missionary Church-Planting organization, sent to the poor and remote unreached people groups, we minister at our own expense. It is the

cost of taking the Gospel to those who have never heard. Your share in this support is deeply appreciated.

The Future...

This Spring the goal for Phase One of the vision to reach the Ijaw will have been completed. 9 churches will have been planted in the primary villages of the 1 million member Egbema Kingdom of the Ijaws. The Egbema Kingdom is the spiritual Mecca of the 15 million member Ijaw Tribe, and having successfully established the Gospel there with a self-perpetuating indigenous church-planting operation, is a huge mile stone. We will now have a solid base of ministry from which to move into the other Ijaw Kingdoms.

Moving Forward...

- Pastors are NOW being trained in the Egbema Churches
- Teams are being prepared to enter the next Ijaw Kingdom
- NIM will move forward with the next pioneering efforts into new territory
- The existing Egbema Churches will evangelize the rest of the Egbema Kingdom, and plant churches there
- Churches in the US are beginning to join in support of the continuing ministry in Egbema

Sincerely Yours In Christ,
[Nick Champlin](#)