

# TANZANIA UPDATE

## 3 weeks of training

Our group finished up 3 weeks of intensive training, and we have grown both spirituality and intellectually.

Set up on the top floor of a hotel in Mwanza, Tanzania our classes began. 15 students being instructed by some of the greatest leaders and missionaries in all of Africa. Our group has studied culture, learned about mission work, and completed courses in teaching and basic Swahili.

## service highlights

We have been blessed to be able to attend and work in village churches around the Mwanza area. Kieske and Bwiru are two areas that we have been able to preach, teach Sunday school, and connect with the national people and their pastors.

The Tanzanian people are so kind and our group has loved getting to worship along side them in services.

God is doing a great work here in Tanzania, and I am blessed to be a part of the great things happening in this beautiful country.



## Overview

Africa has the ability to capture one's heart. I don't know if it's quite explainable but the draw of the people and their culture is simply astounding. Every child, every person you encounter on the street or in the market, becomes not a pair of eyes staring back at you but a very real soul. I've loved getting to grow myself and stretch outside of my comfort zones. I've learned about my self and made life long connections with other like minded, Kingdom builders, who have pushed me and encouraged me to seek God more and more each day. The wifi is spotty, the water is not always hot, and family and friends are far, but Tanzania has become my training ground. I truly believe Next Steps is helping mold me in to a greater global Christian.

The city of Mwanza, Tanzania is settled right on the southeast corner of Lake Victoria, and is home to 2.7 million people. Mwanza is called the City of Rocks. City of Rocks, due to the fact that boulders larger than houses lie scattered all over the mountains. Mwanza is a beautiful city. There are markets full of fresh fruits and vegetables that line the streets, women walk



## favorite moments

- So far, our group has attended the 1st national ladies conference in Tanzania as well as a youth conference in the Shinyanga region. Both conferences I have had the opportunity to speak, and I thank God for those opportunities to grow and speak into the lives of His people.
- Teaching ESL (English Secondary Language) to adults was a moment I will never forget. To see the joy when they grasped a concept, or could respond in English to a question was one of the most rewarding moments I have had thus far.
- At the Shinyanga youth conference we had 56 people get baptized in a cow pond, (yes you read that right in a cow pond). We walked half a mile to the nearest source of water, and the church people gathered around and sang in Swahili about the power of Jesus.
- Forever Angel's Baby Home is an orphanage in Mwanza. One Sunday afternoon our group had the opportunity to go and love on those precious children. Some suffer from HIV, some have abusive pasts, some have abnormalities, but the orphanage is filled with such joy. To love on God's children was an absolute blessing I will forever cherish.

home carrying their purchases of the day a top their heads, and the lake is filled with plenty of ferries & fishermen hoping to get their catch for the day.

There are so many stories to be shared and experiences that have forever changed me. To every person who has supported me in prayer, financially, or in words of encouragement...I can't thank you enough! God has opened this door and I have been blessed to step through it. Many exciting things to come in the month of July!



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