All-nations Association of Bible Schools

September 2026

West Africa Regional Conference: Equipping Leaders, Strengthening the Church

We give thanks to God for a wonderful West Africa Regional Conference held recently in Ivory Coast. More than 130 Christian leaders from seven countries gathered for three days of fellowship, encouragement, teaching, and equipping. Many of those in attendance were Bible School Directors serving at AABS-associated schools, making this a special opportunity to strengthen the leaders who are training the next generation of pastors and church leaders.

The conference was a beautiful picture of the growing partnership God is building across West Africa. Leaders from different nations and ministry backgrounds came together with a shared desire—to see the Church strengthened through faithful biblical training.

We were especially grateful to have **Pastor Brian Flewelling from Petra Church in New Holland, Pennsylvania**, serve as our keynote speaker. Other sessions were led by **Dr. Prince Achin** and **Dr. Joshua Baah-Binney** from Ghana, as well as **Dr. Paul Adim** from Nigeria. Each brought valuable biblical teaching and practical encouragement to the leaders gathered.

Our West Africa Region Director, **Rev. James Odoom**, also had the opportunity to introduce AABS to those attending who were not yet associated with the All-nations Association of Bible Schools. As he shared about the ministry of AABS, he told a story that beautifully illustrates why accessible biblical education is so important.

Rev. James spoke about a spiritual son who noticed that whenever he traveled outside the country, the leaders of his church would begin arguing about who was in charge. Rev. James encouraged him to start a Bible school so that his leaders could receive biblical and ministry training. He registered the school with AABS and began training his leaders.

Eventually, all of the leaders completed a certificate in **Church and Ministry**. The result was remarkable. The leaders gained a much clearer understanding of their roles and responsibilities, and the pastor said that when he is away, things now operate smoothly. He described the change as **"like a miracle."**

Stories like this remind us that Bible school is about more than classrooms, courses, and certificates. Biblical education can bring unity, clarity, and maturity to a local church. It helps leaders understand how God has gifted and called them, enabling them to serve together more effectively.

As AABS continues to grow throughout West Africa and around the world, we are grateful for opportunities like this conference to encourage those who are faithfully investing in others. We believe that when local leaders are equipped, churches are strengthened, and when churches are strengthened, communities are impacted.

We give thanks to God for YOU - the churches, families and businesses who make this ministry possible. Please continue to pray for our associated schools and their leaders as they faithfully train men and women to serve Christ. We are excited to see what God will do through these partnerships in the days ahead. We deeply appreciate the prayers, encouragement and financial partnership that you bring- it makes what we do possible! Contributions may be sent to AABS, PO Box 556, New Holland, PA 17557 or given through our website, www.friendsofaabs.com. Thank you! May God generously reward you!

AABS Mission Statement:

"Making Biblical education available and affordable in local churches and communities around the world"