



. . . Love Breaks Through

**“By this everyone will know that you are my disciples,
if you love one another.” - John 13:34**

Sadly, God’s Church both near and far can become divided along denominational lines that create more barriers than bridges. Such walls block the light of love Jesus meant for us to shine. But . . .

Your partnership with ELI is breaking down barriers and igniting collaboration among churches and people in many East African villages today!

One pastor said, “We used to feel as if we were competing with one another. Now we fellowship and enjoy praying for each other and collaborating in ways I never thought possible. I’m learning to love my fellow pastors.”



As HOPE is reaching families and villages, deep connections between the pastors of local churches are vital to advancing God's kingdom. Peter and Edna, two ELI Kenya staff, travel far and wide to equip pastors and churches for more effective ministry. During their seminars and workshops, pastors from different denominations are brought together for collective empowerment. **Then, as the pastors interact during breakout sessions, worship, and meals, the denominational barriers begin to shatter and collaboration is ignited!**

At one workshop, Pastor Sakwa said to the entire group,



Pastors, this is a revival! Let us bury our denominational and pastoral differences and embrace what our friends from ELI have challenged and encouraged us to do. It is time!



One specific area of ELI training teaches church leaders to establish powerful Sunday school and outreach programs for children. Because half the population of East Africa is under the age of 18, Edna's expertise in this field is greatly needed! For example, children in Chomisia were suffering and becoming more isolated in alcoholic-led homes during COVID-19. Pregnancies were on the rise and families were struggling to stay together. **Edna's persistent training with a group of**

local churches eventually led to a collaborative village-wide event where 200 children from different denominations were powerfully impacted—along with the church leadership that worked together for the children's sake.

Edna shared:



God has given us a vision to help churches work together as one. God's work will prevail if we continue training pastors and Sunday school teachers, doing follow-ups, and encouraging them to be one as they work together with ELI. It gives me joy seeing children who are receiving Jesus Christ and then seeing the parents also hunger for the Word of God. This gives me the strength to bring HOPE to families.

Your partnership is helping to fuel Jesus' command to love one another, which is more than simply a request. **It is part of a kingdom-advancing strategy to bring joy to our lives and strength to the Church as we join Christ in Igniting World Changers for Jesus.** Thank you for your prayers and partnership that is causing barriers to crumble and love to break through in East Africa!
