

JANUARY 2025

Pedals for the Nations: A Journey of Faith, for Missions Mobilization



Vincent, Sylvia and Makarios Gidudu

My name is Gidudu Vincent Stephen. I am blessed to share this journey alongside my wife, Sylvia Gidudu, and our son, Makarios.

At the beginning of 2024, I joined Emmanuel International Uganda as their first Ugandan support-raising missionary. My mission? **To mobilize the church in Northern Uganda and across Uganda for global missions.**

This calling ignited a profound desire within me: to see the Ugandan church,

which has cherished the presence of the Gospel for 147 years, transition from being a mission field to a mission force. The motivation is rooted in Habakkuk 2:14, where the prophet declares, "For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea."

A Call to Action

Uganda's rich Christian heritage positions it uniquely to be a light to the nations. However, the time has come for the church here to embrace its role in the Great Commission - not just as receivers of the Gospel but as carriers of its transformative power to the unreached corners of the world. Our mission involves engaging local churches, college students, and university communities. Through awareness,

equipping, empowering, and exposing believers to the opportunities and needs of global missions, we aim to activate the entire body of Christ to participate in unique ways.

Yet, mobilizing the church for missions is not without its challenges. My role depends heavily on ministry partners who provide the financial and prayer support that allows me to dedicate myself fully to this work. To address these needs and raise awareness for this critical

mission, I embarked on an extraordinary initiative: Pedals for the Nations.

Why Pedals for the Nations?

Pedals for the Nations is more than just a fundraiser; it's a symbolic journey of faith, endurance, and purpose. The campaign's goal was two-fold: to **raise the financial support** necessary for my ministry and to **create awareness** about the urgent need for missions mobilization. The act of cycling over 600 kilometers across eastern Uganda to the capital represented the resilience and commitment required to advance God's Kingdom. With a borrowed bicycle and an unwavering spirit, I set out to inspire others to join this movement of transforming Uganda into a missions-sending nation.

The Journey



On November 25, 2024, I began my journey from Gulu, pedaling through the cities of Lira, Soroti, Mbale, and Jinja before finally reaching Kampala. The total distance covered was an astounding 607 kilometers, accomplished over four grueling days, with one extra day of rest. Along the way, I encountered breathtaking landscapes, unpredictable



weather, and the physical challenges of cycling long distances. But what made the journey truly remarkable were the divine appointments and opportunities to connect with church and ministry leaders.

In Lira City, I had the privilege of meeting Rev. Samuel Baker Okullo, a priest at St. Augustine Church of Uganda, Lango Diocese. We discussed the possibility of organizing missions mobilization conferences to inspire the local church to take a more active role in the Great Commission. Later, in Mbale City, I met Mr. Kibuuka Herbert, the team leader of CAPRO Ministries Uganda, and explored ways to collaborate in equipping and empowering believers for missions. These conversations underscored the potential for unity and partnership in advancing the Gospel.

The Impact

The Pedals for the Nations campaign yielded incredible results, both tangible and intangible:

- 1. Fundraising Success:** Through the generosity of ministry partners and supporters, we raised approximately 7 million Uganda shillings. This financial support is a testament to the collective



Rev Samuel Baker Okullo, Vincent Gidudu and Rev Dn Jimmy Francis Odongo

belief in the vision of mobilizing the Ugandan church for global missions.

2. Awareness Creation: The campaign brought much-needed attention to the work of missions mobilization. It inspired many to consider how they could contribute to the Great Commission, whether through prayer, financial support, or active participation.

3. Prayer Support: One of the most heartening outcomes was the number of individuals who joined my prayer team. Their intercession serves as a spiritual backbone for this ministry, reinforcing the belief that prayer is the foundation of any lasting impact.

Lessons from the Journey

Pedals for the Nations was as much a spiritual journey as it was a physical one. It taught me the value of perseverance, the importance of faith, and the power of community. Every kilometer cycled was a reminder that the road to fulfilling the Great Commission is often challenging but always rewarding. The journey reaffirmed that God's strength is made

perfect in our weakness, enabling us to achieve what seems impossible.

A Call to Partnership

As I reflect on this incredible experience, I am filled with gratitude for those who supported me - financially, prayerfully, and emotionally. Yet, the journey is far from over. The mission to mobilize the Ugandan church for global impact requires ongoing support and collaboration. I invite you to join me in this endeavor. Here are some ways you can get involved:

- **Pray:** Commit to praying regularly for the work of missions mobilization in Uganda. Pray for wisdom, strength, and divine opportunities to inspire and equip others.
- **Give:** Your financial support can help sustain this ministry, allowing us to reach more churches, students, and communities with the message of the Great Commission.
- **Partner:** Consider how your church, organization, or ministry can collaborate with us to organize

conferences, training sessions, and awareness campaigns.

Conclusion

The Pedals for the Nations campaign was not just a fundraiser - it was a declaration of faith in the transformative power of the Gospel and the potential of the Ugandan church to rise as a missions force. As we continue this journey, let us remember the words of Jesus in Matthew 28:19 - 20: "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations..." Together, we can fulfill this Great Commission, bringing the hope and glory of God to the ends of the earth.

Will you join us in this mission? Together, we can pedal forward, one step closer to seeing the earth filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord.

On mission for His glory!

Help Vincent reach his goal

Vincent is Emmanuel International's very first self funded local missionary! As a Ugandan, he is raising his own support. He has achieved about half of his target which is approx £3,250 (15.5 million UG shillings), covering all the funds needed for 2025. This will enable him to continue engaging with churches and believers to take up their unique Great Commission roles.

Give directly to EIUK's bank: CAF Bank Ltd Sort code: 40-52-40 Account no: 00033722 Earmark your gift "Vincent"

EI in Brazil, Canada and Uganda are also still collecting funds for Vincent. Please contact us (details on front page) if you want more information on how to support Vincent and his family in mobilising missions in Uganda!



**Emmanuel International UK
Conference & AGM**

Saturday, 1 March 2025 10:30am-4pm

ST JOHN'S CHURCH, SOUTHBOURNE

Our annual conference and AGM is coming up soon! We are looking forward to hearing about EI's work, praying together and spending social time.

We look forward to hearing from, amongst others...



Simon Ewing



Fred Silva



Mike and Marianne
Botting



Daniel Jovin

Cost only **£15 per person**, to include lunch and tea/coffee.

RSVP by Friday 21 February 2025

The Conference brochure and booking form can be found on our website on www.eiuk.org.uk/eiuk-conf-agm or scan the QR code on your smartphone.



**If you have not yet renewed your
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2025, please do so before the
AGM. Details on www.eiuk.org.uk.**