

# AGAPE TODAY

April 2026 NEWS FROM THE NATIONS



## YOU WILL BE MY WITNESSES

from Acts 1:8

Lives across Africa are being transformed through the power of Jesus. In places where darkness once held strong, the gospel is taking root—and people are encountering Jesus in life-changing ways. We invite you to step into the frontlines of the expanding reach of the Gospel through Agape Churches.

## “FOLLOW JESUS, YOU WILL DIE.”

**LUCIEN** In Porto-Novo, Benin, spiritual realities are not hidden. They are part of everyday life—woven into conversations, decisions, and fears that shape entire families. For many, these forces are not symbolic. They are real, present, and powerful.

Lucien Houndoevou grew up in that world.

Born in Avrankou, he was raised in a family deeply entrenched in voodoo worship. These were not distant traditions or occasional rituals. They were a way of life—something inherited, something unquestioned. After losing his mother at just nine years old, those influences only grew stronger. The environment around him left little room for anything different.

Now 23, Lucien came to Porto-Novo to study Electrical Installation at a technical school. His focus was simple: learn a skill, build a future, and move forward. There was no indication that his life was about to take a different path.

Then, on February 2, 2025, everything shifted.

That day, the Agape Church pastors, Rev. and Mrs. Johnson visited Lucien's home and shared the message of Jesus. It was not loud or dramatic. It was simple, direct, and personal—and it reached him.

That Sunday, during the altar call at the Agape Church in Porto-Novo, Lucien and three other young people surrendered their lives to Jesus Christ.

But in his world, a decision like that does not stay private.

When his father learned what had happened, the response was immediate and severe. The warning was clear: **“If you choose to leave our voodoo faith and follow Jesus, you will die.”**

It was not spoken as a figure of speech. It was a real threat, rooted in the spiritual fears that had shaped his family for generations.

Not long after, Lucien became ill. In that moment, the path in front of him narrowed. His father offered him access to satanic oracles — something familiar, something expected, something that promised help.

It would have been easy to return. Easy to comply. Easy to avoid conflict.

But he refused. Instead, he chose to come for prayer.

Rev. Johnson and his wife stood with him during that time. She cared for him medically as a nurse,

while both of them supported him spiritually—praying, encouraging, and walking with him through uncertainty.

Then the situation intensified.

Lucien experienced what the church described as a direct spiritual attack—a spirit of death. In a place where such realities are deeply feared, the weight of that moment was not his alone. Others were watching. New believers were asking the same question, quietly but urgently:

“Can Jesus protect us from evil attacks and secure our lives?”

What followed became more than a personal moment. Through powerful prayers of deliverance, the Lord protected him.

And when his father confronted him again, he said: **“If you have chosen to follow Jesus, then let Jesus help you.”**

**And He did.**

What had been a question became a testimony.

Fear began to give way to confidence. What once felt uncertain now had a visible answer.

Even now, Lucien’s journey is not easy.

He continues to face financial challenges. There are times when school fees are uncertain, and even basic needs, like food, are not guaranteed. The decision he made did not remove hardship—it clarified it.

But it also strengthened something deeper. His faith has not weakened. It has grown stronger.

This month, Lucien will begin attending Agape Bible College while continuing his technical education—step by step, building a life that looks very different from the one once expected of him.

Lucien’s story is a testimony of courageous faith—and of Jesus’ unfailing faithfulness to those who follow Him.

In a place where fear is real and the cost is high, Jesus proved Himself strong on Lucien’s behalf. And He remains just as faithful today—worthy of our full trust.

## AGAPE CHURCHES ON THE FOREFRONT



Lucien with Rev Johnson

### Agape Church Porto-Novo, Benin Rep.

Benin Republic is situated on the Atlantic coast of West Africa between Nigeria and Togo. It is the birthplace of Voodoo – and millions of people still actively practice witchcraft and idolatry throughout the land. Roughly two-thirds of the population of 14 million people are under the age of 25.

Agape Church was launched in the capital city of Porto Novo on January 26, 2025, by Rev. and Mrs. Rotimi Johnson. God has blessed our outreach and discipleship, and we are excited about reaching the youth and breaking the bondages of Voodoo by the power of Jesus Christ.



Pastor Michael Agyei Amoani and his family

### Testimony from Pastor Michael Agape Church Tema, Ghana

My name is Michael Agyei Amoani. I am married and blessed with three children. Before encountering Christ personally, I was a businessman who operated strictly by natural principles. Although I had heard about Jesus Christ, I was not born again and did not have a true relationship with Him.

By the grace of God, Pastor Bright Koko ministered to me, and through his guidance and teaching, I accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior. This decision marked the beginning of a new life

*continued*

for me. I served faithfully in his church “Agape Church Tema C. 25- Hallelujah Temple” for six months, during which time my spiritual hunger and desire to grow in the Word increased. Pastor Bright Koko later introduced me to Agape Bible College, and by God’s favor I was admitted in September 2023. My time in the Bible College was transformational, grounding me deeply in Scripture, doctrine, and the love of God. On 30th November, 2024, I was ordained into ministry, a moment that remains one of the greatest blessings of my life.

Today, I serve as an ordained Pastor under Agape Gospel Mission, and I am privileged to work as an Associate Pastor under Pastor Bright Koko. Through the teaching, mentorship, and spiritual covering of Rev. Witcomb through the Agape Gospel Mission, my life has been completely changed. I have not only received biblical knowledge but also encountered the God of love in a deeper and more personal way.

I am sincerely grateful to Agape Gospel Mission and especially to Rev. Richard Whitcomb for his unwavering support, spiritual guidance, and love shown toward me and my family. Their investment in my life has enabled me to grow, stand firm in faith, and extend the same love and truth of the Gospel to others.

Today, I am committed to preaching the Gospel, discipling others, and touching lives with the same grace that transformed me. I thank Agape Gospel Mission and Rev. Richard Whitcomb for being instrumental in God’s hands to raise and impact many lives, including me.

**To God be all the glory!!!**



Pastor Bright Owusu Koko and Pastor Michael Agyei Amoani

## **Agape Church Tema, Ghana**

Tema is a vibrant port city on the Atlantic Coast. It is Ghana’s fifth largest city and home to its largest port. Founded in 1961, Tema mixes traditional African fishing village culture with modern industrial development.

Pastor Bright Owusu Koko and his family opened Agape Church in Tema’s Community 25 on April 23, 2023. This thriving branch of Agape is a family church that is making an impact on all ages in their community.

## **Agape Church Lusaka, Zambia**

Zambia is a southern African nation of 21 million people – and 41% are less than 15 years of age! Lusaka, the capital city, is a bustling rapidly expanding metropolis with over 3 million residents.

Pastor Charles Domain Mwansa graduated from the Agape Bible College in Ghana and returned home to Zambia to open Agape Churches. He launched our church in Lusaka last year and is hard at work to reach the lost for the Lord.



Sakala Jason

## **Testimony from Sakala Agape Church Lusaka, Zambia**

In Lusaka, Sakala Jason and his family once had no spiritual home—until the Agape evangelism team knocked on their door.

Today, his children are thriving. His 12- and 14-year-old sons are growing in faith and have found a second family at the Agape Church.

**“I’m so thankful for the Bible studies and prayer meetings—they’ve changed us. We’re growing through God’s Word.”**



Watch a short video from our church in Lusaka Zambia, and read more about Agape Churches throughout Africa.

# REACH·RAISE·RESCUE

## WE NEED YOU

Your giving helps plant and sustain Agape Churches - reaching new communities with the Good News of Jesus Christ!

- Sponsor a Pastor. Support an African Pastor on the frontlines of ministry with a monthly gift of \$50 to \$200.
- Help Launch a New Agape Church: \$12,000 to \$20,000.
- Join hands with local Agape Churches to purchase land and build church buildings: \$25,000 to \$200,000.



*Find out more about  
Agape Churches  
throughout Africa.*



- Pray for bold faith among new believers, especially those facing persecution or spiritual opposition
- Protection over pastors and churches;
- Salvation for families still in darkness
- Strength for those under pressure; and
- Continued growth in discipleship, unity, and transformed lives across every Agape House church.



**WWW.AGAPEGOSPELMISSION.ORG**



**CONNECT@AGAPEGOSPELMISSION.ORG**



**703.361.3331**



**AGAPE GOSPEL MISSION  
P.O. BOX 1458 MANASSAS, VA 20108**

