

WHY SUPPORT WATS WITH SCHOLARSHIPS?

Ruth Veltkamp, WATS Missions Director

1. We are committed to the 50/15 Vision of NEMA. This is the vision to recruit, train and send 50,000 missionaries from Nigeria to the 10/40 Window in the next 15 years.
2. In our courses we train missionaries, senders and mobilizers.
 - Missionaries to take the Gospel to the unreached.
 - Senders to partner with missionaries in prayer, funds and personal moral support.
 - Mobilizers to encourage God's global vision in every local church.
3. We give practical training in these three areas through our Springboard short-term missions training program. Students are sent to the field for six weeks in June – July to work under the mentorship of experienced missionaries. They come back and report to the entire WATS community during the annual Missions Convention in September. During the Missions Convention we launch Springboard for the next year. Every member of the WATS community pledges support for those who will be going the next year. Springboard offerings are collected every Wednesday in chapel. These offerings are used to support the SB missionaries on the field so that they will not be a burden to the missionaries there and can even help out financially.
4. Springboard missionaries are trained to recruit prayer and financial partners from churches and friends for transport to and from the field.
5. Every student must take two semesters of introduction to missions. In the second semester the assignments include going to a church group to create missions awareness. This gives every WATS student practice in mobilization for missions.
6. We have a Missions Track on the undergraduate level. We teach courses such as History of Missions, Anthropology for Missions, Islam, Discipling Muslim Background Believers and more.
7. We have a Masters in Intercultural Studies (missions) program. Half of the courses are basic theology courses. The other half are courses that prepare students to understand Islam and work among Muslims.
8. Nigeria is strategic for missions in Africa and beyond.
 - There are over 400 language groups in Nigeria alone.
 - One in five black Africans is a Nigerian.
 - Some 50-60 million Nigerians are Christians.
 - About 50 million Nigerians are Muslims.
 - Half of West African Muslims are Nigerians.
 - Nigeria has an emerging Global Missions Force with 5,200 missionaries in 56 nations
9. WATS has a proven track record in training for missions.

- We have graduates doing missions work in Nigeria, Camerouns, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Belgium, China, Saudi Arabia, and the Philippines. Another graduate plans to go to Mauritania next month.
 - Our graduates have mobilized local churches and even whole denominations for missions.
10. WATS teaches missions as taking the whole gospel for the whole man to the whole world. We also have a Department of Urban and Wholistic ministries.
 11. Since students in WATS come from Gambia in the West to Malawi in the East to Angola in the South to Burkina Faso in the North, this school is by make-up intercultural. This makes for practical intercultural training right on site!
 12. Many of our faculty have knowledge and skills for training in missions. Three are MBBs (Muslim Background Believers). One was a missionary under Great Commission in Nigeria (the Nigerian name for Campus Crusade for Christ). Others are graduates of WATS with Springboard experience.
 13. All students have weekend assignments in local churches to develop skills in evangelism and discipling.
 14. Students of WATS also participate in evangelism locally through public filmshow, prison, and orphanage ministries.
 15. The tuition cost for scholarship on both the undergraduate and graduate levels is 150,000 naira (\$1,200) per year, \$100 per month. This is much more economical than sponsoring a national to the USA for training! Even a roundtrip ticket for only one person is nearly two years' scholarship. In addition, the training is more suitable for the African context and generally for the third world.