



***Being and Making Disciples Amongst the
Children***

Lessons 1-3

MISSIONS EDUCATION LESSONS
2024



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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the second Missions Education Journal (Part 1) on the Trinidad and Tobago District, authored by our very own local Nazarenes, helping to highlight mission stories within Trinidad and Tobago and on our Region – Mesoamerica.

We will be following a staggered release of lessons every quarter to **help** with your Mission Education Sessions, Mission Moments and Children and Youth Mission Sessions. Each month, the lesson provided will bring focus to the NMI Monthly Emphasis.

The Lessons

Most lessons follow the same format. Using the summary below, familiarize yourself with lesson components and their purposes.

- **Lesson Purpose:** Missions stories are inspiring and more memorable when listeners understand the importance behind them.
- **Scripture:** The verses coordinate with the topic. These are sometimes used within the presentations. If not, please read them to the group. This helps your people associate scripture with missions.
- **Fast Facts:** These statistics about the lesson topic are, at times, worked into the presentation. For those times when they are not, use them to enrich the learning experience.
- **Lesson Information:** This may include an introduction, one or more missions stories, and sometimes additional material on the topic. Use as much of the Lesson Information as time allows.
- **Presentation Ideas:** Three options are presented – each for different age groups, children, youth and adults.
- **ACT ON IT:** These practical ideas for personal involvement pertain to the lesson topic. They are varied and can include prayer, giving, and participating in local or global projects that may turn into long-term ministries for your church.
- **Resources:** This lists websites, videos, books, and additional articles on the lesson topic.

The Theme: Being and Making Disciples Amongst the Children

The main theme on the Mesoamerica Region over the next four years is "Being and making disciples". The sub-theme our District is using this year is "Being and Making Disciples Amongst the Children". This year, we want to engage our children more in mission activities. We also want to ensure they are exposed to mission work in the Church of the Nazarene through these Mission Education Lessons. Let them know that they can pray for and give to support missions as well.

Authors

Our authors for this first release of Mission Lessons for 2024 are

1. *Leigh Hope* - Leigh is the current District NMI President of the Trinidad and Tobago District. She has fond memories from her childhood of Mission Education sessions at her home church. She is a member of the Dibe Church of the Nazarene.
2. *Carol Garner-Dupigny* - Carol is currently serving as the District NMI Children's Coordinator. She has served in various arms of the Mission Department for a long time. She is a member of the Five Rivers Church of the Nazarene.
3. *Janice Bastaldo* - Janice is the current District NMI Secretary. She has a passion for children and is the principal of a pre-school. Janice is a member of the Arima Church of the Nazarene.

I wish to thank all those who have come on board to write these lessons as well as those who are working behind the scene. Thank you to every member of the District NMI Council and to our editor, Rev. Donnamie Ali. We are still looking for persons to help with the lessons in the new year as we seek to highlight the stories of those amongst us and those nearby. Feel free to reach out to us with your comments, suggestions and to volunteer to write a lesson. We hope that this material answers a need for resources for teaching about missions in our churches. God bless you.

Leigh Hope

District NMI President

LESSON 1

Genesis – From Guyana to Grenada

Lesson Prepared By: Leigh Hope

GENESIS – FROM GUYANA TO GRENADA

January Emphasis – Genesis

LESSON PURPOSE:

- To encourage persons to participate in the Genesis Initiative through participation, prayer and giving.

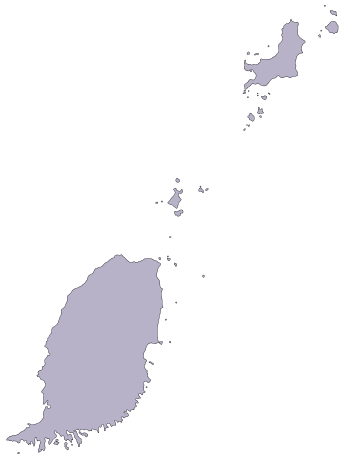
SCRIPTURE (CHILDREN):

Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."

-John 20:21



Génesis
Mesoamérica



Grenada



Grenada's Flag

FAST FACTS:

Genesis is a Regional Initiative that targets the cities in our Region. Genesis missionaries are sent to these areas to serve for a two year period with the aim of establishing churches in the cities.

In 2016, two Caribbean persons accepted the call to serve through the Genesis Initiative in Grenada. Cleon Cadogan of Guyana was one of these persons, serving alongside Crystalla Williams of Trinidad and Tobago. They served the people of Grenada from 2016-2018.

Grenada is an island country in the West Indies in the Caribbean Sea at the southern end of the Grenadines island chain. Grenada consists of the island of Grenada itself, two smaller islands, Carriacou and Petite Martinique, and several small islands which lie to the north of the main island and are a part of the Grenadines. It is located northwest of Trinidad and Tobago, northeast of Venezuela and southwest of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. It has an estimated population of 125,000 persons. Its capital is St. George's.

Grenada is also known as the "Island of Spice" due to its production of nutmeg and mace crops.

LESSON INFORMATION



Hello Cleon!

Cleon Cadogan was born in the wonderful country of Guyana. In his early years, he attended the New Testament Church of God, before joining the Church of the Nazarene in 2005. He served at the North Ruimveldt Church of the Nazarene as Church Secretary, and was involved in the music ministry and youth department for a number of years. In 2010, Cleon decided to pursue a degree in Music and Human Resource Management at Caribbean Nazarene College (CNC) but as God wanted, he received a scholarship from CNC to pursue his Bachelor's Degree in Theology, with a major in Music. He went on to graduate from CNC in 2014.

Photo: Cleon Cadogan

Preparing for the Mission

In 2015, Cleon was prompted to use his skills in music, art and the culinary arts to serve on a short-term mission trip "Called to Serve" in Grenada. On this trip, he would at times have to "step out of his comfort zone" (music, art and cooking) to facilitate the mission work. However, he did not mind. This was not Cleon's first rodeo in missions. He had participated in a 9-month mission as a Music Coordinator in French Guiana years before, with another denomination. God was preparing him even before he was a Nazarene.

In 2012, Cleon attended a Regional Conference called FOCUS in Panama where he first heard about the Genesis Initiative. However, it was not until a few years later that he felt called to participate in Genesis. His initial reaction was to run from God's call, since like many others, he just desired to move to a place where he could enjoy a better quality of life. However, he finally came to the realization that

what God was calling him to do was more important than what he wanted to do for himself and he said Yes to God's call to GO.

He spent time in prayer and fasting, partnered and connected with many persons across the Region and globally and attended a Cross Cultural Orientation (CCO) to prepare himself for the journey that lay ahead of him. In 2016, Cleon was deployed to serve as a Genesis Missionary, together with Trinidad and Tobago's Crystalla Williams, in Grenada.

From Guyana to Grenada

When Cleon went to Grenada, there was only one Church of the Nazarene there. His role was to plant another church in an area called Content, working alongside and providing training to Bro. Christopher Douglas. There were others who had gone before Cleon, who did some ground work in the area, including Rev. Samuel Pile.

Jason was a young man who owned a bar in Content. God had given him a dream about some needs in the community and the need for a church to be started there. When Cleon and Bro. Douglas reached out to him about the possibility of using the bar for Sunday School classes, he agreed.

On Sunday afternoons, the children in the community would come to Sunday School in the bar. They would sit on the bar stools, gathering around the pool table to hear about Jesus. The pool table became their workstation for crafting and other activities. Cleon used an initiative of "a birthday cake for a child" to break the ice and engage the community. Each child was given a cake for their birthday which he baked and decorated for himself! After about one month, Jason said he would close the bar and give the space to the church on Sundays for church services. In less than six months, they were able to establish a fully organized church in Content, Grenada, all thanks to God.

Everyone pooled their resources to establish the church. Jason, the now previous bar owner, went on to be baptized, become a member of the church and currently serves as NYI President. The now ordained elder, Rev. Christopher Douglas, became the Pastor of the Content Church of the Nazarene!

From this start, the Church of the Nazarene in Grenada added four more churches and presently has six established Nazarene churches!

"Grenada's story is unique. but it was not unique for me because I know if God is able to do exceedingly abundantly above which we can ask, think or imagine, we can never really put a limitation on Him based on what He desires to do. And I thank God for the opportunity to serve in Grenada and for being able to be a pioneer as to what can be done if we put our hearts and our minds to the vision that he has for His people." - Cleon Cadogan



Content Church of the Nazarene

PRESENTATION IDEAS

Children

1. Dramatize the missionary story shared.
2. Object Lesson: Get a bookbag / backpack. Ask a volunteer to put on the bookbag. The empty bookbag is not heavy to carry around, but slowly begin placing heavy objects in the bookbag. With each object added, find out how it feels. Let them know that there are a lot of people carrying around heavy burdens. Ask if the volunteer would like to take off the bookbag. Present the option of trading - taking the heavy bag and giving the volunteer something light to carry instead like a stuffed toy. Find out if that is better.
3. Explain that God does the same thing for persons who are carrying heavy burdens - He will happily trade it so they can carry something light. But they have to know that He does that. In order for people to know that God wants to carry their burdens, someone has to tell them. Do you want to?
4. Share Cleon's story. He wanted to let the people in Grenada know that God wants to carry their heavy burdens.
5. Discuss how Cleon's obedience led people to know God.
6. As an activity, children can draw a scene from the story.
7. Teach John 20:21 as the memory verse.

Youth

1. Object Lesson: Basketball - Set up a trash can and have paper rolled up into balls on hand. Mark off certain spaces on the floor of the room with X's. Get some volunteers. The first volunteer has to stand on the X closest to the trash can and try to shoot five paper balls into the trash can. This is his comfort zone. Then, move him further away, with the same goal to get five paper balls into the trash can. Let the volunteer throw from the different spaces marked X. There will be some tough spots to throw from. They are "out of the volunteer's comfort zone". Let all volunteers have a chance to throw from the various spaces. Discuss how they felt when they were far away from the trash can. Was there uncertainty that they would make the shot? Moving out of your comfort zone makes you feel uneasy and uncertain.
2. Share the story through drama or look at Cleon's Video (<https://youtu.be/U6ksVUjvsPk>) and discuss how Cleon was able to share the gospel by moving out of his comfort zone (Called to Serve trip and bar). What stood out about Cleon's story?
3. Find out if anyone has ever been to Grenada. What do they like about it? How was the experience?
4. Introspection: Is God calling you to be a Genesis Missionary - to share His love in the cities? Discuss the scripture and allow time for introspection.

Adults

1. Find out if anyone has ever been to Grenada. What do they like about it? How was the experience?
2. Discuss the main scripture. What does it mean?
3. Discuss how disciples can be made in the cities.
4. Look at Cleon's video (<https://youtu.be/U6ksVUjvsPk>). Discuss what stood out to you.

ACT ON IT

1. Promote the Genesis Initiative in your local church – Look at the places where the volunteers are being sent.
2. Promote the Special Offering of GENESIS during the month of January. The goal is to raise \$7TT DOLLARS per member in each local church to support the training and other resources needed for the missionaries who are sent to the Genesis sites.
3. Continue to pray, give and go to impact the urban areas in your country and abroad.
4. Pray for the Genesis Missionaries who are currently serving
5. Pray that those who sense God's call to serve in this area will say yes!

RESOURCES

1. Genesis - From Guyana to Grenada (Cleon's Story):
<https://youtu.be/U6ksVUjvsPk>

LESSON 2

But For the Grace of God – The Paul Bunsee Story

Lesson Prepared By: Carol Garner-Dupigny

But for the Grace of God – The Paul Bunsee Story

February Emphasis – Local Mission

LESSON PURPOSE:

1.To encourage our children and youth to continue serving God. Giving their hearts and lives in faithful service. As they look to their mentors who are great examples of faithfulness to God.

SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 15:1-10

“But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me.”

– 1 Corinthians 15:10

FUN FACTS:

Rev. Paul Bunsee is currently serving as the Senior Pastor of the Sangre Grande Church of the Nazarene.

Here are some of his favorites:

1. Scripture – Matthew 28:20b “And lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”
2. Hymn – “Wonderful words of life”
3. Chorus – “I know the Lord will make a way for me.”
4. Color – Turquoise Blue | Aqua Blue
5. Food – Jerk chicken, veggie rice, green salad



LESSON INFORMATION:

There are people that God has positioned in our lives that have blessed, helped and inspired us along our Christian walk. Somehow though, we've not had the opportunity to know their story, their journey of faith and how they came to know Jesus as Lord and savior, and their motivation and pass for the ministry they function in.

This is one such story that is inspiring and encouraging, showing that Missions and the calling of to be a Missionary is still vitally necessary and life-giving to children, youths and the adults of our dying world. This is the story of a young man who God rescued from death to life, then gave him a passion, purpose and an anointed ministry to fulfil a divine calling. He is Rev. Paul Bunsee.

Paul, Pastor Paul, Rev. Paul are a few of the titles he is known by. But a few know him as Kamil Paul Sunil Bunsee, as we would say in Trinidad, his government name. Paul was born on the beautiful island of Trinidad and Tobago to parents Viginia and Deoraj Bunsee, now both deceased, in the western town of Cocorite.

Paul has three siblings: an older brother and two younger sisters. His father was Hindu and his mother was Catholic, but after many years she gave her heart to Jesus and became a Christian, serving God until he called her home.

His earliest memories of the Church of the Nazarene were that of encountering a Missionary by the name Rev. Dr. Ruth O. Saxon. She would have started an outstation work in the El Socorro area where the family then lived. She frequently visited children in the area inviting them to church, as he jokingly recalled, hiding from her to she wouldn't see him.

His early years in education would see him through primary school, where he attended the El Socorro South Gov't school, then moving onto secondary school, he attended St. Joseph's College, but due to his father's inability to pay school fees he couldn't continue; so, he then went onto Curepe Senior Secondary School and eventually finished his secondary school education at the St. Augustine Senior Comprehensive School.

Then at the age of sixteen years old he encountered a particularly dark period in his life, when his father abandoned the family leaving him, his mother and siblings in much heartache and pain. During that time, he had to grow up and

face responsibilities he was not prepared for. Then at nineteen years old he attempted suicide, but thank God he was not successful. God has a plan and purpose for his life. It was not long after Paul gave his life to Jesus and became a Christian. He became a member and attended the El Socorro Church of the Nazarene in 1991 under the mentorship of that same Missionary he hid from as a child.

Not too long after he was saved, Paul became active and served in many different ministry areas in church. He was N.Y.I. President, taught adult Sunday School and the teens class. He was also the study chairperson for N.W.M.S now N.M.I was the N.Y.I Vice President, Church Treasurer, Secretary and more. He did almost everything.

Then there would come the call to full time service. Paul avoided this because he really didn't want to be a Pastor. In 1992 he received God's call to prepare for the pastorate but when his Pastor Rev. Saxon questioned him he lied and told her there was no call, but it would be a year later she would ask him again and this time he told her yes. 1993, he surrendered to God's call to prepare at Bible School for full time service.

He enrolled at the Caribbean Nazarene Theological College now Caribbean Nazarene College in August 1995 and after years of study graduated C.N.C with a B.A. in theology and later his M.B.A.

His involvement in Missions as he said were, "too many to recall." As a young man he became the Youth Representative on the District N.M.I. Council under the leadership of Rev. Donnemie Ali, the then President -for about two years. Then he had the opportunity to make a few Mission trips one in which he accompanied some youths from Trinidad & Tobago to Nicaragua for a two-week mission. They were able to plant about three churches. He also had the opportunity to initiate a new start in the Maracas Royal Road.

While serving in the N.M.I he felt God's call and was called to serve as the District N.Y.I President, and served as District President for six years.

Paul put his whole heart and life into the various ministries that God called him to. Whatever he did, he gave his all.

The call to the pastorate would start in 1995 as he took on his first assignment at the El Socorro Church. Then in 1997 he went to the Dow Village Church of the Nazarene, this he did on contract as he requested for one year. The church

requested another year but he stayed six months and then left. He also served at the St. James Church saying yes on their second attempt to call him, there he served as the Assistant Pastor and Youth Pastor. Paul stayed at St. James for just over eleven years before entering his present pastorate: the Sangre Grande Church of the Nazarene.

Paul has a special call and passion for discipling and mentorship of young men. After the abandonment of his father and coming through that dark period in his life, and coming to know Jesus, he realized what he needed then was, as he said and I quote, "a strong, responsible male role model, and presence in his life," end quote. From that place of need he lived through, he decided to give back, and to help mentor and disciple other young men. He would pray for God's Holy Spirit to empower them to realize their potential and calling in Christ. It's his way of expressing his gratitude to God for his goodness in his life.

Paul recalls that it was through Missions and the Missionary, Rev. Ruth Saxon, that he came to Christ. He is presently serving as the Senior Pastor of the Sangre Grande Church of the Nazarene, fulfilling God's call on his grateful life.

PRESENTATION IDEAS

Children

You can have picture symbols of different religions. One side with pictures and the other naming it out of order. Ask them to name the religion of his parents and the one he belongs to now.

Youth

Refer to the Apostle Paul in the Bible with this question.

1. Have you ever heard of the Apostle Paul in the Bible?
2. What do you know about him? You can have a short discussion about the answers you get.
3. Present the Man of God from Trinidad and Tobago by the same name: Paul Bunsee.
4. Look at the video of Rev. Bunsee sharing about his life (<https://youtu.be/QkDh3qecsVE>)
5. Invite Rev. Bunsee to engage in your session either in person or virtually.

Adult

1. Ask the question to your group; Do people ever come out of Hinduism and Islam or other religions to serve God? Discuss answers given.
2. Find stories of such people.
3. Present a young man whose parents were of different religions, that were not Christian but he did give his life to Jesus and is still faithful and committed to God.
4. Look at the video of Rev. Bunsee sharing about his life.
(<https://youtu.be/QkDh3qecsVE>)
5. Invite Rev. Bunsee to engage in your session either in person or virtually.

ACT ON IT!

1. Engage and encourage children and youth to be a part of Evangelism and outreach events.
2. Encourage participation in Bible Quizzing, Camps, and other activities in their Local Church and on their District.
3. Develop and maintain a Mentorship programme for the youth; especially young men.
4. Explore C.N.C and their various programmes of study for preparation to the ministry.

RESOURCES:

1. The Paul Bunsee Story on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/QkDh3qecsVE>



*Rev. Dr. Ruth O. Saxon
18-10-1930 to 02-06-2013*

LESSON 3

Carlos Gordon : Missionary to Africa

Lesson Prepared By: Janice Bastaldo

Carlos Gordon: Missionary to Africa

March Emphasis - Mobilization - The Call

LESSON PURPOSE:

To understand the importance of knowing the voice of God, listening and answering to His call.

SCRIPTURE: 1 Samuel 3:1-20

“And the Lord came, and stood, and called as at other times, Samuel, Samuel. Then Samuel answered, Speak; for thy servant heareth.”

1 Samuel 3:10

FAST FACTS:

Here are some ideas on how you can mobilize your church in reaching the lost:

1. Show them the grand story of Scripture.
2. Motivate them by grace, not guilt.
3. Train them to pray.
4. Equip them to interact cross-culturally.
5. Encourage them to pursue skills that will help them enter hard-to-reach places.

Carlos Gordon is a Jamaican young man, currently serving as a missionary in Africa, in the capacity of Regional Finance Coordinator.

LESSON INFORMATION

Carlos Gordon hails from Spanish Town, St. Catherine, Jamaica.

He is thirty-five (35) years of age and has been serving as the Regional Finance Coordinator for the Africa Region for the past three (3) years.



At an early age of twelve (12) years, Carlos gave his heart to the Lord and was baptized, both he and his sister. His parents came to know the Lord a few years later. Carlos served in his local church as NYI (Nazarene Youth International) president, ministered on the praise and worship team, and started a Sign Language group. On the district, he functioned as the YIM (Youth in Mission) coordinator and NYI vice president.

Carlos stresses on the obedience to God's call, trusting where he leads with the knowledge that he will make provisions along the way. He never envisioned himself as a Missionary for he saw himself as black and to his knowledge he had never seen a black missionary. He was also from the Caribbean—a third world country so it had to have been a dream. Carlos as a young man seemed to have everything going for him; he had a job, nice car, great salary and he was doing well.

In the countries within the African region many languages are spoken; English, Swahili, French, Portuguese and many other dialects while Carlos speaks English, a little Spanish some native "potois" (pat-wah).

In Africa, Carlos says that the people are welcoming and when you visit you will be served a meal. So, if you visit thirteen (13) homes a day then you will be given thirteen (13) meals. A multiplicity of cultures exists within the region which he has been embracing and he thoroughly enjoys every bit of the experience.

Carlos has had other interactions which consists of; feeds a Giraffe, crossing a swing bridge, flying in an air balloon and close up contact with Cheetahs.

Like Samuel in the Bible and Carlos we too are called by God for varying tasks or assignments. We need to listen to God's voice, follow his direction and leading as we fulfill our calling.

PRESENTATION IDEAS

STORY DISCUSSION

1. Carlos Gordon is a missionary to Africa. Which Caribbean Island does he originate from? **(Jamaica)**
2. What is his job title? **(Regional Finance Coordinator for the Africa Region)**
3. Name two (2) languages other than English, that are spoken in Africa? **(Swahili, French, Portuguese)**
4. How old is Carlos? **(35)**
5. Name at least two (2) experiences that Carlos had during his tenure in Africa? **(crosses a swinging bridge, feeds a giraffe, makes contact/touches a cheetah, flies in an air balloon)**

Children

1. Storytelling- have someone tell the story of Carlos by paraphrasing the video content. Use age-appropriate language.
2. Art Gallery- Have the pictures of Carlos set up on the walls or easels and have the children walk around as in a museum. Then have them comment on what was viewed. Then the lesson can be presented.
3. Inspire and encourage the children to be like Carlos and Samuel and to answer the call of God in total obedience.

Youth & Adults

1. Morning Edition- Set up a stage for a show using your own name for the program. Have someone review and revise the video content beforehand. He will take the role of Carlos and will be interviewed about his call.
2. Show the video in segments (link below); stopping at the end of each for interaction and comments from the audience. Allow time for debate.

PRAYER

- Pray for Carlos Gordon as he serves in Africa.
- Pray that others like Carlos will answer the call to serve God.
- Pray that souls would be saved as he and others like him share the gospel.
- Pray that we as a people we will surrender our lives and say "Yes Lord send me".

ACT-ON-IT

1. Educate and encourage the children/adults to listen to the voice of God.
2. Form a prayer chain and have persons pray for our missionaries- Carlos Gordon, Tim and Nelly Bertrand, Errol Carrim and family.
3. Remind the church to continue giving to Mission offerings.

RESOURCES:

1. Carlos Gordon YouTube Video: https://youtu.be/AwjYMEw_H_g

