

Dr. Solomon Aryeetey – Director of Pioneers-Africa

Family Background

My father was a polygamist with five wives. My mother was actually the fourth wife and if my dad had not been a polygamist, I would not have been born and that would have been rather sad for the entire world!!! We lived in rather harsh, difficult, poverty-stricken conditions to put it mildly.

My dad died when I was only ten. It was a turning point in my life because the things I suffered as a result of his death made me very determined to become a doctor and literally pull myself out of poverty by my own bootstraps.

Even though my genetic make-up is seriously biased towards polygamy and my name happens to be Solomon, I am happy to report that so far, I have only one wife. I dare say we are happily married, if having six kids (including twins) is anything to go by.

Salvation Experience

Through the ministry of the Scripture Union, I learned about Jesus. My church upbringing in the Episcopal or Anglican tradition was seriously challenged by all the born-again talk I heard in the meetings of the Scripture Union! All this time, I was faithfully doing my daily devotions. I responded to several altar calls, and I still do not know which one of them worked. But by 1968, I knew I was saved by the blood of Jesus.

Educational Background

I began medical school in 1972 and after seven long years, I graduated with the MD degree. Those seven years made such a radical change in my life. All I cared about was Jesus and His Gospel. As a trumpeter, singer, and songwriter, I was actively involved in a music and evangelistic ministry in Ghana both on campuses and in the rural areas. I knew the Lord had called me into full time ministry as a missionary, and I almost left medical school to go start somewhere.

Ministry

After working for the Government for a couple of years, I acquired my own practice in Monrovia, Liberia. I arranged my work schedule in such a way that I always had ample time to do what I really enjoyed doing the most: preaching Christ everywhere. July, 1972 to September, 1980. Member of the Joyful Way Singers, a music and evangelistic group based in Accra, Ghana. During my last year with this group, I was elected its National Director.

We worked with YOUTH FOR CHRIST to produce a weekly TV show that was very powerful in Liberia in the early eighties. YFC facilitated my entry into Denver Seminary, but I could only be there for the summer of '83 because of the lack of funds. December, 1983 to July, 1987: Board member, Youth for Christ, Liberia.

It all started in the spring of 1986, when my lawyer wife, Letitia and myself (now a medical doctor) were about to fulfill our dreams of immigrating to the USA. God, however, had other plans. A Pioneers representative challenged us with the needs of the Fulani people in Mali, West Africa. Letitia and I knew that God was calling us to go. For seven years we lived in the desert among the nomadic people, learning the language and sharing the gospel from hut to hut and through a mobile medical clinic. During this time we faced many hardships, including being separated from our 6 children. Eventually, believers were disciplined and a church was started, which continues strong today.

In 1994 Letitia and I founded Pioneers-Africa to awaken and mobilize the Church in Africa to proclaim Christ to the unreached people groups. Today the mission has over 164 national African missionaries serving in places of the greatest need and least opportunity.

On March 16th, 1997, I was ordained as a minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ by the Harvest Bible Chapel, Rolling Meadows, IL. From 1994 to the present I continue to serve as the Director of Pioneers-Africa.