Trace and Maddie Akankunda



Discipling bible college students in their love for God and his word

Who are we?

We are Trace and Maddie Akankunda. We met at bible college and bonded over table tennis and a shared love for Africa. Trace grew up in Uganda as a cultural Christian, but was confronted with the gospel by his peers in university and with their help came to trust in Jesus as Lord and saviour. He was discipled in God's word through the ministry of Trinity church Adelaide as an international student and given opportunity to consider vocational ministry through a ministry internship. Maddie had the privilege of growing up in a Christian family and being persuaded of the truth of the bible at youth group in Namibia. At university, through the ministry of the AFES group at Newcastle, her faith grew as she began to appreciate the depth of scripture and of God's love for us. While working as a science teacher in Bankstown, she found she could not ignore her students' greatest need to know Jesus, so she went to college to be better equipped to share the gospel with them and other young people.

How we came to offer ourselves for missionary service?

We have both been considering missionary service for many years. Maddie grew up as a missionary kid and always wondered if the Lord might lead her back overseas. While in Adelaide, Trace grew to appreciate the need for sound biblical teaching in making and maturing Christian disciples, aware that this was lacking in his experience of church in Uganda. He was encouraged to get theologically trained and return home to equip gospel workers in the right handling of God's word.

While at college we came to learn of an ongoing gospel partnership between the Armidale diocese of Australia and the North Kigezi diocese in Uganda, where Trace was born. We were invited to explore this partnership and consider joining their efforts to equip the church in North Kigezi for discipleship.

What sort of work do you hope to be involved with?

We hope to work at Canon Ndibirwe Bible College, the main Bible College for training gospel workers in North Kigezi Diocese. We are excited to be part of training the next generation of gospel workers in their love and knowledge of God's word. A rural bible college is strategic for gospel work in Uganda because most of the population lives locally. Therefore, it's necessary to equip rural gospel workers with the skills they need to make and mature disciples of Jesus by faithfully teaching the Bible.

In Semester 1 2027, Trace and Maddie will begin six months of training at St Andrew's Hall. They will spend time building relationships with link churches during the second half of 2027.

Will you partner with Trace and Maddie in this work, through praying, caring, and financial giving?