

LEARNING FROM SCRATCH

Eli did not know many things about the church, including how to lead in worship. But Eli's zeal to learn about the Bible caused him to go to West Africa for a short time to learn more about the Bible and there he felt blessed to be able to worship with a church that he had not planted himself and he took what he learned from the church there and his studies back to Toliara.

His leadership also continued to grow through the books and materials sent to him by the Murphys and the Dalraida church family.

One of the greatest encouragements for this young preacher was meeting an older preacher from the church in Antananarivo, the capital of Madagascar, named Romain. Romain continued to teach Eli the way more accurately. Romain was even able to reach out and teach members of Eli's family who had been resistant up to that point!



ELI in front of the sign for the meeting place of the church in Toliara

The work in Toliara, Madagascar began with the conversion of Eli. But his conversion has now led to the establishment of a congregation of believers in southwestern Madagascar.

Never underestimate the impact that one person can make. The origin of the church in Toliara should be a blazing example of how God's saving gospel message can be shared from person-to-person and grow beyond our wildest expectations.

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TOLIARA MADAGASCAR

PREACHING THE GOSPEL
IN SOUTHWESTERN
MADAGASCAR



Dalraida
Missions 

THE BEGINNING OF THE CHURCH IN TOLIARA



Eliakim Monista was born and raised in the southern province of Toliara and attended a denominational church with his family. As a student, Eli decided that he wanted to learn English and came across the World English Institute website, an course that uses the Bible to teach English to non-English speakers. Once enrolled, he was taught by Vicki Murphy, a former member at Dalraida. During his study with WEI and Vicki, he came to an understanding of the Bible, the church, and the Gospel. He made the decision to be baptized into Christ!

Eli immediately began sharing the lessons he had learned with his friends and encouraged them to study with him. They began meeting each Sunday by the sea until the headmaster of the school in Toliara offered them a school room for meeting. Eli continued to teach his friends each week in the new meeting place, but he faced some backlash from his own family as they did not understand the Church as he now knew it. Eli leaned on the Murphys and the prayers from Dalraida to make it through these difficulties and his perseverance began to bring fruit with other conversions to the Lord.

As the church in Toliara has grown, they realized their spiritual development depends on reaching out to others and evangelize. So, they went to surrounding villages and began teaching the Gospel. These can be difficult trips because of the distance and not reachable by bicycle, so they cannot go regularly. However, the church has learned from the zeal of Eli and has a strong desire to teach in these villages so they go as often as they can.



VICKI MURPHY and **ELIAKIM MONISTA** met in person for the first time in 2017 when the Murphy's made a trip to Madagascar

FROM STUDENT TO FAMILY

Since Eli had no history or knowledge of the Lord's Church, his first exposure was through Vicki Murphy and her good work with World English Insitute. Because of Vicki's dedication to teaching him with this course, they developed a close relationship and she and her husband, Jim, were able to guide him as he started the church in an area without one. Their relationship continues today as they correspond with each other by email on a regular basis.

Find and subscribe to regular reports from Eliakim Monista online at www.dalraidamissions.org

FACTS ABOUT THE TOLIARA CHURCH OF CHRIST

- MORE THAN 50 MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH
- MORE ATTENDANCE IN THE SCHOOL ON SUNDAY
- ELI IS WORKING TO REACH MORE THAN 10 WHO HAVE FALLEN AWAY THAT
- MORE THAN 60 MEMBERS IN THE SURROUNDING VILLAGES

FIND OUT MORE INFO ONLINE AT DALRAIDAMISSIONS.ORG/TOLIARA