

NIGERIA



## **CHURCH PLANTER**

Patrick Oseghale

## TESTIMONY

"I have suffered much as a result of following the way of the world. Later I came to discover that Jesus had been with me at all times but I lacked that knowledge at the time. On several occasions a man has been visiting me in a vision to inform me to pull out of the large crowd whenever there were large gatherings saying: "look, this is where you belong. The man would stretch his two hands up to the sky and draw apart two curtains showing me the inner sky. He would say: this is where you belong. All of this I never understood.

I began to patronize native doctors to settle my unbalanced life and no settlement/peace ever came. At one time, a younger boy led me to another native doctor. He described how native doctors had nicknamed me: "ote-obo" - meaning: he who disgraces/disappoints native doctors. My sufferings could not be settled.

In 1989, when I became fed up I made the decision to die, but a thought came up in my mind to die in the hands of the man they called Jesus. I then called on a friend who used to always preach to me. I told him of my hoplessness and wanting to die with Jesus. He then prayed for me and led me to Christ. From that evening, I noticed I could sleep whereas I never experienced a good sleep for years! Then peace came into my heart and life. The following month, I gathered all the fetish things in my possession, took them to the church named Christ The Word Mission and burnt these possessions. The pastor Rev. James, was surprised.

There I discovered fear was the major weapon of these agents of darkness. Since that day I gave my life to Christ, death never came, but instead I felt peace, joy, revelations of the plans of the wicked world which the Lord allows me to see often. Glory to God almighty and Jesus Christ His son."



## EXPERIENCE

Patrick Oseghale from the Esan/Edo people group has been working in ministry since 1999. He worked for the Christian Faith Mission and later for the Abundant Life Christian Center. Patrick served in several Baptist Churches from 2003-2004 in Jesse and Abraka. Since 2008 Patrick worked with the New Life Baptist Church in Bayelsa, Agbere. He is married to Esther Oseghale and they have 5 children.

## NIGERIA

Nigeria, Africa's most populous country, is located on the western coast of Africa and is bordered to the north by Niger, to the east by Chad and Cameroon, to the south by the Gulf of Guinea of the Atlantic Ocean, and to the west by Benin. Nigeria has a diverse geography, with climates ranging from arid to humid equatorial. However, Nigeria's most diverse feature is its people. Hundreds of languages are spoken in the country, including Yoruba, Igbo, Fula, Hausa, Edo, Ibibio, Tiv, and English.

Nigeria, is divided between adherents of Islam, Christianity and traditional religion quite similar to polytheism though the ratio is uncertain. The majority of Nigerian Muslims are either non denominational Muslims or Sunni and are concentrated in mostly the northern region of the country with some Christian population, the same way Christians dominate in the south with some Muslim population. Most Nigerian Christians are Protestant (broadly defined) though about a quarter are Catholic.

Divided between a predominantly Muslim north and a predominantly Christian south, the country is home to some of the world's most vicious scenes of religious conflict. Boko Haram (roughly translated as "Western education is forbidden"), an Islamist movement that seeks to impose Shari'ah law throughout Nigeria, has claimed responsibility for a spate of attacks on Christian churches in recent years.



Number of People Groups 538	People Groups Unreached 86 (16.0%)	Progress Level
Total Population 205,647,000	Population in Unreached 64,323,000 (31.3%)	Largest Religion Christianity (51.1%)
% Christian Adherent 51.1%	% Evangelical 25.76%	Evangelical Annual Growth Rate 3.4% (Global Rate = 2.6%)

