

ELDOROT, KENYA — Across the ocean and a continent away, the story tugged at him, with the only common thread being a shared love of the gospel.

William Onyango, pastor of Living Rock Church in Eldoret, Kenya came across the announcement for the book, “Breakthrough, on an e-mail listserve for ministers. He was directed to the Web site of Chicago-based Write the Vision Ministries, LLC, and was immediately intrigued by author Adrienne Adams’ debut book.

“I was hungry to know more about it, so that led me to request the book,” Pastor William recalled.

Just the summary about the story’s main character, Vic Rogers, and the teenager’s journey toward Christ though life seemed to throw obstacles at every turn, inspired Pastor William. As a teen raised in Chicago’s urban landscape with a backdrop of drugs and gangs, Vic has to look beyond his own mistakes to triumph.

Back in the States, Adrienne and her husband, Preacher Andre Adams, were astonished to be contacted by someone in Kenya about “Breakthrough.”

“I had just started putting ‘Breakthrough’ out there,” Adrienne said. “I was selling to family and friends, but I didn’t even have my Web site up to accept payments for the book in Chicago, let alone Kenya.”

After months of correspondence, Adrienne was inspired to send not just one book to Pastor William, but 20 free of charge.

“I was still selling only locally, but Pastor William requested the book two or three times,” Adrienne said. “He was very persistent, asking for just one copy for him to share with his family and his ministry.

“I just felt like I had written ‘Breakthrough’ to share with people,” she continued. “And it was a blessing to have gotten a request from so far away. I had books that I hadn’t sold, so I sent him some.”

Once Pastor William began reading the book, he knew that the story was a tool, an instrument that could be used in his own ministry, which he has cultivated for three years. It was a simple thing for the pastor to pass the books on to other members of his church.

“After reading ‘Breakthrough’ and seeing how God saved the lives of young people in this book – Vic and his friends – I saw that this is the right book of encouragement,” Pastor William said. “This is encouraging people, especially youths whom are victims of drugs and alcohol ... So this is why I made a choice to pass it also to my brothers and sisters who are still controlled by darkness to see how God can save them from all these as He did to Vic and his friends.”

Sharing the books with others in his village, Pastor William began to see the effects that the story had on its readers. Facets of the characters’ lives mirrored some of the struggles that people have every day and showed how faith helps overcome them.

“Breakthrough characters are good and seen in the lives of many here in Kenya,” Pastor William explained.

“The story changes your life, helps people to turn from mind of corruption to the mind of Christianity, from old nature to new nature,” he said.” Bringing lost souls to Christian family, uniting youths with their parents once again.”

Living Rock Church continues to grow as programs are being organized to visit the sick, orphans, widows and others who are in need, Pastor William said. The church already has worship and Bible study ministries in place.

“My goals are to reach more people with the gospel,” Pastor William said. “Helping more souls to realize how they are more important to God and why Christ comes to save them from destruction of this world.”

And from a continent away and across the ocean, “Breakthrough” has a place among those goals as another way that Pastor William can reach out to those who may not have been reached otherwise.

“My goal is to help more souls realize why God is working through His servants by writing these books,” Pastor William said. “It’s to help them understand the will of God.”