



Centre for
Christian Missions

IMPACT STORY

Themba Masuzyo



THEMBA MASUZYO is deeply committed to God, church & community. Accepting a pastorate on the remote island of Chilubi is no small task. To access the island, one has to travel three hours by boat across Lake Bangweulu. Once on the island, life is hot & slow, commodities limited, witchcraft real & Bible understanding scarce. Themba loves challenges, so serving on Chilubi Island was a good match. Themba's church of 300 members kept him busy. The islanders loved him & knew him by name. In a humble, gentle and intentional way, he built meaningful relationships with them that made him a leader they wanted to follow. For over 6 years he gave himself wholeheartedly to his pastorate & the wider Chilubi community. He served on 4 boards above & beyond his church duties with goals to aid: conflict management in churches, the School of Nursing & Midwifery, Chilubi radio station and to eliminate malaria. Themba's board service reveals he cared about peace, education, communication and health for the people of Chilubi Island, in addition to their spiritual needs. He laboured faithfully in a hard, lonely place where many would not go. Themba has since left Chilubi Island and has taken up a new pastorate in Mbala, another lonely, rural community accompanied by hardships. His denominational leaders have appointed him to be the Provincial Coordinator over all their churches in seven districts – an enormous task, showing the confidence they have in the man and his leadership abilities. As Themba reflects on his journey, he says, "The people we serve value what CCM has done in us. We are able to do what we are doing, minister the way we are ministering, because CCM took upon them the duty of sharpening us for works of ministry, turning us from vessels of dishonour to vessels of honour, & for this we are grateful to God & CCM."