



## STORIES OF TRANSFORMATION

<b>(Title)</b>	<b>Adult Literacy program in Akagera/Rwanda</b>
<b>Ministry type</b>	Training
<b>Area of impact</b>	Wisdom
<b>Country</b>	Rwanda
<b>Approx. date</b>	August 25, 2010
<b>Report source</b>	Jacob

### I. Background of the Akagera villages



Before 1994, the entire Akagera area was part of the national park. But after the genocide events, Rwandans who fled from Rwanda in 1959 and 1973 had come back, they were given places in the region of the National Park. Most of people living within that place can't read or write because in Tanzania and Uganda where they went as refugees, they hadn't all got the opportunity to go to school. Most of them were cattle keepers. (The village on the picture is one of 3 villages of the area; it has more than 1000 families.)

### I. The community initiative

From June 1<sup>st</sup> through 4<sup>th</sup>, I with Dominic Rwampfizi held a Vision conference with 7 churches of Akagera and about 70 participants attended the training. From the beginning, we had realized that most of the people who had attended the training could not read or write. It was challenging to see young people in the 21<sup>st</sup> century not being able to read or write.

At the end of the conference, we challenged pastors to initiate classes for adult literacy program. They agreed and contacts were made to network with a Program of Adult Literacy of the Association of Pentecostal Churches of Rwanda for training of instructors/teachers as well as for text books.

Our pleasure today is to inform our Encouragers that from August 23<sup>rd</sup> through 27<sup>th</sup>, the training for teachers from 8 local churches working within the area took place; 15 volunteer teachers attended the training including even Roman Catholic and 7<sup>th</sup> Adventist churches who hadn't attended the vision conference. That demonstrates that the program is badly needed in those communities. 5 classes are going to be opened for the program in September 2010.

I talked to Pastor Mugisha James of the Assemblies of God and the chair person of the wholistic ministry committee of the churches in the area to know the expectations of people of the area. He said that all regardless Christians or non Christians are waiting with so much curiosity to see themselves seated in classes for learning to read, write and to learn the basic operations in Math.

## II. Praise and Prayer request

We praise the Lord so far for the step done on this project. The wholistic training is really making difference in communities. Churches were there, the Gospel was preached, worship services were done every week, but they never thought it was important to teach people to read and write. We believe God has started this work; He will fulfill it for His glory. We also are grateful to the Lord for 15 people who volunteered to teach others in their communities.

Please continue to pray for the program to be launched soon and so that it be of help to people of those communities through the local Church.

Group photo of teachers of the program



A student practicing the teaching methodology

