



September 2009 Newsletter

No 7/2009

IS a Local Church God's Agency for transformation? Read the story of Mado at pp 2-3

Major activities

We are grateful for God's guidance, care and protection during the last month. With God's grace we were able to hold a Vision Casting with a Team from Burundi who visited some projects implemented by communities with the support of Christian organization, especially the African Evangelistic Enterprises. Before their coming to Rwanda, they sought our team to be prepared to spend two days teaching them how a local Church can help a community to plan and achieve projects in the area of poverty reduction. After the training with burundian team, I traveled for Uganda for training on **Church and Development** with Youth with A Mission in the base of Jinja. The rest of activities include Field follow up, reporting, and filing records. Here below are the highlights of our major activities in the last month.

1. Vision casting conference.

It was a privilege to spend sometime with 14 people in charge of development from Burundi and especially for being part of selected consultant organizations to be of help to their organization.

The main need for the team was to know how a Church can help a community to understand how to implement projects on Agriculture and Livestock in a biblical perspective. It was clearly stated by one member of the team and the only Pastor in the group that he didn't know that we can do better in Agric and livestock because we are Christians. He repeatedly said that he couldn't imagine that in the Bible there is a teaching that could help people to improve their way of working on the land and take care of animals. From his perspective, cultivating and animal care are worldly things and the Bible had nothing to do with them. At the end of the two days of casting the wholistic vision, they committed to organize a Vision conference for their people in 2010.

What said the prophet Hosea comes clearer when listening to people with a narrow view of the Bible.

"My people are destroyed from lack of knowledge."
Hosea 4: 6a

2. Training in YWAM/Jinja base

This was my second time to this base since November 2008. In Jinja base what is more interesting is to teach and bring to a same understanding people from different cultures and of course different worldviews. I'm always encouraged to listen to people appreciating our materials. It makes happy to know that our efforts are done for impacting God's people lives. To illustrate the impact made on YWAM people, Mayayi Isaac from Murogoro/Tanzania who was one of the group expressed his gratitude to the teaching as follows: *"God brought me from far when I look at my past. I come from a polygamist family. My father is married to seven wives, but I with my mother are the only saved. I understand that God called me for a purpose to serve His body; the Church... Let me give you a prayer request. Pray for Tanzanian churches because they are suffering from viruses... I believe the only treatment will come from the teaching on Wholistic approach for the ministry."*

3. Field Follow up

Social integration of Mado

If ideal human development could be defined as moving towards God's intentions in all

areas of life, then Mado has started the move.

In the area of follow up, I did visit a field to see the change that has Mado (formally Madeleine) experienced since the time we left her. Mado is one of the six children living in a child headed household in Gitarama.

In our July 2009 Newsletter we wrote on the Methodist Church visiting the family headed by Nsengiyumva, a boy. The sister of Nsengiyumva is called Mado. See picture below

Mado is about 16; she is naturally mute and deaf. She hasn't got the chance to attend a disable children's school because she grew up in a family with many problems.

As child with disability, she wasn't happy and fellowship with others wasn't easy for her because of her emotional complex.



Mado at left on the picture

After the Church had visited the family, they took Mado to a skill training workshop to learn how to knit sweater.

During my visit to the training workshop on September 2nd, I couldn't believe my eyes. Mado had completely changed. She is cleaner than before, happier; she interacts with two other disabled (mute) girls as well as other people. She is learning how to write and counting because both are crucial for her skill. Dina, the tutor told me that she got hard to teach her during her first days because she couldn't look at her, she was like a traumatized person she said. But now she is very well integrated in the group.



We really believe that one person can be saved at a time and that can bring transformation in our communities.

See Mado with a red sweater in hands



We praise the Lord for good and numerous plans for all people. ***He doesn't show favoritism but accepts men from every nation...Acts 10: 34b-35***

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, we thank you so much for Encouragement. Your support is always needed and highly appreciated. May God bless you abundantly. May His unfailing love rest up on you all.

Jacob

Equipping Churches worldwide to demonstrate God's intentions in every area of life



Do you want to participate to our ministry? Please join us on the journey. If you are interested, please contact Harvest US office at

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