



October 2010 Rwanda Newsletter

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The Lake Kivu, a lake surrounded by multiple hills was very quiet on Saturday October 30th, 2010.

It makes the beauty of the area and one of the key touristic places for the investment of Rwanda. Several hotels are built on the lake and that attracts many tourists. It's quiet, fresh and good for all!

Dear Brethren,

I'm writing my newsletter from Kibuye on the Lake Kivu (I'm sure Keith and Wil Berry remember the place) where I have a fellowship, follow up and planning meeting with the forum of local churches of the Kibuye (Karongi).

Dear Encouragers, I would like to thank you all for your supports. May God remember every day the work of hands and give you deep peace in the Lord Jesus Christ. God has been always wonderful to us and to our Ministry here, we feel proud of Him. He was with us in all our journey and we rejoice knowing He will fulfill his work until Christ comes. During this month, we have held three fellowship, follow up and planning meetings at three different places. We have seen and heard encouraging things done by local churches. By faith it's easy to say that the transformation we say will come true with time as it's written in Habakkuk 2: 3 *"For the revelation awaits an appointed time, it speaks of the end and will not prove false. Though it linger, wait for it; it will certainly come and will not delay."* Our hope is that the wholistic teaching

will bring its effect in a very brighter way before the Lord's coming in order to accomplish God's promise of making from all nations, the disciples and from there to bring God's Kingdom.

Activities

1. Meeting with Kigeme Anglican diocese

In Kigeme, I was able to speak to two different groups: a group of pastors and a small group representing people working from the office of the diocese. In both groups, there is much to praise God for what is happening (in our page of stories, you can read our very recent transformation story about some of the achievements taking place in one of the rural areas of the diocese as result of the wholistic training).



From the second group, we learned about a very big project that has taken place after the Vision conference. In that diocese, the name of Samaritan Strategy program/wholistic training changed the name to be **"Transformed to transform our neighborhoods."** After they had gone through the Vision conference, their concern was to know how they would be transformed and

be able to transform others. They had to find out what to do to become agents of development in the diocese. They discovered that they had a lot of things they could do if they change their mentality on poverty. Francis said **"What prevents many people to create initiatives is that people see poverty in their mind when they are called to serve"**. They learned how



to change their mentality of poverty of mind and what they could do to boost the economic development in the diocese. A Basket Fund for Development was created to help people from communities who

wished to do small income generating activities. So far the number of members of the fund has increased from 22 to 98, beneficiaries are 147 people (those taking loans from the fund and do businesses).

Gakuba Francis on the picture above with a basket fund logo in hands attended our training in September 2007 in the town of Gikongoro. Before the training ended in 2007, he had got a vision of creating a project called Channel of Hope Project. After

he had created different other projects in his local church, he was taken from the local church to lead the department of Development in the diocese. From March 2008, he has organized 3 Vision conferences in the diocese; 2 times he has attended a Training of Trainers. He has been so important to translate our teaching into actions.

After the meetings with the diocese ministers, I went to visit the cell prayer groups in one of the parishes of the diocese. The experience from the cell groups is incredible truePeople have learned to alleviate poverty and apply biblical principles to support one another in their communities.

2. Meeting with Butare Forum of local churches (see picture)

With Butare Forum, we did a short evaluation on the work done since 2006 and planned for 2011 activities. Among 2011 planned activities, there will be creation of Samaritan clubs in charge of wholistic activities in every local church. Training will be provided to all of them and churches of the town of Butare will implement together a Seed project that will feed Street children one time.



I got an opportunity to visit a project in progress that is implemented by the Methodist Church in Butare. The Church has advocated for Genevieve, an elderly mother of about 90 years old to have a plot for the house. The old mother lives with two orphans left by her only son. After the plot was given to her, the church is now building her house. See picture of the construction in progress here below.

3. Meeting with Karongi (Kibuye) local churches

In Karongi the Fellowship was held for 12 Pastors from 10 denominations. We did evaluation of our teaching; stories of Seed projects took more of our time. They committed to reinforce the plans for demonstration of God's Love to needy people but also requested for more training in 2011.

4. Prayer request

Pray for our time of meeting with Pastors and Church leaders to be fruitful and for encouragement to them. We have a plan of two other fellowship and follow up meetings in November. Fellowship and follow meeting was for me a very good experience, I praise God for it.