

October 2011 Newsletter for Rwanda

Dear Encouragers,

"I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, that he considered me faithful, appointing me to his service." (1 Timothy 1:12 NIV)

Praise Every time when it comes to put down news of our work, either on a monthly or a quarterly basis, my heart rejoices to see how precious and loved we are before the sight of God. God in his love considers us faithful and because of his faithfulness, He has appointed all of us in partnership to His service. I praise God to be reminded always that you are there to sustain us for the advancement of God's Kingdom.

Achievement

Vision conference with Food for the Hungry



After several months of joint planning with FH/Rwanda, a Vision conference was held for 30 people in the eastern province of Rwanda where FH/R is running a Child Development program. The conference was held from August 23th through 26th, 2011.

This area is one of the remotest areas of the country. But pastors of the local churches in that area were very smart. It didn't take us too much time to explain why a teaching on Biblical

Wholism was needed.

Many people at the conference went back with a renewed mind. They committed to make advocacy for people whose lives are at risk, they committed also to make their churches Good Samaritans, to open the four doors so that people can see God's Intentions for all of life (wisdom, physical, spiritual and social).

Training of Trainers in Rusizi

This is one of the most important events as it helps us multiply the number of practitioners and trainers at a same time in the region.

We were blessed to have high leaders; people who make decision and able to influence many other people within their local churches. Participants included national legal representatives, bishops of many local churches and pastors.



Participated in a Pastor's retreat/Network



The retreat was organized by an umbrella made of 74 different denominations. The umbrella is called Forum of Born Again churches and Christian organizations in Rwanda.

Very important aspects of a local church were discussed. We felt we were blessed to hear local churches discussing about the role of the Church in Society including all of life. During the meeting, we got an

opportunity to speak to a larger group of bishops and pastors about our materials and Ministry. I with Simon were nominated to be members of commissions respectively for Training/Theology and Economic development. With those positions in the umbrella, we believe God will draw the umbrella much closer to our ministry.

Follow up meeting with Kageyo local churches

In June 2009, we had trained Kageyo local churches on biblical wholism. After the training we did ask to pastors to work together in order to start an Adult Literacy program because we had noticed that most of participants couldn't read or write. Teachers were trained and the program started with 10 classrooms and 161 students. While we were expecting to hear about graduation, we rather learned that teachers were tired and had given up.

We had to meet teachers and pastors for encouragement. They responded positively during the meeting; they have set measures to better organize the program. Hopefully, the program will be sustained by the high leadership of the churches.

Biblical wholism training with Ryabega local churches



Ryabega is located in the eastern province of Rwanda, a very flat land in Rwanda, a country of thousands hills. Most of people living in the communities around live of agriculture and mainly of livestock. While holding the training in that area last week from September 27 through 28, it was the right season for sowing. People had to go first for their respective farms and for pasturing and were

attending the training late, around 11 am. We did understand their way of life and worked very smoothly with them. Their response to the training was great. 8 seed projects were planned during the training and by the time I was writing this newsletter two seed projects were completely implemented.

Praise and prayer requests

We praise God for His faithfulness to appoint us to his service. We also thank Him for provision, guidance and for faithful supporters.

Pray for our upcoming ministry activities. We are drawing closer to the year end, may God who has appointed us to his service bless us to accomplish effectively what He had planned for us to achieve. Pray for the Literacy program for Adults to be effective in Kageyo community.

We are planning for year 2012 activities and think more about working with small groups, please pray for that new strategy to be successful.

Thank you again for support,

Jacob