



The East Africa Connection

“Teach these great truths to trustworthy men who will, in turn, pass them on to others”

2 Timothy 2:2 (Amplified).

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APRIL/MAY 2010

CLASSES BEGIN FOR SECOND UGANDAN SCHOOL!

The first week in May we will celebrate the opening of the second school in Uganda. Larry, George, and Gabriel will be traveling to the end of the road (actually) in Eastern Uganda, to start the Bible School in Kapchorwa. (Google Kapchorwa, Uganda for a closer look.) There has been little if any Bible training in this part of Uganda. The genocides and wars of the last 30 years have kept this area isolated and separated from the biblical training available in Kumpala. Gabriel (one of our Kitale teachers—see picture at right) has been going over Mt Elgon several times a year for the last 12 years teaching small groups of pastors in the area but not with a degree program. **We feel this school will be able to lay a strong Christian foundation that will protect this region from the Islamic influence spreading into Eastern Uganda.** UMTI will be able to touch the entire region with the principles of the Kingdom of God. I plan on teaching there later this year. Ask the Lord if he would have you sponsor a pastor in Kapchorwa (\$600 for the two year class).

STONES IN OUR PATH

Two weeks before I was to leave for Kenya, I was in my doctor's office waiting for my last steroid injection in my lower back. He had done a number of tests on my back and knee the previous week. I felt they would show I was clear to fly to Kenya for three weeks of travel visiting new business start-ups with the Navigators. As the doctor entered with the test results, I sensed my intestines tying into a bow just below my stomach. The first words out of his mouth were: “Bob, I will write you a note telling Delta you can't fly at this time.” It was my worst fear coming true. He went on: “The steroids injections over the last three years have kept you walking but have masked the degeneration in your back. You have four herniated disks and one ruptured disk in your lower back. The shots will not provide any relief this time. We need to reconstruct your lower back now. One more trip of a 1,000 potholes in Kenya could be your last trip.” I knew the pain had been gradually increasing but felt a few pain pills would keep the pain in check.

I am sitting on a back pillow with a back-brace and pain medication writing this newsletter. **On May 25 I will have surgery to reconstruct my lower back.** My very confident doctor feels he can have me on a plane for a short trip in 10 weeks, but not to Africa before this fall. **I will still be working by phone and e-mail with the projects in Kenya while developing the training programs Jobs for Kenya.** God does not bring illness on his children but does use it for His purpose. Without the surgery I would never stop long enough to write the training classes programs we need to help the Kenyans provide for their families through the creation of small businesses. Pray for Dee and me



Gabriel teaching in Uganda



The end of the road to Kapchorwa



Overlooking the city of Kapchorwa

PRAYER REQUESTS

- 1) Successful back surgery for Bob
- 2) Sponsors for the pastors
in the new school in Uganda
- 3) New Lecture Hall completed
- 4) Healing of Larry's knee and heart
- 5) Success for new businesses



Above: Super Pump; Below: KMTI Campus



Please check out
our new website:
www.JobsforKenya.com

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For tax deductible contributions, mail a check to I.O.M. at the following address and please add a note that the contribution is for Bob Vande Brake

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this month, that **the surgeon will use his God-given gifting and skill to give Dee and me at least 10 more years in Kenya.** In my last e-mail to our co-workers and friends in Kenya, I explained that due to the surgery it would be 10-12 weeks before we could return to Kenya, but return we would! I quoted this passage from Paul to them:

And one thing more: Prepare a guest room for me, because I hope to be restored too you in answer to your prayers” (Philemon 1:22).

SUPER MONEY-MAKER PUMP (JOBS FOR KENYA—BUSINESS FEATURE)

We can stop poverty in its tracks. I was so excited when Kick-Start sent me the material on its Super Money-Maker Pump. They have sold over 136,000 pumps since its invention in 1991. This pump has been used to start over 89,000 small agricultural enterprises. These businesses have lifted over 440,000 people out of poverty. Jobs for Kenya will use this pump to help start agricultural businesses in rural Kenya. These foot operated irrigation pumps have been used by farmers and NGO's for over 10 years in more than 20 countries in Africa. **This system gives the small farmer (most of Kenya) the ability to increase production by 200% on his current crop plus add a second crop during the dry season.** Farming is the largest occupation in Kenya. This pump will give our pastors and their leaders an option to feed and provide for their families. It takes about \$360 per year for a Non-Profit (World Vision) to feed and send a child to school in Africa. If we provide just one pump to a family, they will be self-supporting for the life of the pump (about 10 years). **You can give a family the ability to free themselves from poverty for a one time tax-deductible gift of \$150. This includes water pipe, sprinkler head, and a business operations manual for farming with the pump.** Ask the Lord if you should pay it ahead and fund a pump or several pumps.

VOCATIONAL SCHOOL UPDATE

Because of your gifts and support Dee and I have been able to tell Larry Neese this week that **we can provide the funds to remodel the building that will house the vocational training school.** Several men are currently writing curriculum to use in the classroom. The team lead by Ron Gray will hold its first business training seminar on our campus in October. We hope to cut the ribbon on the new job training center at the conclusion of this seminar. More details next month.

THE LAST WORD

Dee and I thank you for standing with us the last three years as we worked to extend the Kingdom of God in East Africa. **We feel we are on the cutting edge of God's heart to break poverty and bring prosperity to his people in Kenya.** The grace God has supplied to us for the people of Kenya and Uganda has been miraculous. It has become our second home. I know my health problem is a road-block from the enemy to keep us from helping many out of poverty, but the Lord will be victorious and complete in us what He has started. The apostle Paul said it best:

I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all or you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident in this, that he who began a good work in you (and us) will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus' (Philippians 1:3).

God's blessings,

—*Bob and Dee Vande Brake*

