



November In Africa

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Our trip to Uganda was once again a wonderful and blessed experience for us. Each time we go, we see more and more development of the ministry of SMPI. We were able to visit with many good friends. The schedule was hectic as expected but through it all we experienced God's grace and strength and a sense of joy and fulfillment. Before we knew it, we were finishing our last training seminar and preparing to head to the airport for the trip back home. Thank you to everyone who prayed for us. We offered trainings in five different locations and ministered at the Life Links Conference at Bethany Village. Thank you to those who contributed to make this trip possible. You share the rewards of what God is doing through SMPI in Uganda.



The EQUIP Leadership Training Seminars

The EQUIP Leadership seminars are really coming into their own as of late. The goal has always been



*Gaba Bible Institute
EQUIP Leadership training*

to train leaders who could then go out into the villages and even "the bush" to take the materials to local pastors and leaders. The leaders who are coming to the EQUIP trainings have a genuine heart to take the materials into places that Jennifer and I would never be able to go. A further goal is to develop leaders who have a foundation of integrity in order to better serve their people. Many church leaders desire training and instruction but have little opportunity. Africa is experiencing revival and many new churches are springing up. But the



EQUIP training in Lira



EQUIP training in Entebbe

lack of well founded leadership leads to difficulties. As they say of themselves in Uganda, "We are a mile wide but only an inch deep." Leadership training and development is the crying need of the nation. Our EQUIP Leadership courses are helping to fill this

gaping need. Never before have we seen and sensed so much fruit from the seminars. Leaders are being challenged to new levels of servant leadership, mentoring, team ministry, time management and personal character development. The 300+ trainees in our five training centers express real excitement and anticipation for their continued training when we return in March/April.



This village outside of Masaka has embraced the principles of the EQUIP Leadership Seminars. Lives are being changed and prosperity is replacing poverty as they work together and allow God to touch their lives. Here a group of children gathered to watch us.

Child Sponsorships

One of the great joys we have is to return to Uganda and see the children that are sponsored through Grace Christian Fellowship and SMPI. Being in the country twice a year gives our sponsors the opportunity to connect closely with the child they sponsor. This trip Cal and Alexis Schlabach were able to travel with us. Without a doubt one of the highlights for them was to personally meet the little boy they sponsor. It is difficult to adequately express the emotions that flood the heart at times like this. Cal, Alexis and Jennifer spent one very busy morning talking with all the “Grace” kids at Treasured Kids Primary School, handing out gifts and packages sent by their sponsors, taking their photographs and praying with them. As of April 2010, we are also sponsoring seven teachers at the school. We greeted them and heard how our support is helping improve their lives.



4 of the 7 teachers Grace sponsors



Children opening their gifts

Special Blessing

The Junior High Youth Group at Grace Christian Fellowship took it upon themselves to raise money to purchase a motorcycle for a very needy family who did not have any way to support themselves. Pastor Richard Kaaya and his wife Deborah have been supporting the family as best as they could and made us aware of the need. We had the joy of giving the funds to the pastor and delivering the brand new motorcycle to the family. Because it is a family with a Mom and daughters, a driver will need to be hired to run the taxi business. Consequently two families will be supported by this purchase. Congratulations JV! You have made a big difference in these lives. Sandra (in red) is sponsored by a family at Grace.



Pastor Richard and Deborah Kaaya, Robert and a very happy family with their special gift.

Bethany Children's Village

The Life Links Conference at Bethany was once again a great blessing to the leaders of churches associated with Pastor Peter Kasirivu



Attentive to the ministry of the Word

(Fellowship of Community Churches.) Hundreds of leaders descended upon this “Garden of Eden” for a time of refreshing. Pastor Peter



The view from the grandstand

and Irene Kasirivu are giants in the land. They oversee the ministry of Africa Renewal Ministries and we count it a privilege to call them friends.



Cal and Alexis at the equator

And Finally...

Cal and Alexis Schlabach were a real blessing to the ministry in Uganda. They played with children at Loving Hearts Baby home and the ARM Kindergarten at Gaba. They sang and led worship in Lira, Masaka and Bethany Village and traveled with us to the various training sites around the nation. They flew on the small MAF plane to Lira and travelled together with us in the Rav4 as I drove to Masaka and back (and through the streets of Kampala.) That's right folks, I decided it was time to try driving on the “wrong” side of the road and in crazy traffic. The unsettling thing is that it actually became somewhat normal to me. God has been so amazing! We have seen Him at work in Uganda. We have made so many friends. It is with great joy that we plan to return the end of March of 2011 for three weeks. Thank you again for all your prayer and financial support. We consider you to be partners in this ministry. Without your help it would not be possible. We remain extremely grateful.

In His great Love,

Ross and Jennifer

