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July 2012

Visit to Uganda 13th June- 4th July

“Enlarge the place of your tent....strengthen your stakes” (Is 54 v2)

As you will see from the following account, these words seemed to be a backdrop to all that God was doing during a hugely encouraging and successful visit to Uganda.

By the Lake



Time to chat by the Lake

The team had a highly productive time together at a peaceful retreat centre on the shores of Lake Victoria.

One after another the mission team leaders gave thrilling accounts of all that God had done as a result of the missions and follow up visits each one of them had led. Breaking off from time to time with beautiful worship we then went through the many steps taken when organising and preparing missions to see where they could be made even more effective. At the end we made arrangements for new missions right through to the beginning of 2014! Each member of the team said how much they were blessed and strengthened by this time together, away from the distractions of their daily lives.

Fires still burning!

Four of us set off in Steve's pickup to visit three of the villages in which we had held missions between 2007-10.

Kaiti was first. Following our visit in 2010 we had given some land and financed the building of a church. As we arrived the whole of the church rushed out to greet us cheering and whooping in the way only Africans can! Many pastors were there testifying of their new found unity and of their on-going joint evangelistic work. ***A former drunk who had come to the Lord early on in***



Joy at Kaiti!

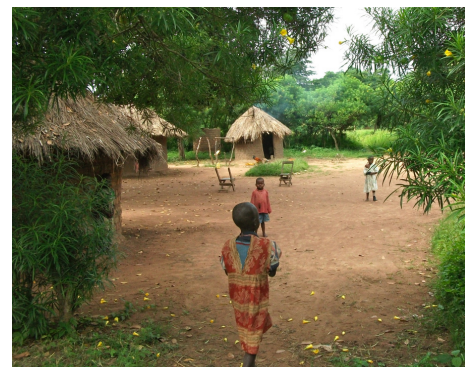
our mission, and whom we had clothed and given shoes to, was there to testify to us that he would have been dead by now had he not given his life to Jesus when we came. He is now a strong member of the church and frequently joins door- to- door teams to tell people of the huge change in his life.

Wrenching ourselves away from these wonderful people, we then drove for many more hours



Road to Buliro

to **Buliro** a remote village in the extreme east of the country where we had held a mission in 2009. For the last few miles there was not even a road - merely the narrowest of track ways through maize fields, banana plantations and grass roofed, mud walled homes.



Buliro

We found the church packed with over 200 people waiting to see us, many of whom had slept on the church floor overnight, hungry for further teaching.

Twenty pastors testified in turn how the training that we had given had fired them up to work and evangelise together. We were thrilled to hear that no fewer than **one thousand three hundred and sixty three** souls had come to the Lord in **just the last year alone**. Some of the news from these last twelve months:

- *A witchdoctor, saved and now serving God*
- *Two new churches planted*
- *One pastor so inspired by the teachings given that he was being used by God to see at least fifty people come to the Lord every single month*
- *Two pastors were making evangelistic trips into different districts and seeing at least one hundred and fifty people come to Jesus every time!*

The fires continue

Heading now back westwards in the pick up along pot holed country roads we then reached **Luguloire** our third destination. There waiting for us were a group of eighteen pastors all testifying of their new unity and of how they had been transformed by the training given.



Taking notes of the wonderful stories from the pastors at Luguloire

Altogether they had seen an amazing **eight hundred and seventy five** people come to the Lord in the previous year in this very rural area.

Testimonies included the following answers to prayer:

- *A lady who was very many weeks overdue in her pregnancy- immediately she went into labour and delivered!*
- *Another lady bedridden and fed intravenously-totally healed*
- *Yet another lady lame for seven years, with sores on her back and with high blood pressure - completely healed*

All twenty cows donated twelve months ago were in good condition (five now expecting!).

As well as giving further teaching in each place, we showed films to packed audiences in both *Buliro* and *Lugoloire* and had the joy of seeing scores of people give their lives to Jesus. We praise God for all this encouragement. We were blessed by fine weather throughout- and returned to Kampala praising Him for the **well over two thousand souls** that had come to the Lord in these three rural places during the last year alone.

Hunger for God

In between the travelling, I had the opportunity of preaching in different churches on each of the three Sundays. On two of the occasions it seemed as if the **whole** of the church had come forward for ministry at the end. I praise God for this extraordinary spiritual hunger that we encounter wherever we go.

Even more encouragement!

During the last week of the visit I was further blessed by the following:



- *Pastor Fred Mudde (left)* telling me that he had been so inspired by what he was encountering whilst on mission with us that he was now holding regular ones of his own in the *Nakaseke* area. He was seeing at least **thirty people** coming to Jesus **every month** (as well as taking teams **twice a week** into the hospital to pray and heal the sick!)
- By being present at a thrilling display of African dancing, theatre, singing and drumming put on by the pupils of *Christ the Rock Secondary School* in *Nakaseke*. A great tribute to our friends *David Sseruwagi* and *Daniel Kato* who are the Director and the Administrator of the school respectively.
- Visiting *Richard Ssendi's* school in *Wobulenzi* and seeing the borehole that Mission Africa had part funded last year
- Visiting Steve's primary school in *Toggo*- a stunning new building started from scratch by him in a poor and needy rural area only four years ago and now educating over five hundred and sixty children. There I was much moved to meet a team of dedicated godly young Americans in their early twenties digging trenches in the midday sun doing what they could to help in this great work.



Class 2 at David Sseruwagi's – many of them orphans

- Visiting *David and Esther Sseruwagi* in *Butayunga*- the place where Mission Africa was birthed twelve years ago- continuing faithfully to lead the orphanage and school that God had led them to take over twenty years ago. They are **such** an inspiration!
- Meeting *Godfrey Keyiire*, who had joined us for two prison visits when we had held a mission in *Wobulenzi* in 2004. This had birthed in him a prison ministry of his own. **Ever since that time eight years ago**, he had visited in turn four prisons in the area on a **weekly** basis and was regularly seeing between **fifteen and twenty prisoners a time** come to Jesus. His aim is to see the whole of each prison converted!

Travelling mercies (big time!)

Normally unable to sleep during the over-night flights out, the journey was much enhanced, when on checking in, I found that I had been upgraded to World Traveller Plus. Shut eye at last. Bliss!

We praise God for protection on the very rural roads during the whole of the three weeks, including the timely provision of a mechanic when the hydraulic clutch failed **just** when we were travelling through a town- one of the very few and far between!

On the return plane journey, having already taken my seat in economy, I had a surprise visit by the Cabin Director, who invited me to move forward into Club Class. I sat in my new seat just overwhelmed by God's great goodness. Hallelujah!

Thank you so very, very much for all your prayers. As you can see, things could hardly have gone better. All your prayers and support played a huge, huge part in all of this.



*Terry Charlton and Steve Trint on behalf of the
Mission Africa Evangelistic Team*

