

BRUBAKERS PRAYER UPDATE – JANUARY 2008

(SPECIAL)

Dear Praying Friends,

We are two weeks through our three week session of teaching thirty-six pastors representing churches from all over Rwanda and Burundi. We've been teaching two lessons – (1) The True Gospel (taught by me); (2) The Christian Life (taught by Gary Scheer). The lessons have really complemented each other, with the main idea being to explain *what it means to be a Christian*, from the very start.

Today, after two weeks of talking about why we need to be saved and how God has made salvation possible in Christ, one pastor stood up and said openly, "Many of us are pastors, but in these two weeks we've found out that we aren't even Christians." The others were nodding their heads in agreement. It was a *powerful* moment. Personally, I wrestled with how to respond. But, seeing that we had just finished teaching that all those who repent and believe in Jesus as their Lord and Savior are saved, I felt that the only option was to invite them to publicly respond to God's invitation to be saved. Twenty-two pastors stood up, wanting to publically confess their faith in Jesus. Imagine: Pastors and denominational leaders from all over Rwanda and Burundi stood up before their peers to publicly confess that they are believing in Jesus for salvation in a way that they had never done or understood before. For about forty minutes we prayed together as a class – some weeping, all of us praising God for His grace in saving sinners like us.

Please keep praying. Imagine what churches across this country must be like if their pastors are not yet believing in Jesus for salvation! We have one week left before they go home. Pray that during this last week they will continue to grow and learn how to communicate to others what they've come to understand. Pray that the truth of Scripture would have deep roots within their lives. And, pray that this work of God in their lives would bear much fruit in the churches they oversee.

Marveling at the work of God,

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