



## BRUBAKERS PRAYER UPDATE—OCTOBER 2009

### DEAR PRAYING FRIENDS –

This afternoon I was meeting with students in NCM's Pastoral Training School. A group of about thirty pastors asked us to convey a message to you, the friends of NCM: "Thank you for your sacrifice on behalf of the church in Rwanda. Because of your prayers and support of NCM, we are being trained and our churches are being transformed." Indeed the graduates of NCM's pastoral training school are models of pastoral ministry throughout Rwanda. What an awesome ministry! Thanks for your partnership in prayer.

### KATABIRORA'S TRIAL –

Unfortunately, there are no new developments. Please keep praying that the leaders within the tribunal system will see the injustice that has transpired and permit Katabirora to be retried fairly.

### PASTORAL TRAINING SCHOOL –

We currently have about thirty pastors studying, finishing their fourth term in their second year. They are studying Old Testament Prophecy and Teaching. Please pray for a great time of study, reflection and growth – personally and in ministry.

### DEGREE LEVEL BIBLE SCHOOL –

We have seen God open tremendous doors over the last month concerning NCM's plans to begin a degree level Bible school. Consider:

- We asked you to pray that God would provide a way to obtain information regarding the laws governing higher level schools. After months of requesting an audience with the Ministry of Education, God orchestrated our circumstances such that at a friend's party we "coincidentally" met the man who oversees the accreditation of schools of higher education. Since then, we have met at least five times to discuss the laws. And, because of this friendship made informally, he is very willing to help us in the process.
- We asked you to pray that God would oversee the conversations that we're currently having with a Burundian man studying in California. A few days ago he wrote and said that he and his wife have made the decision to join with NCM.
- We asked you to pray for an architect. Last month, a very capable architect from the States volunteered his firm's resources to help provide detailed construction drawings for our building plans. This is a huge sacrifice, as they will spend hundreds of hours and thousands of dollars in both transportation and work-time.
- We asked you to pray for a logo/website designer. Last month, a man volunteered to help us put together a logo for our degree level school.
- We asked you to pray for English teachers. Last month, we had four people express interest in our ESL program – three short term, one long term.
- We asked you to pray for a children's ministry trainer. Last month we had one person express serious interest in the position through WorldVenture.

As you continue to pray for this higher level Bible school, please pray for the following:

- We need money to build facilities! We have staff, we have books, we have building plans, and we are soon to have architectural drawings. We are trusting God to provide.
- Over the next month, we will be putting together the Board of Directors who will represent the degree level program before the government and hold the school accountable for adhering to its purposes and mission. Please pray that we would be wise in asking the right people to join this board.
- Please keep praying for more qualified staff.



*In September, we attended the wedding of a student in NCM's Pastoral Training School.*



## **WORLDVENTURE RWANDA –**

Dan and Rachel Janzen will finish their three week visit to Rwanda this week. It has been great to get to know them and their calling to Rwanda. They seem to be a great fit with the dynamics of our team. And, we're excited to have them return to Rwanda as soon as possible. Please pray that the Lord would provide for their needs quickly.

Additionally, please pray for our family as we travel to Kampala for WorldVenture East Africa Field Leader Meetings from October 9-17.

## **KINYARWANDA BIBLE PROJECT –**

Our request to initiate a digital-type version of the Kinyarwanda Bible are still being processed. Though the Rwandan branch of the United Bible Societies is very excited about the prospect, we are still waiting for confirmation from the regional overseers in Kenya. Please pray for an affirmative response.

## **MASTERS DEGREE TRAINING –**

One of the biggest hurdles in theological education in Rwanda is finding qualified teachers who share a similar philosophy of education/ministry. In order to help potential teachers acquire sufficient training, it is necessary for them to leave Rwanda. For various reasons, many never return. Because of this "brain-drain," we have begun exploring the possibility of building a partnership with a graduate level program in the United States which would teach courses in Rwanda and help us by training potential teachers at the appropriate level. Please pray that the Lord would open the appropriate opportunity for partnership.



*Please keep praying for Jessica as she teaches Martin at home. He is a very eager student!*

## **PERSONNEL NEEDS –**

Please continue to pray for provision of expatriates who can help with the various needs within New Creation Ministries:

- Stateside Fundraiser – Someone who can speak for NCM in the States and help connect American churches and donors with the ministry in Rwanda.
- English Teachers – A long-term person who can develop an ESL strategy for NCM and shorter-term people who can fit into the teaching calendar.
- Teachers/Disciplers – People who can come and join with us in this awesome task of leaders for the church in Rwanda.
- Financial Givers – People who feel called to sacrifice financially on behalf of training leaders in Rwanda.
- Children's Ministry Trainer – Someone who will train children's ministry leaders in local churches.

## **LAST MONTH'S HIGHLIGHT –**

Florien is in his last year of study within NCM's Pastoral Training School. In class, he is very quiet. And, he's the kind of student who writes as little as possible on his homework. So, many times it's difficult to measure how much he's understanding. That is one of the reasons we love to visit our pastoral students in their homes and churches. Two weeks ago, we visited Florian in his home in Kibungo.

For many years, Florian had been leading a Baptist church in northwest Rwanda. But, in 2007, he felt the call of the Lord to move with his family to the southeast corner of the country to plant a church. Once moving there, the denomination with which he had been serving told him that they were not ready to support him. So, even now, Florian is waiting to see where the Lord will direct his steps. Currently, Florian is serving with a different (more hierarchical) denomination in which he helps lead one of the local congregations (which incidentally has no pastor). During the church service, we got to hear Florian preach. It was awesome to hear him explain very clearly that Jesus is life and the giver of life. After the church service, we met with the local and regional church leaders. While Christians from within the church praised Florian for his teaching skills and care for them, it was clear that there are jealousy issues with regional leaders who have made no steps to place Florian into leadership within the church. Maybe it's Florian's schooling... Maybe it's the respect that people clearly have for him... But, regardless, in spite of the predicament, it is obvious that his four years at NCM have made a tremendous difference in his ability to understand and communicate God's Word.

Thanks for Praying,

## **TIM, JESSICA, THOMAS, MARTIN & CECILIA**

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