

## **Scheer's February Update -- 2006**

Dear Friends,

### **SOMETHING TO WRITE HOME ABOUT**

I've got to tell you about this! I was out on an overnight visiting a couple of our students way out in rural SE Rwanda. Tim and I might have been the only white people a lot of those people had ever seen. We were introduced to one of the young lay-leaders who works with our pastor-student. He proceeded to tell us how back in 1986 he remembers that he had seen me. I came to a church not far from there for a baptism, and I preached. And then he proceeded to tell me what I preached about! -- the conversion of Matthew/Levi the tax-collector and how he left everything to follow Jesus. I've never had anyone say they remembered a sermon I preached 20 years ago. Amazing!

### **GOOD HAPPENINGS OF PRAISE**

1. Once again God spoke to us at our second Executive Committee of NCM retreat. One of the members said afterward, "What NCM is all about is now in our blood!" Another said, "I've never been to a planning retreat like this, where we didn't look at charts and plans, but spent hours in the Word asking God what He wanted us to do! I came away really refreshed -- I didn't expect that."

These were the outcomes I had desired. God confirmed these things to us:

- that NCM is to have a prophetic-type role to the churches in Rwanda.
- we are to focus on leaders
- we are to focus on long-term discipleship aimed at life change, not handing out diplomas
- it will be a slow and difficult thing to accomplish, but we will accomplish it

### **TAKE THESE TO THE THRONE:**

1. Here's a family request. Our son, Andrew, he's the one in his third year in engineering at Stanford has applied for summer mission work with EMI; they are Christian engineers who do consulting for projects around the world. Andrew would work in Uganda. He has to give them a Yes or No in a couple weeks. At the same time, there is a fellowship granted by Stanford that would fund this summer work for him (it is volunteer work, not a paying job). BUT he won't find out if he wins that fellowship until the end of March. IF the fellowship does not come through, he'll be faced with trying to raise \$4000 in April and May. So pray for God's leading for him.

2. An urgent request for the PTS session -- starts Monday, the 13th. Four of the pastor-students come from a separatistic church. They LOVE the school, but their church district has just ruled that they are no longer allowed to study with us! They are very shaken by this -- so are we. Pray in this short while that this closed door might be busted open!

### **KEEP LIFTING THESE UP**

1. Gary Bennett's and Barabara Gish's wedding is April 29!
2. Continue to pray that God will bring us quality Rwandese staff!
3. Or son, Matthew in Spokane, is still looking for a solid job that will earn him enough money to go back to Moody's flight school in the fall. Nothing solid yet.

## **WISDOM OF RWANDA**

Iminsi ipfura umugara w'intare.  
Days pluck the lion's mane.

This can be used to speak of aging in general, but then the proverb is just stating the obvious, not anything particularly wise! But its better application is to a person in a position of authority -- time eventually decays authority. Every ruler/leader will get to a place where he or she should either get out or will be put out.

Partners in Him,  
Gary and Laurie Scheer