

## **Scheer's November Update**

Dear Friends,

### **THE OTHER SIDE OF MINISTRY**

People here hire night guards. We have one, too, but it's more to give a guy a job than for any protection he might give. Our night guard is Ndagijimana. He's worked for us for 11 years now and has AIDS. His youngest child also has AIDS. He's a widower now having lost his wife to AIDS a few years ago.

We're not here to do an AIDS ministry. But we help Ndagijimana as we can. His health is remarkably good still. Although he used to work construction jobs during the day -- he finds he doesn't have the strength to work hard like that all day anymore. Between him and his child we often buy medicines for them -- thankfully most meds are cheap here. We've helped him so that he could buy a house. This will help give him something to pass on to his children when he passes on.

Ndagijimana is not only a worker, he's a great guy, has a great faith, and we often seek him out for advice on local cultural issues. This is the other side of ministry for us.

### **GOOD HAPPENINGS OF PRAISE**

1. Audrey Sorensen is doing really well since her arrival here 6 weeks ago. God has provided her with an excellent language helper. She's got a potential roommate -- a single Rwandese woman working for YWAM. They're scouting out houses together. The long-term big request for her is that at the right time God provides a great partner for her in the children's work (we call it Friends of Jesus).

2. Tim and I and Laurent had a great trip to Gikongoro to visit 4 of our students. One student lived 2 hours down a 4WD road that, had it rained, we'd never have gotten out of there! But it was dry the whole time.

3. I'm really enjoying the Saturday discipleship with the 9 university students and recent grads. In the next weeks we'll be evaluating and deciding on what direction this program might have in the future. The reason this project could have huge impact is that this is the first generation in Rwanda to see many university grads. Consequently many influential positions in government, business and community will go to these grads -- and we can have a role in shaping their character and thinking.

3. Our son, Andy, will be visiting us for Christmas, arriving here December 15! We'll go back to the States together on January 11. After celebrating holiday after holiday with no kids or family, this will be a real treat!

## **TAKE THIS BIG ISSUE TO THE THRONE**

In recent WorldVenture team meetings we discussed the future of leadership training in Rwanda through NCM. We came to two conclusions. First, the Pastoral Training School (trains pastors having a primary school education, which is true of 80% of pastors in Rwanda today) is having a huge impact and we want to continue it and develop it. We'll share with you some facts that display that impact in our next UPDATE.

Second, we concluded that the leaders of tomorrow will need to have a university level degree. We would love to have a role in training and discipling these leaders of tomorrow. Pray with us as we think about the possibility of developing a university level leadership training program (the discipleship program with university students mentioned above is a non-formal program for lay-people that meets on Saturdays). We're excited about the opportunities this could place before us for even more significant ministry. We feel NCM has a unique and creative approach to training that has proven more effective in changing lives and leadership styles than any other program we know of.

However, it will be a huge undertaking, a quantum leap from what we're doing now. It's totally possible with you praying for us.

### **KEEP LIFTING THESE UP**

1. We are still working at building up a solid foundation of ongoing funding for the expenses of NCM. This is a key concern for the NCM leadership at this time. We are running \$700/month short of meeting our monthly budget. And if we move ahead into a university program, we've only just begun to seek funding!
2. Continue to pray for our Home Assignment -- just around the corner in January.

### **WISDOM OF RWANDA**

Imanga y'Imana iruta ikigarama cy'ijisho.  
The cliff of God is better than the plain of the eye.

This is a remarkable proverb, not from the Bible but from the wisdom of the Rwandese. When God leads you to a "cliff", a hard time, maybe a seemingly impossible time, it is better than the "plain", the nice, easy-going place, that you might seek because it is pleasant to the eye. What looks good to us, may not be the best or even truly good. Only God knows what is truly good, even though it might look like a hard and dangerous place to us.

This is a profound conviction taught strongly in the Bible, but difficult for even the most ardent lover of the Bible to always live by and accept. To see it expressed in the ancient wisdom of Rwanda is remarkable.

Partners in Him,  
Gary and Laurie Scheer