

# SCHEERS' PRAYER UPDATE – MAY 2009 -- RWANDA

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## Window into life



The week of April 7 Rwanda commemorated 15 years since the genocide of 1994. We visited Suzanne, who was in our first NCM graduating class with her husband. He was killed in the first day of the genocide. Once again she reiterated the story of those awful days – still raw in her heart, still clear in her mind.

Rwanda schedules a full week of mourning each year in April. It is a time of mourning, of remembering, but also of tension and sometimes reveals the evil that still lurks under the surface of this beautiful country. One of our friends who pastors a rural church told us that a genocide survivor, an old man, was found dead on the road during that week. Another survivor here in Kigali said his dog was taken, mutilated, and sent back to his yard, where it then died.

## Take a look at some of these "side" projects we're involved in:

### High school project

No, we're not starting one, although at times we'd thought about starting a school at that level. What we do is look closely at the PTS students in their 4th year of study. We look at how they do academically. We look at their work in the field, in their churches. We look at their characters and evidence of gifting. In each graduating class there are between 2 and 4 who do well in all three of these areas. These few we offer to help them get their high-school degrees. Remember, the pastors we teach just have a grade-school education with maybe a few years of high-school.

In this way we are enabling the cream of the crop to pursue further education that we hope will one day even lead to a bachelor's degree – possibly even in our proposed NCM degree program. This is not an official program of NCM. It is our personal project. We are sure that these men will prove to be great leaders of the churches of tomorrow.



### N Africa project

Our boss, Glenn Kendall has had a dream for a number of years now. It looks something like this – in Sub-Saharan Africa there are lots of Christians, and with great zeal. In many unreached difficult countries there are few or none. In Sub-Saharan Africa there are a lot of youth, and they all want to study to get their college and advanced degrees. In many of those difficult unreached countries there are good schools. So why not match up those zealous Christians from Africa with those schools in difficult places.



It's now in the works! I have a young Rwandese man, Elie, who wants to get his masters degree. He is one of the most gifted personal evangelists I've known, a man of prayer who delights in the things of God. We've matched him with a school in one of those difficult places. I get the pleasure of training him in all the difficult issues of cross-cultural communication and generally orienting him to the work he will be doing. This fall he will begin studies to get his degree, but be an intentional witness/missionary in that place. He is one of the first Rwandese to be sent intentionally to an unreached country as a missionary. That's exciting!

## Newsletter project

We are about to print and send out our first NCM newsletter. We've had this in our minds, too, for years. It's merely the front and back of a sheet of paper, but hey, it's a start! Audrey Sorensen has taken this on as her project.

## HA project

In December we'll be coming to the States for our next HA. We've made our first contact with our churches, just letting them know we're coming their way. We have a place to stay (once again the WorldVenture condo in Littleton, CO). We'll be looking for a car (maybe again from TechTeam in Texas, although we'd like to find something closer to Colorado). Bit by bit we'll be setting up a visiting program with churches and supporters. And once again, we'll have to do our best to develop presentations that communicate our passion and 2½ years of work in 5 to 30 minutes!

## A few family affairs:

**Andy** – in San Jose looking for a job; considering the longer view – maybe grad school? Has a great church and a pastor who is personally discipling him.

**Matt and Ellie** – expecting their first child in May. Ellie's had some significant contractions too early – praying that the little guy stays in there full term! Matt, who works at Moody Aviation in mechanics, was disappointed that expected work as a flight instructor was given to another.



**Jamie and Eric** – having to move again as the house they're renting is being sold. They'd hoped to buy this time but no go, so into another rental. But otherwise Eric's job is good and seems stable; they have a good church, too.

## Keep praying for the university program!



### Wisdom from Rwanda

**Warya inka ukananirwa amahembe/umurizo!**

**You eat the whole cow, yet can't get down the horns/tail!**

There are two versions to this proverb. Picture it! Pretty self-explanatory.

If you finish the proverb with "horns" you use it in a situation where you've done 90% of the work to get a project done, and then right at the end come up with something hard, a barrier, that threatens to keep it from the finish.

If you finish the proverb with "tail" you use it in a situation where the person has done 90% of the work but simply wants to give up, or gets tired or bored, or does quit without finishing up the last bit, even though there is nothing hard left.

I hope you never have "horns" situations! And if it's a "tail" deal – push through! Finish it up to the end!!

Partners in Him,  
*Gary and Laurie Scheer*