**Mission in South Sudan**

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**April 4, 2015**

Dear friends and supporters of the Mission in South Sudan,

 Thank you for your continued fellowship with me and the Southern Sudan Mission through your prayers, encouragement, and financial support! God continues to bless the ministry abundantly.

If you recall David Thoatmer, one of the lost boys from Sudan; David is a special blessing from God. Unlike most refugees who had the privilege of being refuged in the United States, David had a burning desire to return to the Sudan and teach his people the gospel. With the help of the Lord and your financial support, David has been working in Ethiopia among the South Sudan refugee camps since graduating from Sunset International Bible Institute in March of last year.

David married Nyakume and taught her the gospel which she obeyed. He continues to teach her, desiring her to mature and help teach other Sudanese women. He has also encouraged his wife to learn English so she can help with English speaking people. She is presently enrolled in an English Class.

David’s commitment for the Lord and the furtherance of the gospel is shown through his wisdom and explanation to his wife that he does not want her to come to the states. He told her when she grows in Christ and has a better understanding of spreading the gospel to their people he will try to bring her for a visit. While that probably sounds cruel to most, David realizes a trip to the states could deter his wife from wanting to return to South Sudan to help further the gospel. Many men that come to the states to study the Bible intending to return to teach their people never return. It is especially difficult for women to want to return and raise their children in their country after experiencing America. I can understand that, Can’t you?

Most of the Sudanese from South Sudan, have lived in and out of refugee camps in Ethiopia and other nations of the world most of their lives, and many are living in refugee camps now due to tribal warfare. Their life is mostly a survival. They are very poor and totally dependent on the United Nations for their livelihood. Children are privileged to attend school through the sixth grade. After the sixth grade every student is tested at the completion of each school year, and those who pass the test continue to the next grade, and those who fail spend the rest of their life existing in the refugee camps. There are no job opportunities, therefore as mentioned, they just exist. David always encourages them, telling them there is a better way of life in Jesus Christ.

David’s commitment, attitude and example have certainly been and continue to be a blessing to me and other brethren involved in the mission. He is always ready to do whatever he is asked to do. He is presently teaching evangelism classes at the compound in Gambella 6 hours a day. On Saturday he catches a bus to one of the refugee camps where he teaches and preaches for several hours on Sunday. He would like to take his wife but is afraid to. The trip to and from the camp in itself is very difficult. The bus is always over flowing with passengers many standing for the duration of the trip (4-8 hours depending on the road conditions). After arrival at the city he walks two plus hours to the refugee camp. One must carry their necessities as there are no stores or places to buy food or water. He is blessed to be able to stay with one of the brethren. When there are baptisms David and others walk over an hour to the river. Note: David is an epileptic and takes twenty pills a day to be able to function. Please keep him and his wife in your prayers.

I have received frequent emails from James Puot of the Nuer Tribe and Director of the School of Biblical Studies and Okello Obang, the preacher of the Anywaa tribe, regarding continued additions to the Body from both tribes (Anywaa congregation is approaching thirty members). The brethren write of the unity the brethren in Christ of the two tribes share versus the hostility of those outside of Christ.

As mentioned earlier, God continues to bless the mission abundantly. I will be returning Tuesday, April 14th. I will have a very busy schedule, visiting with the preachers from the refugee camps, making final arrangements for the upcoming Vacation Bible School, the School of Biblical Studies, and completing the guest house. Brother Dave Roberts will be traveling with me and we will consider the possibility of a vocational school opportunity in the near future.

We are in need of additional financial help for the two upcoming schools. If you would like to help, please make your tax deductible check to Porter Church of Christ, ear-marked Southern Sudan Mission and mail same to Porter Church of Christ, P.O. Box 770, Porter, Texas 77365.

Thanks again for you partnership with me in the furtherance of the gospel into Ethiopia, South Sudan, and the world. I pray I will always be trustworthy.

Love in Him

Tyrone Mynhier