**Mission in South Sudan**



**June 1, 2015**

Dear friends and supporters of the Mission in South Sudan,

I am grateful to each of you for your continued partnership with me in the furtherance of the gospel into South Sudan through your prayers, encouragement and financial support. God is blessing the ministry immeasurably.

During our 2014 Vacation Bible School, Alma Mynhier, one of the teachers, taught fifth and six graders. Each class had Sudanese college students translating for the teacher as needed. Alma’s translator, Sarah, got frequent telephone calls and left the class room to talk for a period of time leaving Alma in a bind.

On several occasions when Sarah was out of the room Alma needed a translator. Realizing there was a problem, a twelve year old boy, Makuach Simon, told Alma he could translate for her if she wanted him to. Much to Alma’s surprise he was fluent in English. From that time until the end of the VBS, Makuach translated for Alma and everything went great.

Alma continually told me how special Makuach was and I should give him special attention and use him as often as possible to help with the other children. When we had our end of VBS celebration, Alma had the opportunity to meet his dad. She told him how Makuach had helped so much with her class and how special he was. She encouraged his dad to continue to bring him to church and help him get involved. Makuach’s dad was very proud and excited about Alma’s remarks and smiling said, “He appreciated the opportunity for Makuach to attend the VBS.

Upon my return to Gambella in November 2014, Makuach was at the assembly. I visited with him and expressed my gratitude for his presence. I asked James if he had been attending the assembly and James stated, “He attends every assembly and also attends the special Bible Classes when we invite college students to the compound for new convert studies.”

During my February trip to Gambella, Makuach was one of the first people I met when I arrived at the compound. We talked for a while and I expressed my appreciation to him for his continued attendance and help around the compound. When I met James he told me Makuach had obeyed the gospel and was always at the worship services, study opportunities, and was leading songs at some Sunday night assemblies.

The following Sunday I missed Makuach and asked James if he knew where he was? James said, “He is where he is every Sunday morning. He is helping Chan, the youth minister, with the children’s church.” I walked over to the children’s service and there was Makuach, just as James had said, leading singing and helping with the children’s class.

After the assembly I visited with Makuach and told him I was really proud he was my new brother in Christ and I was very appreciative of all the good things James had told me he was doing to help with the ministry. He just smiled and said thank you. I continued, “I know you are just in the eighth grade, but I would like for you to attend our School of Biblical Studies, June through September, if you would like to.”

I asked James about Makuach’s parents and he said they had been attending regularly, but had not obeyed the gospel. I had the opportunity to visit with them and express my appreciation for their encouragement of Makuach in the work. I also encouraged them to continue attending the assembly and studying God’s Word.

Thanks to the VBS opportunity and the teachers for encouraging young Sudanese children though their example and teaching. Only heaven will reveal their efforts.

With this in mind, I want to encourage everyone to pray for our VBS teachers by name: BRYCE CALDWELL, RENEE CLOUD, ZACHARY CONRAD, NATHAN LOCKWOOD, KARISA HOLLAND, KAELYNN PRICHARD and RUSTY HOLLAND. They will be departing the states July 1st to teach two Sudanese Refugee Vacation Bible Schools this year in Ethiopia: 300 Sudanese Nuer and 200 Anywaa Sudanese students.

I will be departing the states June 16th for the June-September School of Biblical Studies. We will have twenty students taking classes for credit this year and twenty plus that will audit the classes. I am excited to make known that all of the instructors in the school will be natives except, Scott Caldwell, a Chiropractor from West Monroe, Louisiana, and myself. Please pray for this great evangelistic learning opportunity.

Thanks again for your continued prayers, love, encouragement and financial support of this great South Sudanese Evangelistic Opportunity. Never forget you are as much a part of this opportunity as we are. “For we are co-workers in God’s service…” 1 Corinthians 3:9.

We are short of funds for the V.B.S. and the School of Biblical Studies. If you would like to help you make your tax-deductible contributions to Woodland Oaks Church of Christ ear-marked Southern Sudan Mission and mail same to Tyrone Mynhier for posting and delivery to Woodland Oaks Church of Christ.