



A Group of Mansa leaders together after lunch

Thoughts from Dave: Psalm 133 provides a glistening picture of God’s desire to bring people together. Beginning with the words: “How good and pleasant it is when brothers (and sisters) live together in unity”, the Psalmist implies that unity is often illusive because of arrogant and self-seeking attitudes. He points out that leaders have a sacred responsibility to display the Spirit’s “anointing” in their ministry roles. The result is refreshment and the Lord’s blessing for his people. Our prayer is that the beautiful unity of partnerships and the equipping work of God’s Spirit will make a difference around the globe. Thanks for your continued support and encouragement to keep going!

Spending two weeks in Zambia gave us the opportunity to teach at a Pastors and Church Leader’s Conference, as well as significant time with our Choshen Farm partners. The relationship that the Lord has developed is truly a gift from above. Our visit coincided with some ministry evaluation by Jeremy and Bethany Colvin, allowing Joyce and me to provide encouragement and objectivity in that process. Providentially, it was a well-timed visit and we are grateful for the loving and unifying time we spent together. Our commitment is to return in the fall for another time of training and relationship building.

The Pastors and Church Leaders Conference involved a three-day presentation of *The Gospels and the Life of Jesus*. **Day One** provided an “Overview of the Four Gospels” and a theological emphasis concerning “The Person and Work of Jesus”. **Day Two** focused on the “The Calling of Jesus Disciples”, “Jesus the Master Teacher”, “Understanding Parables”, “The Healing Ministry of Jesus” and “Jesus Confronts False Teaching”. **Day Three** emphasized Jesus’ “Journey to the Cross and Through the Empty Tomb.” As one might imagine, there was good discussion in small groups, abundant questions about Scripture, and joy at discovering ideas for ministry in the churches. It is always a privilege to mentor youth leaders during these Conference sessions. **Pray for the emerging leaders of Mansa and Fimpulu.**



For many who attended, a particular Conference highlight came on **Day Two**. Not only did Joyce speak on “Jesus the Master Teacher”, but she presented a wonderful overview of “Jesus’ Relationship with Women- One of Many Marginalized Classes.” Joyce gave example after example of how Jesus reached out, touched, included, and cared for the “outcasts and sinners”. The theme hit a nerve as many Zambian individuals are marginalized because of social position, illness, educational level, and gender. Joyce illustrated how the gospel pictures an extension of God’s grace that is truly amazing to behold. It goes far beyond one’s proclivity to approve or disapprove people based on their

personal choices or behavior. Following the session, several people asked for Joyce’s notes, with one wanting them so he could preach Sunday’s sermon on this topic. In the end, this Conference was all about Jesus and his glorious transforming grace.

A Matter of Prayer – Several individuals have contacted us about joining with “Partnerships” in the training of global Pastors and Church Leaders. Please pray about these possible connections.

The Good Shepherd Library in Mansa

Over the last two years, “Partnerships” has worked with Choshen Farm to develop a pastor’s library in Mansa. Books were donated from a variety of individuals, including Ithaca Pastors and from my personal library. CDs and tapes also were made available for study. During our recent trip, Joyce and I visited the library and discovered the Library needs a desk, desk chair, lights, and a few other items to make it fully functional. “Partnerships” is providing \$500.00 to meet those needs. We’ll keep you posted on the progress!



Updates from Uganda

May 17-18 – Discipleship Trip to Masaka – Kampala Baptist Church (KBC), our “on the ground” partner in Uganda, recently sent a group of ten individuals to the Masaka region. This is the first of three 2019 events seeking to provide discipleship training for 23 regional churches. KBC’s leaders developed the curriculum and are committed to fulfill this focused ministry. Last week, Daudi Nkuwagga sent a report and I attached it in the Newsletter section of our webpage. **Give thanks with us for this good work!**



More Great News -Pastor Abel Segirinya, of Kinoni Baptist Church, was elected President of Baptist Union of Uganda (BUU). Pastor Abel is an important partner and colleague in the Masaka Region and now this dear friend has the responsibility to lead the BUU for the next three years. Pictured here with Daudi Nkuggwa immediately after the election, Pastor Abel previously expressed an interest in developing “emerging leaders” in all BUU regions of the country. **Pray for Abel as he begins this new leadership role and for our future conversations about an emerging leaders’ ministry emphasis.**

Pray for our West Timor Trip – June 5 - 12

Together with Pastor Eric Hause, Joyce and I will represent Bethel Grove Bible Church at the dedication of the Lole Scripture and the launch of Amanuban Gospel of Mark. Our partners, Chuck and Barbara Grimes, invited us to engage in these events as well as connect with pastors and church leaders to cement a growing ministry partnership. **Please pray for this important journey and the pastoral connections to be made!**

June 5-7 Travel from SYR – DTW – ION – DPS - KOE
June 8-11 On Island of Rote for Lole Scripture Dedication
June 11-13 Dave teaches at Artha Wacana Christian University
June 14 – Launch of Amanuban Gospel of Mark in Timor
June 15-16 Return flights to SYR
June 17 and following – recover from time zone difference

It’s the Right Time
Over the past few years, Joyce and I wondered about the best time to move closer to Matt’s family in Mechanicsburg, PA. We believe this is the year to do so. This week, we are putting our house on the market. By the end of the year, we hope to be established in Central Pennsylvania. We will still teach and travel globally, but from a different starting point. More details will be forthcoming, but for now we ask you to pray with us as the Lord leads us into the future.

God is at work and we are grateful! Thank you for partnering with us and for your continued interest in what the Lord is doing around the globe. Your prayers, encouragement and financial support are greatly appreciated!