

Thoughts from Dave – Even after years of following Jesus, most of us remain novices at prayer. Last week, when a wave of discouragement attempted to swamp my boat, I read this reminder in Eugene Peterson’s book *Tell It Slant*. He writes: *“But Jesus is more than a master to whom we apprentice ourselves; he is even now praying for us. This may be the most important thing to know, not how he prayed, although that is certainly important, but that he is at this very moment praying – for us. Jesus is our master in prayer; he is also our companion in prayer. He says to us, “I’ll pray for you....” – and he does it.”*

Peterson continues, *“His promise to pray for us is not lost or overlooked in a vast heavenly clutter of petitions and intercessions, confessions and thanksgivings, ascending as a cloud of incense to his altar. It defeats our imaginations to understand how this takes place, but we have it on good authority that it does.”*

It’s no surprise that the issues facing us and the global church today can be overwhelming. But Hebrews 7:25 affirms that the ascended Lord *“lives to make intercession for us.”* He is praying for us right now. He was praying for us yesterday. He will be praying for us tomorrow. Let’s take heart, be encouraged, and let this good news sink into our souls. Jesus is praying for us!

Encouraging Updates from the Uganda Team



A map of Lake Victoria showing Buvuma Main Island and the small scattered Islands all found within the boundaries of Uganda.

Buvuma Island Vision Trip in April

Pastor Andrew, Daudi, and Pastor Abel, President of the BUU, visited several Islands in Lake Victoria to explore the idea of conducting pastoral and emerging leader training this year. After identifying challenges facing the churches and their pastors, along with the hearing about the influx of false teaching, it was clear to the team that we should move forward with the idea. A Pastor’s conference is planned for June on the main Island. Daudi writes *“This will be a real test in many ways, but we are excited and looking forward to what God has in stock for them.”*

(As an aside, Daudi suggests that we purchase five quality life jackets for the upcoming training trips. Sounds like a swimmingly great idea!!!)

Training of Trainers Events

One of 2021’s goals is to turn the Trained Trainers (TOTs) loose in their regions of Uganda. By providing curriculum material and small amounts of money, TOTs can organize, teach, and follow-up Seminars in order to build up the church. The guys from Oyam jumped at the opportunity and led two May events.

May 4-6 in Oyam North – Pastor George Mike Nam reports that their Seminar, held at Konagar Baptist Church, was designed for pastors and youth leaders. Two topics were taught – *The Message of 1 John* and *How to Align Music Ministry with the Vision of the Senior Pastor*. Pastor Mike plans to hold another Training seminar at the end of July.



Oyam TOTs at November 2019 Graduation

Thanks for your continued prayers and support for all that our partners are accomplishing as they equip leaders to the glory of God.

May 12-16 in Oyam South – A Youth Conference was led by three TOTs from Kampala Baptist Church (Dennis, Gabit and Norbert) and Oyam’s TOTs - Pastor Thomas, Pastor Nelson and Pastor Samuel. The young guys from KBC were exceptional at teaching and leading music. Thomas sent a WhatsApp message: *“Thank you for the teaching materials and financial support, the community are (sic) blessed. May the God Almighty bless you as you continue to be a blessing to others. We love you, greetings.”*



Reports on Other Training Events

April 28-30 – Masaka Emerging Leaders met to continue their growth as young leaders. The Seminar topics included a study of *The Lord’s Prayer, Governance in Ministry, and How to Succeed in Business in a Godly Way*. Led by Mrs. Sanyu Kaganzi of KBC, the final topic, helped emerging leaders think about establishing some type of income source for their lives.



May 24-26 - Kiboga Training - Daudi and Pastor Andrew joined with Ronald of the TOT group and taught the pastors in this central region town. Seminar topics included *The Heart of the Gospel, Ten Major Events of the Old Testament, A Picture of Salvation, and The Nature and Character of God and the Great Commission*. Designed for pastors and churches to go beyond their particular tribal context, each Seminar session reflected God’s heart for the world.

Pray for the June Ugandan Team Schedule

June 15-16 - Trip to Oyam to evaluate the effectiveness of the May training in the North and South, to review the use of tablet technology with leaders and to plan for future events.

June 18-19 – Mubende Training – TOTs Aurelius and Ronald, along with Daudi, will hold this Central Region’s first emerging leader’s seminar of 2021.

June 23-25 – Buvuma Islands Training – Daudi, Pastor Andrew, and others will travel to teach pastors and leaders from Lake Victoria Island churches.



Additional Prayer Items

Pray as **Dave and Joyce** work on developing effective curriculum to be used in a variety of training seminars.

COVID-19 is rearing its ugly head in Uganda. **Pray for Pastor Andrew, KBC, and the Ugandan government** as they address the situation.

Peru’s COVID-19 numbers are among the highest in South America. Pray for **Felix de Cayco of Pacha Waray**, as he trains pastors through radio programs.

Pray for **Olivia and Justin**, just married Cornell University grads, as they join the *Choshen Farm* staff in Zambia.

Keep Chuck and Barbara Grimes in your prayers as they translate God’s Word and stand with the West Timor church in the rebuilding process after an Easter Sunday cyclone.

A Flight is Booked
*After consulting with Pastor Andrew and Daudi last week, Dave booked a **July 25 flight to Uganda with a return trip on August 11**. Being away from our partners for 18 months has been hard. Please pray as details are being established and priorities are being set for all there is to do. And pray for wisdom as the number of Ugandan COVID-19 cases is growing in recent days.*
Thanks for praying!