News Updates from South Sudan

"But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of Him everywhere. For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are perishing, to one a fragrance from death to death, to the other a fragrance from life to life. Who is sufficient for these things? For we are not, like so many, peddlers of God's word, But as men of sincerity, as commissioned by God, in the sight of God we speak in Christ." 2 Corinthians 2: 14-17



Dear Praying Family & Friends,

November 2017

One of the great privileges that I have been experiencing in these past few months is seeing a glimpse of

what God is doing in the lives of His people. In September, I attended an Uduk (tribe) Church's Spiritual Conference. It was for only one morning, and there were over 200 people who packed their grass-roofed church. Several choirs enthusiastically sang, including an invited Mabaan Church youth choir. There were 2 pastors who spoke, teaching and encouraging people to reach out to their neighbors with the Gospel.

I was given an opportunity to give greetings from SIM and I shared Matthew 5:16. I encouraged them to be that light in the darkness, the Light of Christ, here in the Doro Refugee Camp, as they were here on God's appointment.



Later, various pastors came up to me, thanking me for these words. The Sudanese churches, for quite some time, have been very comfortable in their Christian life. But, He is stirring their hearts to reach out to their lost & suffering neighbors who do not have peace with God.



In early October, SIM gave a seminar on Healing the Wounds of Trauma. This programme, created by SIL, encourages people to give their "heart wounds" to Jesus. There were two 3 day seminars. On the last day, the lesson was on forgiveness. Andrew Nita, one of our Mabaan pastors, came to my house just after this lecture. He looked quite disturbed, and with a quivering bottom lip, he told me that this lesson on forgiveness was just what all of them (for all tribes) needed to hear. "We

need to forgive each other!" He said that God was speaking to all their hearts. He didn't stay long, as he looked like he was about to cry. Thank you for praying for God's Spirit to move in the hearts of our Sudanese people. It seems that the Lord is starting His work in the hearts of His own people, to show the way forward. Pray for revival in God's church & as a result many more will come to Christ. I love comfort zones! However, I'm finding that in order for me to grow in my own walk with the Lord, He leads me out of what is comfortable (medical work). For about 6 months, Eliya has been telling me that someday, I am to come to his people (tribe) and teach ladies the Bible. Eliya's tribe are the Burun Magdolay people. They are mostly Muslims. There is a small church amongst this tribe and Eliya's immediate family are Christian. In mid-September, I met with their pastor, and I was invited to begin meeting with the ladies.





Both Eliya's wife and his mother told me that they were hungry to learn more of God's Word. And so, I thought I was to go each Saturday to share God's Word. They had other ideas. They told me that they wanted to reach out to ladies who were not Christians, and so they asked if I would start an ESL class alongside the Bible teaching. ESL would bring their neighbors to the class. And so, this is what I have been doing for the past 3 weeks!

There are 11 ladies who faithfully come each Saturday. They are a real delight! Each week, I bring coffee beans & sugar, and after our Bible lesson, a lady roasts the coffee beans and we sit together for more than 3 hours sipping coffee, chatting and laughing together. Pray that ladies will grow in Christi and God will speak to others' hearts and draw them to Himself.



I cannot thank you all enough for your prayers for my safety. One Saturday morning in early October, as I was preparing for my ESL & Bible class, a Sudanese man walked into my house holding a knife. At first, I thought he was one of our grass-cutters that come during the week. But, the look on his face told me that he was not. He never said a word to me. The Lord gave me the strength and wisdom to not move, but to speak clearly to him, asking him to leave my house (as I pointed to the door). This young man, backed out of my house, with me following him. I walked him to the fence where there was another young man waiting for him. Then, he jumped over the fence and they both walked away. Since then, we have cut down the tree, added razor wire to the fence and put up a night light. Our guards have begun doing 15 minute walk-about rounds on our compound. Thank you so much for your prayers. They are really appreciated and needed!

Thank you again for your faithful prayers, letters of encouragement and support. God is doing amazing things! In the Joy of Serving Jesus,

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