July 2019

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Thank you so much for your prayers over the last several months. The ministry has been doing well and there have been lots of great opportunities.

The house in Nyagatare is finished enough to be used and we have been able to do discipleship classes out there two times. The first time we had 35 students and were able to cover many relevant topics. It was the first time anyone has ever sat with these people as a group and talked through Bible issues and questions. They were very receptive and open. Most people begin their questions with "This is what I know," or "People say..." To show them "This is what God and the Bible says..." really changes their perspective. There is so much confusion and wrong teaching that most people don't know what to believe or what their belief is based on. It was a real blessing to see the hunger they have to learn the Word of God, and we are excited about the church that will form out of this group. I was supposed to teach this last weekend as well, but I got sick on my way to Rwanda and had to go back home. I felt really bad about it, but going to the village when one is sick is usually a bad idea. Pastor Sadock went on his own this time and he said that he had about the same number as last time. We are looking to set up another time to teach in August as well as do a VBS during school holiday. There are several people that want to teach the children, but have no training. I hope to do a several-day children's teachers class to help them to do that effectively.

Our office space is finally set up and open for business. This means that the process of getting the mission approval can go forward and we are praying that this can be done with no difficulty. A lot of paperwork is involved in doing ministry, and I am thankful for all the hard work that Pastor Sadock has put into chasing paperwork. We have land titles for many of the properties and are waiting on building permits for the rest. The permission has come for renovating the building in Kibuye and the blueprints are prepared. We are hoping to have that church ready for use by the end of August so the group there can begin meeting in it. The process on the property in Kigali is complicated due to building regulations so it is taking longer than usual. Please pray that these papers will go through well and that we will be able to do the building project in the way that will best suit the ministry.

Having the office space allowed us to set up a few days to do teaching for the men from the institute. We did questions and answers for two days and it was a wonderful experience. They have learned a lot over the years and we were able to help them with some relevant questions about their ministries. We are hoping to put together a weeklong teaching time sometime in August.

Several months ago, I was invited to attend the wedding of one of the young men from the Bible college in Bwera. I made my plans to attend, but the week before the event there was news of an Ebola outbreak in Uganda. Several people passing from Congo into Uganda were confirmed with the disease and several of them died. There was a lot of panic because of the seriousness of this disease, but thankfully it was an isolated incident and there have been no more cases in Uganda since. Needless to say, Ebola is a very serious issue in Congo right now and much prayer is needed for that country. The wedding did happen as planned, and I was able to do a day of marriage teaching, perform the wedding ceremony, and preach to over 1,000 people in attendance. It is a blessing to see God working and be a part of ministries all over.

There is much work to still be done and we now have less than four months until our return to America. Please pray that all will go well and that we will be able to leave the ministries here in a good way. Also, please pray for our health as it seems that all of us have been perpetually sick over the last several months.

In Christ, David, Talia, Hope, Joy, Josiah, and Abigail Ruley