

TIDINGS FROM Tanzania

JULY 2010

Dear teammates, the time has come! We've been learning and adapting to the culture and building relationships, and now we are fully engaging in ministry. Although we still have a long way to go till we are fluent in Swahili, and we will always be learners in cultural issues, we are getting up to full speed in equipping pastors and church leaders throughout East Africa.

Here is what we are up to:

- Each week it is a privilege to be **preaching** and/or leading trainings at one of two churches in Dar es Salaam.
- Another update **video** is in the works. These projects take a ridiculous amount of time, but hopefully we will have one finished by mid-late July.
- I have begun **teaching a religion course** each week to upper level high school students at a predominantly Muslim/Hindu school in downtown Dar.
- As a family, we will be attending an intensive three-week Swahili **language school** in Arusha from July 24-Aug.14. Please pray for this important time.
- We hope to help start a **neighborhood Bible study** (cell group) by the end of summer.
- Eric has agreed to serve as **ReachGlobal national team leader for Uganda** in partnership with a cluster of churches in northern Uganda. This means he will be guiding them to grow their church planting movement and will conduct trainings there at least twice/year.
- I am also planning to do two trainings in different areas of **Kenya** in the fall, one of them with my longtime Kenyan friend Kioko, and hopefully mostly in Swahili!
 - There has been dialogue with **Daystar University** (three campuses in Kenya) to help head up a new branch in Dar es Salaam. As an adjunct teacher with Daystar, this will open many doors for more trainings.



Glancing back over the past couple months

- The **kids** finished the school year well at HOPAC. Although their summer break is only two months long, they're loving downtime, and are connecting with friends as much as possible.
- The family had a good week at **Bamba Youth Camp** outside Dar, June 27-July 2, where Eric was the camp speaker for the week.
- **Adam's health** seems to be slowly improving. We've had him thoroughly checked out, and tests came back that he's healthy. Thank you for your continued prayers.
- **Holly** continues to maintain the home, learn African culture and serve in different areas, mainly with children. She has totally loved getting involved at HOPAC doing substitute teaching and working in the library.



Andrew and a friend celebrating their rat-kill.

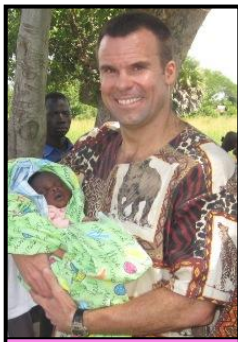


Debrief from Uganda trip

- **22 leaders** attended our **36-hour training** and joyfully absorbed an overview of the entire Bible and biblical theology contained therein. What a BLAST!!



Training is FUN!



Eric and Shekinah

- After preaching in the village church, there was a **baby dedication** where I was asked to name the child, so I gave her one of my favorite names, "Shekinah." (Hebrew for "glory of God.")
- Following this we went to a muddy nearby river and **baptized** 13 believers. We found out afterwards that crocodiles are regularly found in that river! While doing this, a demon manifest itself in a woman and tried to throw her into the river!



Tell me more about the work in Uganda...

In the underdeveloped, rural villages of northern Uganda, an area torn up by war, famine and oppression, **God is doing something very exciting.**

A cluster of newly planted churches has recently communicated with ReachGlobal leadership that they are interested in a partnership with us. Eric and other RG personnel have visited the area twice to conduct leadership, theological and community development trainings, and to share the vision for a partnership between ReachGlobal and the "Evangelical Free Church of Uganda," which is led by Pastor John Sabuni. We would ask for your **prayers** in the months to come as we seek God's wisdom, for the needs in this area are significant, as are the opportunities for significant growth. We will be **seeking churches in the US** who are interested in partnering with this movement in offering training and support for these hungry believers. As Pastor Sabuni has frequently said



Women cooking ugali, the primary food of much of Africa.



Pastor Sabuni and training participant Pastor Peter.



regarding EFCU's large vision:
"When Saul looked at Goliath, he said, 'He is too big to kill.' But when David looked at Goliath, he said, 'He is too big to miss!'" May God grant success in our vision to establish a healthy church planting movement throughout northern Uganda.



Once again, we truly **thank you** for your **faithful prayers and financial partnership**, for we couldn't be doing what we are doing without you. May God grant you a sense of connection and a joy in your heart at the ways **He is working** in East Africa! To God be the glory!

"Sing to the Lord, all the earth; proclaim His salvation day after day. Declare His glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples. For great is the Lord and most worthy of praise." -1 Chron. 16:23-25



With love and prayers,

The Belz Family
Eric, Holly, Adam, Andrew, Allie



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