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Chimala Mission, Hospital and School

Randy's Gray's Report

May 2010

One of the exciting developments that I witnessed while in Tanzania was the opening of the secondary school. Sometimes potential supporters ask why we are involved in primary and secondary education when the purpose of the Lord's work is to save souls. Several facts about Tanzania have motivated us to be involved in education of young people.

- A baby born in Tanzania has a life expectancy of 52 years compared to a baby born in the US with a life expectancy of 78 years. This means we have less time to reach this soul with the gospel. We cannot wait for souls to reach adulthood before we start sharing the gospel, in Tanzania or here in the US.
- The median age in the US is 37 years which means 50% of the people are younger than 37 years. In Tanzania, the median age is 18 years.
- The government allows us to teach the Bible to young people in the primary and the secondary schools every day as a formal part of their education.

Thus, our work would be incomplete without efforts to reach young people in Tanzania.

Another way, that we share the gospel is through Friendship Seminars. One of the last weekends I was in Tanzania, Garry Hill and I were given the opportunity to speak at a friendship seminar in Mswiswi. Each year, different congregations around the greater Chimala area are chosen as locations for these seminars to be held on a Saturday. People attending have the opportunity to hear different presentations of the word of God. At Mswiswi, we had excellent participation by our Chimala School of Preaching students and a large number of individuals from around the area. This village is located west of the Chimala Mission on the Old Great North Road and requires about a 30 minute drive to reach the church building. The singing was just wonderful and the sincerity of the prayers being lead during the day brought tears to my eyes.

On a different note, it was so good to see Bill Stinson

pushing his cart filled with luggage as he walked through the terminal door at Dar es Salaam airport on April 2nd. He was wearing the familiar smile that he is so well known for in the Chimala area. Boaz took the luggage cart, had everything packed in the back of the vehicle, and off we set to drive 500 miles back to Chimala. We had plenty of time to catch up on things before we arrived at 6:30 pm on the estate grounds just as the sun was beginning to set in the western sky.

Bill wasted no time in getting to work- going through all the bookwork, reconciling all the figures and balancing the numbers. He started early Saturday morning and went into the late hours of the evening. Sunday was a lighter day due to worship and Bible study. It's great having someone like Bill who knows so much about every aspect of the work here in Chimala. He was all caught up by the time I was scheduled to leave the mission to go to Dar and catch my flight later in the week. The work is blessed to have Bill as the Administrator of the Chimala Mission.

Randy Gray's Report—cont.

With our current shortage of missionaries, Garry is going to have many opportunities to be very involved in evangelism in the local villages and speak at some of the Friendship Seminars held at different locations in southwest Tanzania. The Chimala family feels richly blessed to have Gary make this commitment. We appreciate so much his love for the work in East Africa.

Another servant for Christ,
Randy

Bill Stinson's Report

Habari Za Leo (News of the Day),

We hope this letter finds all of you doing well. I've been back in Tanzania exactly one month now and Cyndi has been here 5 days. I have gotten over my jet lag and Cyndi seems to be adjusting better than I did. It was great to be home and be able to spend time with family and friends, but it is also good to be back here with our brothers and sisters in Christ and our dear friends.

Things have been busy since I've returned. We have never been gone as long as we were this time and I have had a lot of catching up to do. I've spent a lot of hours getting the accounting of funds entered into the computer. One thing that most people do not realize is that we have about 15-20 money transactions every day here with all of the different works that we have and keeping track of all of the funds is a big job. I have almost brought everything up to date so we can focus more on things that need to be done. We have gotten one vehicle into the shop and the motor is pulled out and disassembled. We hope to have it rebuilt within the next two weeks and back in service. It has been one of our main vehicles that we use for taking guest to and from Dar. It was damaged last November not long before I came home when a new oil filter blew its gasket causing the motor to lose oil pressure and burn a connecting rod bearing destroying the crankshaft. I had Cyndi bring back a couple of special tools to help in the rebuilding process and a special thanks to my brother Tommy for getting those for us. I told Cyndi that I needed a cylinder hone and a ridge reamer, but she was a little lost not knowing for sure what I was talking about.

I have also been doing some preaching since I've been back and have been very pleased with the evangelism work that is taking place here overall. The first Sunday I was back, we went to Chosi where I have been teaching for a long time. I got great news when I ar-

rived there hearing that **Sophia** I wrote about last year that had been so faithful in being there every week, but had never obeyed the gospel because of family pressure (they are Muslim), put Christ on in baptism that morning. That was an answer to many prayers and a hard decision for her I know. I was also able to go to the Border congregation which is located on the Malawian border. I had been to the Keyela congregation nearby, but this was my first time to personally visit the Border congregation. This is one of the congregations that we have helped recently with a new roof. We put a partial roof on their building. They have built a larger than normal building and I wanted to see if it looked like it was justified. We got there Sunday morning and I was pleasantly surprised by the good attendance they had. The seats were almost full and it seems like they are doing a good job there. I got to speak and afterwards **Sikuja Dankeni Kyisa** come forward who wanted to be baptized. They asked if I could take them to the river for the baptism in our car. I said sure and since we had crossed a river nearby right before we got to the church building I figured we were going back to that river. But I figured wrong; we did not travel far, but it was the opposite direction which took us right across the Malawi border (which was only a few hundred yards away.) One interesting thing was how easy it was for us to cross the border; we basically drove across telling the lady at the gate that we were going to do a baptism and she said "okay". We parked nearby and walked about a kilometer through the village to a pocket of water off of the big river that had water deep enough to have a baptism. After we ran off all of the bathers, we had a nice baptism service and another soul was added to the Lord's Church. I also got to meet the preacher and his wife of the local village there in Malawi. He told me that Heath had come there and worked to get the church established in that area. I was supposed to have traveled to that area with Heath one weekend, but I had come down with a stomach virus and did not go

Bill Stinson's Report—cont

along with the group. I never dreamed then that 9 years later I would be there helping the work myself in the same area. Sometimes we never know what plans the Lord has for us

All schools are doing well and are nearing the midyear break. Cyndi and I will be busy the next two weeks trying to get the school's records up to date before the break. We are also going to be busy preparing for the entire summer guests. The first group from Harding University arrives on May 17th.

I guess I will close out for this month. We are thankful that our daughter is improving, though she did have more surgery to correct some problems. She seems to be on the road to recovery now and we are thankful for that. My daughter-in-law and brother are doing well also. Thanks for all of the prayers.

In His Service,
Bill and Cyndi Stinson

Garry Hill's Report—Teaching at Chimala

This March I was privileged to travel for the fourth time to the Chimala Mission and Hospital. I traveled with Dr. Denny Petrillo and Keith Kasarjian of Bear Valley Bible Institute of Denver, as they taught two short courses for the Chimala Bible College on the campus. The trip and fellowship with them and the students were rewarding and exciting.

As they left I was able to settle in and with the help of Randy Gray, the stateside coordinator and the dedicated workers on the mission. I began a lengthy stint of teaching in the Bible College. I taught *Exodus and Leviticus*, *How We Got The Bible*, and *A Survey of Church History*. In the afternoon, setting up shop in the library, we helped the students with their English and grammar work as to prepare them to research and write in a more correct manner. The weekends were spent preaching in various places around the mission.

Brother Bill Stinson the mission coordinator returned in April after a lengthy furlough and he immediately welcomed me and we discussed future opportunities of work at the mission. Dr. Robert Curry arrived to co teach with me the final short courses of the quarter before the students went on summer break. Dr. Curry is an experienced evangelist and college educator having taught in Scotland, England, Peru, and now this second time in Chimala. He is an author, lecturer, and besides is my oldest friend and former college roommate.

We together taught the students, *Joshua – Ruth, James-Jude, The Godhead and Ezra-Esther*.

Other activities beside teaching include, working with the students in their paper research, helping a student prepare for his Form 4 (the equivalent of our 12th grade in High school), research for my upcoming classes and finishing my dissertation for my final degree. Needless to say the time here has been filled with a flurry of activity and wonderful experiences.

My future plans are to return in September for the final long quarter and two short courses and then to be teaching on the mission for the entire school year in 2011. Our plans are to improve the Bible College, working with Peter and Joshua, the other two teachers, and work as coordinator and teacher in the new graduate program and to be involved in evangelistic work in the area. These are the motivations for this move.

Besides where else can you enjoy seeing the monkeys in the trees outside my house, drive through some of the most beautiful country ever experienced to go preach on Sunday, enjoy Ms. Jane's delicious cooking, learn all about "football" with Menard, drive to see Africa's majestic wildlife with Boaz, have a awe inspiring mountain scene right outside my classroom window, and lose 25 pounds in one beautiful setting...

Garry Hill
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