

“The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God stands forever.” Isaiah 40:8 NKJV

Friends: May the Lord Jesus Christ bless you and yours in this (hot!) month of August 2023! Praise the Lord for the eternally lasting word of God—what a blessing it is to bring this treasure to others!

Last November, our friends at Chapelstreet Church blessed us with \$5000 for Life Application Study Bibles. We have completed the LASB distributions in Uganda with those funds, and this is a brief report about that. At the left, from top to bottom, are the meetings in: Bulambuli, Namisindwa, and Malaba.

In January 2023, in Namisindwa/Bulambuli in Eastern Uganda, a rural area, 192 LASB's were distributed to pastors/leaders; about 200 people attended these meetings. As always, the Bibles were welcomed as a blessing! Pastor Alex Minge of Kampala, who did the distributions and also taught, wrote (as he sent this to me) about this outreach: “Pastor Titus in Namisindwa said his Church has experienced much growth since he received the Study Bible because his preaching has greatly improved. Before he received the Bible, he would normally listen to preachers on the radio and later on transfer the sermon on the radio to his Church, and that hindered greatly his growth as a person and as well as the Church as most sermons on the radio are very misleading.”



“Pastor Christopher in Bulambuli said few pastors had complete Bibles, the majority had Bibles with many missing books or pages, and probably the pastor in most cases was the only one with the copy of the Bible. The pastors and the Churches were both not growing because opportunities to study God's word was very limited; the pastors are therefore very thankful for the gift of Bibles.”

“Pastor Michael Ogori, who leads Churches in the hilly areas of Bulambuli, is so thankful for the Bibles and the teachings to their leaders. He informed me churches in Bulambuli have become very missional, and more churches have been planted in the region. He also said many pastors now have complete Bibles, which was not the case before, and as a result, the preaching in many Churches has greatly improved.”



“The Study Bibles have also strengthened unity among the pastors as leaders in different parts of our country gather together to study. In Bulambuli, pastors now meet together regularly to study together.” One man in N. Uganda commented: “Pastor Thomitho, who serves in a Baptist Church and as well in the police force, is very thankful to receive a copy of study Bible; his plan is to resign soon from the police so that he can engage more on church planting work in West Nile region.” As in previous years, we sought a donation of 10,000ush (less

than \$3) for each LASB in the distributions, so with those funds which we collected, Alex purchased 160 Bible Story Books for children, which were given to children in Discipleship Groups and an additional 89 Bibles which have been given to Christians.

August Ministry Trip To Uganda

As the Lord wills, I'm scheduled to visit Uganda in mid-August for about 2 weeks of ministry. Please pray as I seek to strengthen relationships and bring encouragement to those who serve with us in the day-to-day ministry in Uganda. It will be a blessing to visit friends there also! Please pray for our ministry leader Pastor Alex, the Street Kid Outreach teams, the Children's Ministry teams, for those who distribute literature and Bibles and who teach and preach in the Pastoral Development and Church Planting components of our work there. Pray for those who serve the ex-prostitutes. Our love and thanks to you, dear reader!

Prayer for revival from Psalm 80:18: “Then we will not turn back from You; Revive us, and we will call upon Your name.”

KAPPY'S CORNER—Lilies of the Field

The colorful patch in the lawn had a very small beginning. In fact, it was so small that I didn't see it at first. Day by day, it spread until it was a deep purple carpet adorning the far side of the green expanse that separates us from the state road. I walked over to take a closer look. There must have been thousands of tiny purple flowers in an unbroken mass flooding up to the fence. Plucking one, I held it close. The detail in that flower was exquisite.

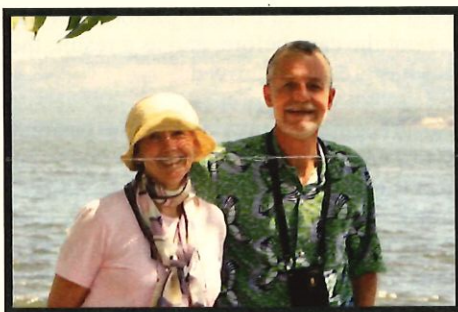
Why did those particular flowers flourish in that one small patch of the lawn? I wondered if the soil was nourished in just the right way when the Lord brought heavy rains that previously flooded that spot. I wondered if the angle of the sun's rays was perfect for the growth of those flowers at that time in that place. Whatever the reason, it was God's providence that brought the flowers for our enjoyment and to reflect His glory.

In Matthew 6:25-34, the word of God speaks of His perfect provision for the birds and flowers. The Lord is telling us not to worry. Will it add one moment to our lifespan? If He cares for the smallest flower, how much more will He care for us who were created in His image? He has given us the gift of life and will meet the needs of that life. Why be miserable when we can trust God totally to take care of the minutest details of our lives? Our spiritual needs and our physical needs are all in His capable, loving hands. Even when things aren't the way we would choose for ourselves, we can trust in God's perfect plan for our lives as He wills and in His time. We can trust Him for today and for tomorrow and be at peace.

The purple flowers were seasonal. The glory of those flowers withered and faded away. All that remains in that spot today is green grass, but the eternal glory of God will never fade away.

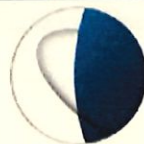
May our Lord bless you in His kindness; with love and thanks,

Jim and Kappy



Email: jkrobinmissionafricajk@gmail.com

Website: www.missionafricajk.net



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