
Kibidula News

July - September 2004

Surrounded by Guards

By Barry Mosier

When Amina Kikula first asked to be able to enter Isanga prison in Dodoma, the Warden thought she was crazy. A woman in the men's prison? However, due to her persistence, he finally agreed to let her and a team of men enter the prison. Amina is surrounded by 4 guards as she walks about, but I have a feeling that there are a lot more angels accompanying her than there are guards. Here is her recent account of a prison visit.

"We were blessed to receive permission to enter the prison with a team of 4 people on that Sabbath day. We opened our Sabbath school and conducted the divine service with 401 people including 140 prisoners who have joined in baptism. We gave certificates of graduation to 106 who have completed the Voice of Prophecy (VOP)

Bible Studies, including 3 officers.

"Next we conducted the divine services in the condemned section with 84 people. After baptizing 39 prisoners, we gave out additional VOP lessons along with books and Bibles. We praised the Lord that 253 new students enrolled in the Bible study course.

At noon we entered the women's prison and held a service with 69 prisoners. As in the rest of the prison, we gave out soap, skin oil, toothpaste and books. After this we went to Kinguruira prison and signed up 50 people for the VOP lessons. I give thanks to the Lord and to you on behalf of the church. Don't give up, we will harvest at the right time."

It was in January this year that Amina became a lay missionary of Kibidula.

Unknown to us, the very day that we offered to help sponsor her was the same day that her sponsoring church in Dar es Salaam was meeting to close her program due to lack of funds. The Lord is in control. Now, Amina is approaching two new prisons in Dar es Salaam at Keko and Segerea. We are also thankful for the 30 prisoners who have just been baptized in the Mbeya prison under the leadership of Eliot Kiswaga. We were honored to give free Bibles and songbooks to these new Christians thanks to your support. Please pray for God's work in the prisons as well as these faithful workers.



Barry Mosier



Amina and the Warden of the Dodoma Prison

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Medical Assistant Becomes Pastor

By Thomas Riederer

Our medical assistant, Dan Matekere, has accepted a call to serve as a pastor in Sumbawanga, in a far away region in South-West Tanzania. He has served our Kibidula clinic for 2 years. During this time he was also involved in translation work for our publishing department as well as in teaching at our Lay Evangelist Training School.

We would like to wish him and his family God's blessing in his new work that he will be doing for God in Sumbawanga.

Unfortunately, this will leave

our clinic vacant once more. Again we have to send our medical patients away, who were able to rely on our services.

The Dental Clinic is still operating, trying to serve the rural population with its dental needs.

Marybeth Mosier continues to provide assistance in prenatal care as well as in delivery at her own house.

We are praying and believe that God will send us a dedicated, experienced medical doctor with a vision and a

heart to serve our rural people.

We are convinced that medical missionary work is still part of our Gospel Commission here at Kibidula! If you are called by God to be the one or know such a doctor, please contact us at the following e-mail address:

riederer@maf.or.tz



Matekere Family

Evangelism 'On the Road'

By Barry Mosier

It was an exciting day for me when we stopped at the Kigogo Church in Dar Es Salaam to see the site for the evangelistic effort that would start in just 3 days. "Where is the field for the effort?" I asked. "Right here along side the church!" was the pastor's reply. "If we conduct it on our property, we can use the horn speakers without getting police permission."

I felt a bit sick as I saw they were building a small platform in the narrow sliver of land along side the church. Located on an intersection, there would be no place for the guests except on the road or the neighbor's porches. Hopefully, I asked, "Are there any other options nearby?" "No, but we think this will work just fine," said the pastor, trying to be cheerful. "Alright," I responded, but I think I whispered to Marybeth, "This is the worst site for an effort that I have ever seen."

We prayed for God's blessing and set up as best we could, trusting in Him. Fortunately, our extremities are God's opportunities. As Marybeth gave the health talks and I preached my

first effort in Tanzania, 350-600 people crammed into the space and filled the road to hear the gospel message for these last days. We couldn't believe it. In order to make a call, Marybeth had to lead all of the children away to another place to allow people to be able to pass to the front.

Actually, we were just one of thirty five simultaneous efforts conducted in Dar Es Salaam and Morogoro by laymen from America and other countries through the Global Evangelism program. David Dobias, the site coordinator had asked us to fill a vacant site and help provide books and Bibles for the event. On the last day of the efforts, we were privileged to see 986 people baptized in the Indian Ocean, including 36 from our site.

Our student missionary Josh Carpenter had come to help us with our equipment, but it was not to be. An elderly couple named Vern and Opal Erickson had nothing but problems with the equipment at their site. After 3 nights of disasters, they were pretty discouraged. On the fourth night Josh went to

help with the equipment. Suddenly, they were the top site in Dar with 1,000 to 2,000 attending each night. It was a miracle. Seventy people were baptized from that site.

Another blessing was that the new Bible study tracts arrived from Light Bearers in time for the effort. These new sets of 15 Swahili Bible studies not only ask the questions, but quote the full answers from the scriptures. Especially in the bush, so few people have Bibles. Conventional studies only ask questions, assuming that people have Bibles to look up the answers. Day by day we gave out tracts to each site for guests to take home and reinforce the scripture truths they had heard during the meeting. In addition, with the help of Ben and Pam Vinson, we shipped the remainder of the 192,000 sets across the country of Tanzania to help follow up this "Year of Evangelism." Only in Heaven will we know the impact of these tracts.

A third blessing was to be able to offer Swahili books and Bibles for sale to the Dar colporteurs and guest evangelists. With

God's blessing we sold over 5,000 books including over 900 Bibles during the Dar efforts. Thanks to generous gifts to our Bible fund, all of those baptized at our efforts this year will receive a free Bible. I get a special thrill when I see people hold their own Bible in their hands for the first time in their lives.

I believe the tracts and books were by far the greater part of our work there in Dar, but I enjoyed seeing people come forward in response to the call of Jesus at our effort, too. Please pray for our publishing work here in Tanzania as we seek to spread the truth to people in their native tongue.

Pictures follow on Page 5.



Marybeth Mosier during the children's program.



Marybeth handing out Bibles to Baptist Candidates.



Two scenes from the baptism of 986 people in the Indian Ocean.

Update On...

Kibidula Agricultural Training Center (KAT)



Left & Right:
Different views of the rapidly progressing cafeteria and two classroom blocks.



Right & Far-Right:
The training session started in August with an intake of 20 students. A few hours of classes are followed by a supervised work program where they learn practical skills in their own gardens.



This Too Shall Pass...

By Antionette Fournier

"This too shall pass!"

I wonder how many times I've told myself this short and well-known phrase during the first week since our return from furlough. A bit of hope. That's all it offers. Between unpacking, cooking, cleaning, taking care of my family, a few small crises, and now this hacking of holes in my walls... this too shall pass. Believe it!

The plumber and his assistant unexpectedly arrived at our house last night just as prayer meeting was about to start. Early this morning they jumped to work and much dust, red brick and mortar on the floors later they are busy piping water to my tiny kitchen and bathroom. Fierce and furious sounds surround me as I try to find a spot in the house to become quiet for a bit and to reflect on eternal truths. Can God hear me even in the midst of all this dirt and noise? As I ponder upon God's greatness I feel the

gentle morning sunshine warming me through our office window. And in between the sounds of never-ending hammer blows and the dust clouds I feel His peace flooding my soul. When an active toddler comes running into the office eagerly practicing her newly acquired climbing skills on the chair I'm sitting on and then my lap, a learned habit of mine kicks in and I shift my diary slightly to the side and try to make both of us as comfortable as possible. Life goes on. I pray that I will be able to look past all the little trials and inconveniences and focus on the end result. Water, and no leaks, in much needed areas of my house. Thank you for today because it too shall pass.

It has been a while since I wrote these few short paragraphs. At the time I was trying to get over jet-lag, find a new routine that is so important for a toddler, cleaning dirt and

dust that have collected over the past months, etc. After a couple of floods in our house (not entirely the plumber's fault!), spring cleaning our house three times in less than a couple of weeks (don't ask!) and experiencing a slight case of culture shock, I look back and see His gentle compassion and help. Now that we're pretty much back into the daily happenings here at Kibidula I've come to think more about Jesus' promise to return soon and to take us where we belong. Are we eagerly looking forward to seeing it pass by so we can forget and enjoy an eternity with our Father? Or is the idea frightening to you? My prayer is that we'll realize what is really important, what is everlasting, what is uplifting, what is enduring and what it is that might be keeping us from letting go of today and giving it to Him to manage. Because, in the end, this too shall pass...



Antionette Fournier

Current Kibidula Projects You Could Support:

- \$40,000 - Dormitories for Students.
- Gift Bible Fund - \$ 4 per Bible.
- Translation and Publication of Swahili Literature and Books.
- Lay Missionaries in un-entered areas - \$50 per month.
- Tuition for needy students at Kibidula Training Center - \$100 per student.



Please Write To:
Kibidula Farm Institute
Box 17, Mafinga
Tanzania, East Africa
E-mail: kibidula@maf.or.tz

For a Tax-deductible receipt (USA):

Please Send All Donations To:

Outpost Centers, Intl.
5340 Layton Lane
Apison, TN 37302
U.S.A.

Please designate on check 'Kibidula' and the project you want to support. Thank you.