

Dear Friend,

God has been using the words of Paul from 1 Thess. 2:13 to give me a new prayer for the lost. Paul tells the Thessalonians that "...when you received the Word of God which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but for *what it really is*, the Word of God, which also performs its work in you who believe." (NASB, *emphasis mine*)

My prayer is that those who hear the Word of God, as Mike faithfully travels to take it around the Northwest, America and across the globe, will truly accept it for what it is: the powerful, living, truthful Word of God! And there have been many over the last few weeks who have done just that: 257 in Rwanda and 26 at camp in Texas, to be exact!

Rwanda Pastor's Conference

Mike, Bill McNeil, a fellow church member and friend, and *Simplicity* ministry partner Emmanuel Sitaki (of *ERM Rwanda*) traveled to Rwanda May 29 — June 14. Their first four days of ministry were spent leading a Pastors Conference in the northern region of the country, in the city of Ruhengeri. Mike and Emmanuel (translating) taught the pastors and other church leaders about *Simple Evangelism* and introduced the tool of *The Hope* video, challenging the leaders to share their faith with those in their world of influence AND to lead their congregations to do the same. Bill McNeil was there to film each session of the conference and is now working on producing a DVD of the sessions to send to each pastoral team so that they can train the people in their own churches. Within the congregations of the 170 pastors and leaders who attended, there are tens of thousands of Rwandans who will potentially be trained! The Spirit of the Lord was active in the hearts of the pastors. They

showed brokenness over personal sin and a new excitement about taking the message of Christ to those around them. One afternoon, Mike gave them the assignment of going into the marketplace to meet someone new. Mike also did the assignment and encountered a young man named Claude in a barber shop. After sharing the Gospel with him, Mike invited Claude to come to one of the crusades he would be preaching. Claude came! After the meeting, he sought out Mike to let him know that he had surrendered his life to Christ. Mike then introduced him to Pastor Joshua, regional director of the area churches, so that he could learn about attending church and discipleship. After meeting Claude, Pastor Joshua turned to Mike and said, "I have been in that barber shop many times, and I have seen that young man. But I never asked him his name. You did, and he has come to Christ. I understand, now, what you have been teaching us, Brother Mike!" Pastor Joshua is a key leader with other pastors in his area. That day the Lord gave him new understanding and clearer vision of how to reach those around him for Christ, and he will continue to encourage other pastors and churches to do the same.

Rwanda Crusades

While two days of crusade were originally planned for this trip, that doubled to an opportunity for Mike to preach four days of crusade once he was in country! The first two days were in the urban area of Ruhengeri, while the second two days were in rural, outlying locations. Day One of crusade brought 3,000 who attended, hundreds of whom were lost and heard the gospel. 54 people made decisions for Christ that day!! Day Two there were about 2,500 who attended and



170 Pastors Trained in Simple Evangelism



Bill McNeil
Filming



Mike and new brother in Christ, Claude



3 meals for 4 days at Pastor Conf. provided by *Simplicity Partners*



Pastors grateful for mattresses provided by *Simplicity Partners* for Pastor Conf.



Girl sings praise to Jesus for Bibles provided by *Simplicity Partners*

109 professed Christ as Savior and Lord (including Claude, from the barber shop!). Day Three, there were 271 who attended, including many believers who confessed the sin of not loving others the way Christ loved them. In addition, another 23 souls were brought into the Kingdom of Christ. Finally, on Day Four, there were 486 at the crusade. Again, there were many believers who responded in repentance and confession, and 21 who committed their lives to Christ!

Rwanda Vocational Training Ctr.

At the ERM vocational center in Kigali, which trains teenaged orphans and other young adults in trades such as woodworking and sewing, Mike had the privilege of sharing the gospel with 65 young people. 50 committed their lives to Christ!! Wanting to help them take steps for growth in their relationship for Christ, Mike inquired as to how many of the students had access to a Bible in their home ... and only seven did! Mike and Emmanuel made arrangements to purchase Bibles and deliver them to the teens and young adults the very next day, so that each could have his or her own Bible. After Mike presented those Bibles on behalf of *Simplicity* partners, two or three students responded to express their gratitude but one 18 year old young woman did so uniquely. She rose from her seat and began to clap and sing, making her way to the front of the room. Other students joined in with her song. When she reached the front, she announced that she had prayed for her own Bible for

years and had promised the Lord that on the day she received it, she would stand and sing and give Him praise. And she did.

Simplicity has now begun a new giving project: The Rwanda Bible Project. Each Bible costs \$5.60US, and ERM estimates the need for 110 bibles for students who will join the vocational training centers in 2012. If you would like to participate in this project, please contact us. Also let us know if you are interested in joining us on next year's Rwanda Mission trip, and we will keep you updated on plans and applications to join.

SBTC Youth Camp, Alto Frio

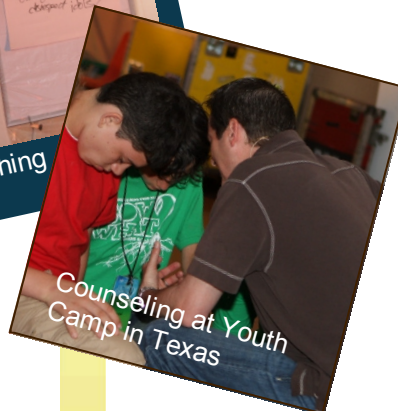
June 27—31, Mike traveled to Texas to preach a youth camp for the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention (SBTC).

The week was filled with great

individual connections with students and powerful corporate worship times as Mike preached on The Love of the Cross and Loving and Forgiving Like Christ. Youth Pastor Brad Hays shared this experience during the week: *"Two more of our young people gave their lives to God last night. One of the young men from our high school group was so broken that he fell into my arms & cried for what seemed like forever. He was shaking for literally 20 minutes after we prayed together. Oh I pray that everyone could experience that kind of brokenness."* That kind of brokenness happens when people "accept the Word of God for what it is" and it performs its work in those who believe! Simply Devoted, Debbie & Mike



Mike Preaching and ...



Counseling at Youth Camp in Texas

Ministry Schedule

July 16-21

Morning Star Community Church
Salem, OR
High School Youth Camp

July 25 (And Mondays thereafter)

Men of Simplicity
Gresham, OR
New Group of Men Begin the Journey

August 27-28

Greater Gresham Baptist Church,
Gresham, OR
Saturday and Sunday Services

Fall dates are available.

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