



Son-rise in Africa Newsletter
CHURCH PLANTING THROUGH THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION
Report by EARL & KATHI COOPER
(for Newsletter Archives go to <http://www.discipleshipministries.ca/>)
March 2010

Earl's Ministry Update...

March began our busy Canada-side ministry schedule with visits to three supporting churches in Huntsville, Fenelon Falls and Lyndock as well as weekend mission conference at Grace Baptist in Windsor. We rejoice in the blessings the Lord brings through these opportunities to report to our supporters the work God is doing through them and rejoice in the faithfulness and sacrifice of many to make our ministry possible. The Grace Baptist mission conference was truly a multi-cultural occasion with some 6 or 7 countries represented among the regular attendees at the church. We were particularly blessed by the Burmese believers attending because our teaching labours in India include students from Burma. One of these students recently wrote the following:

From Thawm Lian: Dear Cooper, How was your Journey? Really, we were blessed by your short term Ministry to us and we prayer that God will use you continually for His glory in the days to come. I am going back to my Own Country of Burma on next year march and I wish you to come to our Country also and minister to us through God' s word one day. Opposite to my vision in Burma, it is amazing to me that one group of Burmese Refugee in Malaysia called me to be their Pastor, I am amazed of it and I believe that it will be God's will and direction to Me. This Refugee are my own tribe and speaks in my dialect. As they are refugees, their children do not have a proper education and Health. I believe that if we could provide their Children an education and Health, it will be very helpful to them. Anyway, if I reach there, I can have a better communication with you to serve this refugee people in Malaysia both spiritually and physically .. Yours student, Stephen.

The privileged of teaching such committed men and women brings great joy, please continue to pray for all our students as they leave their school environment for summer ministries and for the graduates like Stephen who are beginning their full time labours, often in harsh environments, for the Lord.

Here is a Word in Season from Earl (see our website for daily devotionals)

Is it coincidence that on Easter Weekend the leading news magazines in North America run feature articles rejecting the teaching of scripture? When one considers what is at stake, there is really no surprise! The bodily resurrection of Jesus, the Son of God, is an inseparable ingredient to the message of salvation, as Jesus prophesied so clearly: "For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth." (Matthew 12:40), and as Paul declared so boldly: "For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, ...And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith. More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that he raised Christ from the dead. But he did not raise him if in fact the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins." (1 Corinthians 15:3-4, 14-17 NIV)

And there's the rub -"still in our sins". The world at large does not seek Holy God, does not acknowledge personal sin, does not want to consider coming accountability. Therefore, the world at large attempts to undermine truth. Sometimes this is done through "scientific evidence" (recent discoveries have concluded that the earth began as...), sometimes this is done by an appeal to the popular (God is a woman), sometimes this is done by the authority of the intellectual (Dr.?? has confirmed that the gospel accounts of Jesus life are misrepresentations...). In all this, the bottom line is: man is OK just the way he is, there is no judgement coming, "God" is the invention of the feeble minded!

Let me remind the reader that there was a time when the same attacks were made to refute the Bible's declaration that the world was a sphere (Isaiah 40:22) and not flat, that the life is in the blood (Leviticus 17:11) therefore it may not a good idea to "bleed" people because of migraine headaches, and, contrary to past sailing belief, there are paths in the sea (Psalm 77:19), our ocean streams. Even with these reminders, I am aware of the words of scripture: "If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead." (Luke 16:31 NIV).

The issue is not what men say, but what God says: "Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" (John 11:25-26 NIV).

May the Lord enrich you with the wonder of New Life in Him this Easter season and bring a fresh sense of His purpose to you each day.

Kathi's Notes: Is it April already? Time to take off the snow tires? Yes, it must be. The lake is beginning to lose its icy cover, the spring bulbs are making brave attempts to push through the frozen ground, there is a racket in the trees as the red squirrels and birds quarrel to claim the last of the sunflower seeds and our gravel road has been amush in muck and mud. If it will warm up again, there are lots of jobs to tend to in the yard, including washing a very dirty car. The calendar is marked with all sorts of family, mission, church and school events. There will be 2 ministry weekends this month—looking forward to going back down to the 'flat land' one weekend. We are planning a special time this Easter Saturday with Teresa & Adam and their boys-os as we meet Dave & Aleece in Algonquin Park for a hike and picnic lunch—dessert provided by Henrietta's Bakery, a family tradition ☺ The Bouma family is involved in ministry with children's choir this Easter. Earl's mom flew to the Dom. Rep. for a week's holiday with family there, so it's quieter than usual in the house. Feels like an empty nest! Trust you will also enjoy special times with your family at Easter as we remember God's sacrificial love demonstrated to us—"Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed." 1 Peter 2:24 KJV.

Present Itinerary:

Please pray for God's blessings as we continue arranging our 2010 schedule.

ABWE Canada Annual Meeting, London – April 17

First Baptist, Waterloo – May 15 & 16

Springfield Baptist, Springfield – April 18

Courtland Bible Fellowship, - May 30

Riverside Baptist, Huntsville – April 25, May 2

Please pray with us...

1. For effective teaching where God leads. Our prayer is to labour in the Spirit's power to bring understanding to the pastors and equip them to teach their own people.
2. For the Lord to provide teachers to meet the growing need.
3. That Earl might know how to better challenge God's people to consider preparation for missionary teaching around the world
4. For travel safety during Earl & Kathi's continued travels in 2010.
5. For preparation of the studies for the year.
7. For our monthly support shortfall.
7. For ministry opportunities in Canada and U.S. as we arrange our 2010 'Home' ministry schedule.

Air Miles Assistance - Cooper Air Miles No. 8006 178 1930

A practical way of supporting our ministry travel costs is by using our Air Miles number at participating merchants. For those who have passed on your earned air miles to us, we thank you.

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