



Newsletter Hilde van der Draai

Assist South Sudan In Strengthening Teachers in Christ

May, 2014.

Dear people,

Thank you for your interest in the work we are doing in South Sudan. I feel encouraged by your support, prayers and emails!

In May we had a holiday of a few weeks. During that time I went to Tanzania to relax and to meet friends from our partner-university. I realized how tired I was and took time to rest. I thank God for the great refreshing time I had.

Thank you for all your support and contribution for the schoolfees for David. David's father passed away just before the holidays. This was of-course very sad for him.

After the holidays we received another sad the message that one of our students passed away. In this newsletter I have dedicated a page to him. Through this newsletter I mainly would like to share testimonies of our students and want to ask you to pray for them.

I am blessed to work with all this great students together with wonderful colleagues. This month we are receiving passionate lecturers from different nations. It is inspiring to be with them.

On the picture you can see my dear colleagues from Tanzania and U.S.



Abraham escaped from his village..

When the war broke out in South Sudan in December, Abraham was in his home village with his relatives. The village was taken captive by the opposition of the government and there was no way out for him. He tried to escape in February together with 65 others from his village, but they fell in an ambush and had to run back. He lost some of his properties, including his bible. For months he stayed in the village where food was scarce and the atmosphere was tense. In April he managed to escape with a group of 150 people. They had to cross river Nile and some other streams. It is a miracle that he is with us today! We praise God for his life and do all we can to support him and help him to graduate this year.

(On the picture: Joseph and Adam with their lecturer Michael Ruheta.)

Adam went for a mission to Nuba Mountains..

During the holidays Adam went with a group of Australian missionaries to Nuba Mountains to survey the place. He functioned as a translator and secretary and spend some time in the northern part of Nuba Mountains. During his trip he visited government officials and commissioners of various counties, they met with the manager of Samaritan Purse and distributed audio's with the gospel to moslms. 92 Moslms listened to the audio's and gave their lives to Christ. Adam also spend 4 days in his home village. It was a great experience for him to be with the missionaries who have a great vision for his region. People in Nuba Mountains are suffering in general, like many villages in this region two areas neighbouring the village of Adam were attacked during his visit. We continue to pray with Adam for the people Nuba Mountains and for the great vision he and the missionaries have for the region. We thank God for bringing Adam back safely.

Joseph had only a bible as weapon..

When Joseph called his wife and informed her that he would come home during his holidays his wife told him not to come, he did not want to listen to her and went to his village. When he arrived he discovered that there were no people in his village. Everyone had gone to the forest due to a conflict with another community. The only option he had was to sleep at the police office, but the policemen got scared of him and his strange behaviour. He had to make clear that the only weapon he had was the bible. During the day his wife and family came back to the village to do their things and in the evening they would go back to the forest to hide. He had to leave his wife and family behind in that insecure situation to continue with his studies. We thank God for His faithfulness for bringing him back, but are asking you to join us in our prayers for his family.



“Before I came to ECC

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but I now realize that
they don't know what
they are doing, so I
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In Memoriam: Both Goal Tiop

On the 20th of May we received a sad message from our student called Andrew (who is still in the UN camp) that Both passed away. Both has been with us in ECC for two years in the education diploma program. He was supposed to finish his studies this year, but couldn't make it to the college due to the conflict. He hid himself in his village in Unity state and fell sick. He passed away after three days of constant diarrhoea. He left his children and wife behind. I am personally very sad that we lost him but also believe that he is now in heaven where he does not need to suffer anymore. He was a great student. I will always remember him for his beautiful handwriting and neat work. He was a perfectionist and was always very friendly. His life has not been easy. During his teaching practice he suffered from stomach problems mainly because of his stress and worries from his family who were starving in his village. Last year I



asked for prayers for him because of his infection in his feet and God healed him miraculously. God has transformed him during his time of training. The last sentence he wrote on the evaluation-sheet in 2013 was: “Before I came to ECC I had many enemies, but I now realize that they don't know what they are doing, so I have decided to forgive them.” Both is teaching us the lesson of forgiveness. Although we really miss his presence, we will always remember him!



(Both is on the left side of the picture.)

*Oh God, in you I take refuge. You are my
Lord, apart from you I have no good thing.
You have assigned me in pleasant places,
surely I have a delightful inheritance. I will
praise the Lord who counsels me: even at
night my heart instructs me. My heart is
glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also
will rest secure, because you will not abandon
me to the grave, nor will you let your
Holy One see decay. You have made known
to me the path of life; you will fill me with
joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures
at your right hand. (From Psalm 16).*

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