



Assist South Sudan In Strengthening Teachers in Christ

Newsletter

Hilde van der Draai

Personal Page February 2013

"The light has come!"

Praises!

***Praise God for the children like Tuna and Josephine, who are able to go to school!**

***Praise God for answering John's prayer and for his family in Goli!**

***Praise God for my new house!**

Prayers:

***Pray for the family of John, that they will have a comfortable life in Goli.**

*** Pray for Josephine, Tuna, Jido and Mercy, for a joyful and blessed future.**

*** The coming month I will be visiting students in various schools in Yei. Pray for God's strength and protection during that time.**

This little girl on the picture is called Tuna and she inspired me. Everyday the generator of our compound is giving us electricity on specific times in a day. In the evening the generator is switched on around 7.30pm, but the sun is already setting around 7pm. Between 7pm and 7.30pm everyone is waiting for the electricity to come, so that we can switch on the light. When today I heard Tuna shouting to her brother "The light has come!" she made me think. Sometimes it happens that we are not aware that the generator is switched on, and on those moments we are in darkness while the light had already come. Tuna made her brother aware that he did not have to be in the darkness, because the light was already there. Shouldn't we make each other aware of that? We don't need to live in darkness, because Jesus is our Light and He has already come! Through the Holy Spirit He lives in us on earth! Let us live in that light and be like Tuna, let's tell our brothers and sisters that "The light has come!"



BLESSINGS IN GOLI!

Last year (2012) I shared almost every meal with my colleague John Monjok in the dining hall. He was like my brother, he shared his life stories and expressed many times his desire to be with his family. It was difficult for him to communicate with his wife. To visit her was almost impossible; the last time he travelled 2 days in a taxi, 3 days on a boat and 2 days walking. We prayed for God to open the doors for his family to live in Goli. This year his prayer has been answered; his wife and children are in Goli!

Please continue to pray for John's wife and children, Pray that they will feel at home in Goli and will be able to speak English soon.

This month the college blessed me with a new accommodation; a very cozy house, located on a peaceful place in the campus. I am very thankful for this house, because it allows me to rest and to receive friends and visitors as well.



Josephine, Tuna, Jido and Mercy came to visit me in my house on Saturday-morning. This children are special to me and I am very thankful that they are going to school this year! I have been praying especially for Josephine (child on the left) and I thank God for answering my prayers and for giving her the opportunity to go school! It is enjoyable and a real blessing to see them growing!

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Programmes

February 2013

Praises!

- **Praise God for the 40 new students in our department!**
- **Praise God for the blessed time I had with the In Service students during their first training.**

Gebed:

- **Pray for peace and prosperity in South Sudan!**
- **Pray that the new students will be able to look through the eye-glasses of biblical worldview.**

40 new students in the education department!

We are very happy with the forty new students we received this year in the education department. We expected more students, but because of instability and the economic situation in the country, half of the students could not come to the college.

Sixteen new students are part of the In Service Program. These students are already teaching in primary schools and are being trained in ECC during their holidays. The diversity in the Group makes the training very special, some students are young and have little teaching experiences, while others are already 50 and have been teaching for years. During the training in January/February the students learned the basic principles of education and learned new methodologies. The students gave me the nickname "Think Deep", because according to them I encouraged them all the time to think deeper about their answers and actions. It has given us many joyful moments. The students are highly motivated to improve their way of teaching in their school for the benefit of the children.



Twenty-four new students are part of the diploma-program. They are full-time in the college. In February we started a course called biblical worldview. My colleague Daniel Ohide was sharing ideas about the truth and lies in the communities in South Sudan. The students discovered the lies they believed in, for example the lie of rainmakers: when the community-members want rain they believe they should go to the rainmaker, because he is in control of the rainfall. The rainmaker is seen as a small god in the community. The students had also daily discussions about marriage and family-life. The principle that every man should have one wife according to the bible, was new for some students. One student expressed; "I have three wives and I was intending to have 1000, now I know that I am suppose to have only one wife. I will not send the other wives away, but I will stop here and take care of my three wives." We have seen students growing, their eagerness to read the bible has great,



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Students

Testimonies from Nuba Mountains

It is a blessing to see the number of students from Nuba Mountains growing in the college. Some of the students visited their families during their Christmas holiday, they came back with many stories and testimonies. The situation in Nuba Mountains is still insecure. One student said: "It is like the fight between David and Goliath. We (Nuba-citizens) are like David; we are small and do not have so many weapons compared to the arabs from the North. In December I saw the arabs attacking our area with 10 tanks, while we only had 3 but we were strong

enough to protect our area. I saw that God was involved. First I thought I needed to stay in Nuba to help my relatives and neighbours in the fight, but my father encouraged me not to stay in the war and to go back to Goli to study. In 2012 I found it hard to concentrate on my studies, because I was thinking a lot about my people in Nuba. Now I have seen that God is

taking care of them and I feel encouraged to complete my studies. I can only pray for Nuba and trust God in this hard time "

" I realize that God is really helping us. It is like the fight between David and Goliath. I can only trust God and pray that He will continue to strengthen my people in Nuba."



" It was not easy to be the only Christian in the Moslim community. I thank God for His protection and for bringing me here!"

One of the first year students, shared with me his testimony. He grew up in moslim family in Nuba Mountains. His parents died when he was still young and his elder brothers took care of him. A few years ago a Christen visited his village. The Christian asked him if he could translate for him. Although the leaders of the mosque discouraged 'our student' to translate, he helped the Christian by translating him. He decided to compare the bible with the Koran with the bible. Through a dream he received a confirmation that Jesus Christ is the Truth, so he followed his heart desire and became a Christian. His brothers were not happy with his decision. When the Christian left his village, 'our student' was the only Christian in the moslim community. This was not easy for him. An organisation brought him to Yei. Although his brothers are upset with him, he is still in touch with them. He is praying that they will also get to know the Truth, would you join him in this prayer?

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