



Nieuwsbrief

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Assist South Sudan In Strengthening Teachers in Christ

February 2016

Dear people,

The new year started very well here! In January we taught our in-service students (untrained teachers who are already teaching in primary schools). I taught a new course on how to teach the subject 'social studies' and gave guidance to my colleagues who taught the in-service students the course 'principles of teaching'. It was great to coach my young colleagues while we were teaching our students together. After that I had a one week session with a student who just decided to leave his past behind and follow Jesus in his life. It was precious to have deep conversations with him about his (future) walk with Jesus.



In February I taught the first course while using the new handbook for teaching Young children. Fifty diploma students were excited when they received the new handbooks. During the course they learned how to teach new letters and numbers to young children. They also practiced their own handwriting and learned how to teach young children handwriting. At the end of the course, the students presented lessons while using the handbook. During the evaluation, the majority of the students expressed that they found the handbook very useful and will use it in their own schools in the future. We finalized the course with an 'animal-hunt' in which students had to find their colleagues who pretended to be animals and played games together.

This coming month, our second-year students are going for teaching practice in various primary schools in South Sudan. Together with my colleagues we will visit them in their schools and observe their lessons.



Prayerpoints:

- * Pray for peace in South Sudan and for the people who suffer due to the economic situation in this nation.
- * Pray for students who will do their teaching practice at primary schools. Pray for health and energy for the supervisors who will visit all the students in the schools.
- * Pray for wisdom for our plans to start training teachers in other regions as well.



Protected for a reason!

At the beginning of February our students received a course about Family Life & HIV. The guest-lecturer from Kenya who facilitated the course, discussed with the students many cultural practices done to women in the (South) Sudanese society. Listening to the stories from students could sometimes make me emotional. In that same week I also read a true story about a girl from Nuba Mountains who was circumcised, abducted, raped and sold as a slave. It inspired me to listen to the life-story of one of our female-students from Nuba Mountains. She shared with me how the Arabs had attacked her village and killed her parents, her brother was abducted to become a slave. But Ali had visited her uncle in another village that day and it saved her life! Her uncle was able to free her brother. Ali was forced to get married when she was very young, but when she refused to do that her uncle encouraged her to continue with her education. This year she will graduate and she is having a vision to start a school in her home-community. She wants to educate more girls in her community. I realised that sometimes it is easy to get overwhelmed by victims in this nation, but it is maybe even more important to see who God protected for a reason!

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