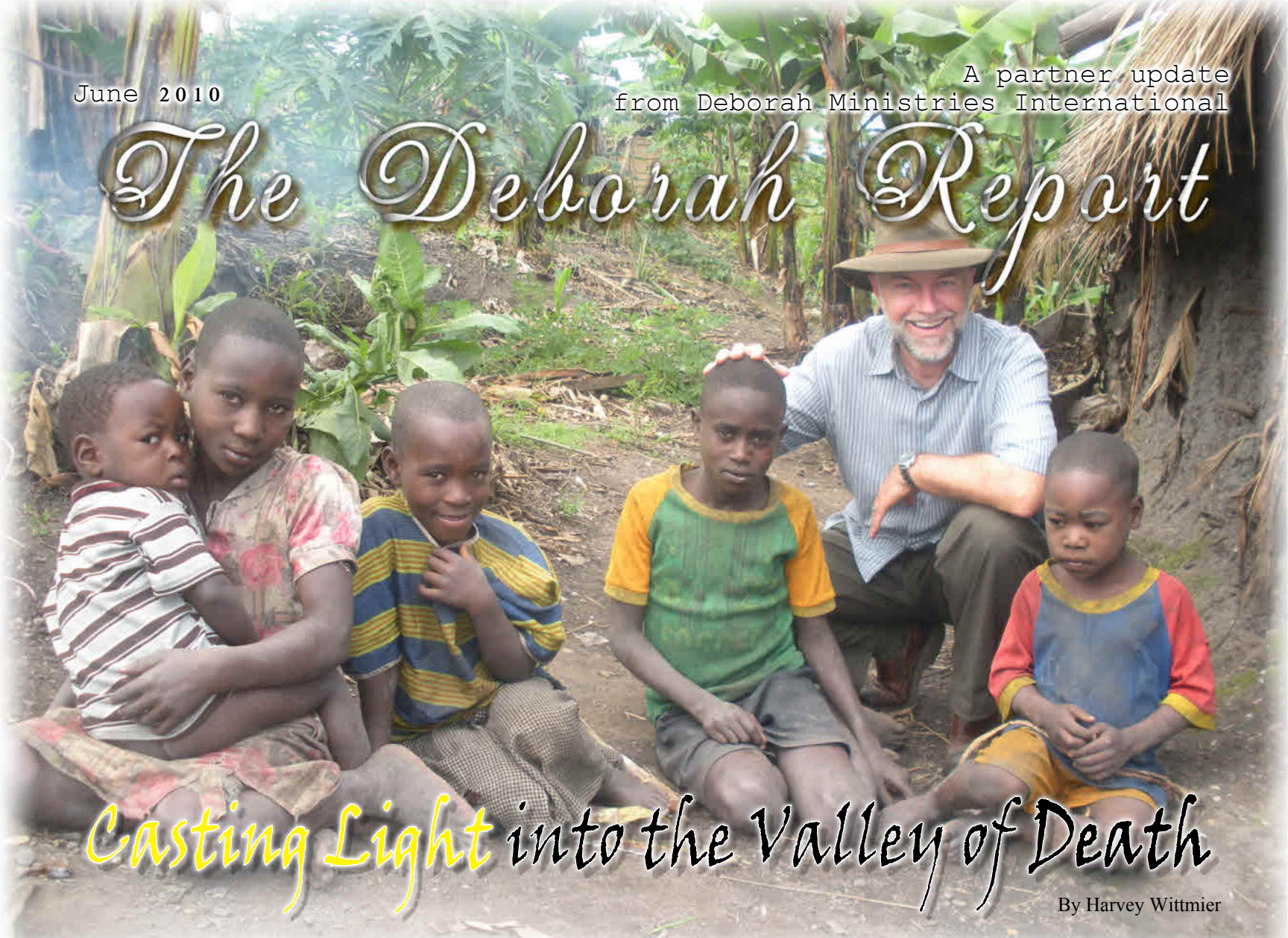


The Deborah Report



Casting Light into the Valley of Death

By Harvey Wittmier

As Deborah was flying to [an unidentified eastern country] on April 6, I was flying to Uganda. Uganda is a new field of ministry for DMI, but is showing itself ripe for harvest. While there I dedicated the first international church coming into the CrossFire International Alliance, Crossfire Church-Uganda. The pastor of that church, Pastor Blessed Mugisha, asked me to minister to about 25 pastors and ministry leaders at his home church in the Kawempi district of the city of Kampala. I ministered on the topic of the 'fatherhood ministry': bringing the wisdom, the heart, and the heritage of the Father to sons and daughters of the Kingdom.

Pastor Blessed then took me five hours south of Kampala to a remote village known as Rakai. Some scientists believe that Rakai is the geographical genesis of the HIV virus. Following 200 kilometers on tarmac, 40 kilometers on dirt, and another three kilometers on a foot path, we arrived at this remote lakeside village. I was taken to a small hut where six young people resided, the oldest being a young man of 19. This young man had been head of this household for five years following the death of his mother and father to AIDS. The youngest child in the house was three, the daughter of an uncle who died of AIDS

only months before. We drove on to another hut where a young man of 15 headed a household of five children; both parents having died of AIDS about two years ago.

From those visits into the dark consequences of the HIV virus, I arrived at a small outdoor classroom that is 'school' to about 120 children each week. Pastor Blessed scrapes together volunteer teachers, a few scraps of educational materials, and some food to provide free education to these kids who would not otherwise enter into an education system. I was greeted with ceremonial dance and song, a speech from a local Ugandan government official, and reports of progress being made as humanitarian seed is sown into this community. (continued page 2)

Photo: Harvey and a Ugandan family headed by the boy in green. Parents died of AIDS a couple years ago.

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Overshadowing all of this is a shadow of darkness and death cast by AIDS and a culture of poverty. The nearest church is several kilometers away and the nearest spirit-filled church is 20 kilometers over the hill. It felt like the 'valley of the shadow of death.' Following the ceremonial greetings, Pastor Blessed asked me to preach a salvation message to the 50 adults and 120 children gathered for the event. A simple scripture, a simple message of hope in Jesus Christ, and an invitation for life in Jesus yielded 30 adults and every child in attendance into the Kingdom of God! Praise God! Immediately, Blessed decided that it is now time to plant a church in this valley. ***Arise, shine for the light has come, the glory of the Lord has risen upon this valley!!***

Between now and August, Blessed will water the seed that has been sown here. In August I will return, leading a team of people from Texas, New Mexico and Colorado to minister in a 3-day crusade. In response to what the Holy Spirit has done, we will establish the first spirit-filled church in the valley of the shadow of death; Crossfire Church at Rakai. Hallelujah!! ■



Ugandan children who are HIV positive.

Ukraine

Deborah travels to Ukraine May 20-31. She will be teaching in two churches on weekends and Bible College during the week. Please stand in prayer against very "old-school" religion, as well as praying against the "unexpected" that Satan might like to stir up.

Deborah's Travel Trivia. . .

In 22 days she:

- ◇ traveled **30,506.69** miles by air.
(The circumference of the earth at the equator is 24,902 miles. She literally went around the world, and then some!)
- ◇ spent **31 hours** in **7 different airports**,
- ◇ stood in **42 different lines** for:
security, passport control, baggage transfers, and currency exchange!
Patience...is...a...virtue.
- ◇ spent **64 hours** in airplanes, and
- ◇ toted up to **100 pounds** of luggage, Bibles, and gifts for ministry contacts!

Homeward bound:

From the time she loaded her suitcases for the drive to the airport until she arrived home was **68 hours**. Indeed, it was Deborah's longest journey yet!



. . . ***Thank you to all of you who "prayed her through the practical!"***



Spiritual Seed Sown in unidentified eastern country & Kenya. . .

In the 17 days Deborah was “feet on the ground,” you partners sent her to preach or teach at:

- ◇ 3 women’s meetings
- ◇ 5 leadership meetings
- ◇ 4 church services
- ◇ 1 youth meeting
- ◇ 6 special services

a total of 19 meetings!

Approximately 2,200 people heard the good news of the gospel! Praise God!

Thank you to all of you who prayed for ‘fruit that remains’ and Kingdom results!



Deborah Ministries International ministers in response to Hosea 4:6, “My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge” and John 8:32, “Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free.”

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What a joy it was to return to [unidentified eastern country] and see what the Lord is doing there! In the relatively short time of 18 months since I was there the first time, I perceived a tremendous difference in the spiritual climate. The Church is beginning to assert itself, and the evidence of the Lord’s intervention on their behalf is marvelous to behold! When I was there before, the oppression was so heavy it was tangible. This time the excitement at what God is doing was tangible! And what a privilege it is, to see it all unfold first-hand!

This time I brought a team with me and we did a youth conference, a women’s conference and a leadership conference, in addition to a Sunday morning service. However, we ran into a bit of a challenge with regard to the leadership conference that I’ve never bumped into anywhere else. When our contact pastor put the call out for leadership (each church was to send only two representatives because space is a serious issue), the churches refused to limit the attendance. The people complained to the leadership and said, “Why shouldn’t we get to hear what the lady pastor has to say?” They are hungry to hear the Word of God, and they will not be denied! Many came from quite a distance. It was especially gratifying to teach them the freedom that women have under the new covenant, and then to pray over those who felt the call of God on their lives!

Then, it was on to Kenya, where I joined Harvey in Nairobi. It never ceases to amaze me at the doors God opens to us. We continue to minister to those in leadership through teaching, counseling and prophesying. This time we received an invitation to return to Nairobi in August to do a leadership conference for a nation-wide group of churches. The vision is ever before us—***to affect the leadership is to affect the nation!***

Deborah