



South Sudan African Mission

Over 25 Years of Service to the People of South Sudan

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WORSHIP IS A CHOICE!

--Steve Holsinger

I was reminded of this truth on my recent trip to South Sudan. After nearly three days of travel, we arrived in Wau. We were met by Dr. John, a couple of young soldiers, (security for our four hour drive through the bush) and the driver Kuach. After we cleared immigration and got our luggage, we had some moments to visit. Kuach said, "Thank you; your prayers have been answered." On a previous trip I had prayed for Kuach and his four motherless children. "You prayed for God to give me a good wife. Since you were here I have a new wife and a three month old baby boy." He continued, "Don't stop praying, though- she isn't perfect yet." In spite of daily difficulty in his life situation and the heartbreaking loss of his wife, Kuach was always cheerful and he never blamed God; in fact he praised God anyway. Kuach reminded me once again that worship is not based on happenings (happiness) it is a conscious, deliberate choice we make.



Apada Church of Christ in Aweil Town, South Sudan



Steve and Kuach

A couple days later we visited a group of refugees from Khartoum (part of the newly formed Apada Church of Christ). They arrived in Aweil with their malnourished children and whatever meager belongings they could carry on their heads. We met with them in a church building made of poles and native grasses...and they worshipped! We were able to arrange buy some food for them and have the local well repaired.



One month old twins with their mother at the Apada Church of Christ

SUDAN AFRICAN MISSION
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- PRAYER REQUESTS & PRAISES**
- Peace and a spirit of unity would be cultivated in the hearts of the leaders of South Sudan.
 - Pray for wisdom and courage for Hon. Governor Ronald Ruay as he leads Aweil State during this difficult time in the history of their country.
 - The Awil Bible College students and teachers as they begin a new school year.
 - Bev's brother Stan, as he has recently been diagnosed with cancer of the esophagus and has begun radiation and chemo treatments.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Worship con't.

One of the highlights of the Aweil Bible College graduation ceremony a few days later was a children's choir from this same group singing and dancing exuberantly and in spite of the dust and the heat- I worshipped.

On Sunday we attended the first worship service in the new building of the Malek Church of Christ perhaps the most joyous ecstatic service I have ever been part of. Most of the people were wearing their one nice outfit and many in their only not so nice outfit, but all were garbed in "the garments of praise." Worship often is not "because of" it is "in spite of" and "in the midst of."! Job said it all those years ago in the midst of his misery: "Even though He slays me, yet I will praise Him." Worship is a choice: Let's make that choice every day.



The children's choir singing and dancing

LETTER OF THANKSGIVING FROM JOSEPH

--Joseph Wel Ajiing
(South Sudan Church of Christ Mission Administrator)



Joseph with his family outside their home

January 6, 2017

Dear SSAM Christians and Donors in USA
Receive my best and warm greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I wish you all a Happy New Year and Merry Christmas.

To begin, I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude and appreciation for all the support to the people of South Sudan and to my own family in particular. If it had not been your support, I would not have gotten my advanced diploma at Great Commission Bible College in Nairobi, Kenya, the knowledge of God's word, plus my living allowance which I do receive every month.

May God bless you all.

- The American churches of Christ
- The Christians in USA
- The South Sudan African Mission and donors.

WHERE WILL SSAM BE?

Feb. 26-28 - Bemidji , MN Winter Retreat - Steve Holsinger
 Feb. 26 a.m. - Christian Church of Yucca Valley, CA
 Feb. 26 p.m. - Havasu Christian Church, Lake Havasu City, AZ
 March 12-14 - Santa Clara Church of Christ, Eugene, OR