



Restoring the Breach

Steve & Rachel Good

June 2016

Agriculture for Life

Part of our personal story and passion for development comes from a trip to Peru in 2000 where we were exposed to an adult training methodology for community development. It uses training and minimal outside resources to do development from the community grassroots level. It is a powerful, enabling process that transforms those who undertake it.

Some years ago, World Relief hired a former CEO of that organization and began to work towards a similar vision. The focus is not on how to run a project, but on how beliefs, values, actions and consequences impact our lives and cultures.

Steve attended an agriculture conference where a speaker said, "African culture is very spiritual. If we can connect the techniques of agriculture to the spiritual, the farmers will understand and respond accordingly, otherwise they will not." What he was saying was, we must speak to their beliefs so they understand the true reasons for the desired change.

Most agriculture development activities are designed as short term projects and when they end, the farmers often go back to their traditional ways. In looking at the successes and failures of different programs over the years, I recognized that we may have changed the circumstances of some people, but we have seldom touched the heart.

In the summer of 2014, I began to pull together ideas and lessons from many different sources to create a series of biblically based lessons to help change the beliefs and values of subsistence farmers. The training series is called Agriculture for Life.

WR has now launched two pilot projects in Rwanda and Burundi. In mid-June, I will give the first official



training on AFL in Kigali, Rwanda. Please pray for me and the participants as this process continues over the next several years.

"The Power of a Parent's Blessing"

The ladies' Bible study and many others have thoroughly enjoyed studying this book by Craig Hill. People say things like, "It has changed our families and our extended families." One woman spoke of a family meeting to discuss having a ceremony to bless their elderly parents. She said everyone left smiling which was very unusual after a family meeting.



We had an Ancient Paths Seminar with our pastor, his extended family and others in May. The Dornbrack's from Swaziland joined us in facilitating and many were deeply touched by God. Now our pastor Chitlango (pictured here) says, "I learned so much through this seminar and those who haven't participated are losing out."



On the Move Again

At the end of April moved the sixth time. This was to a house a couple of streets away with the advantage that it has another bedroom and a garage and the price is lower. We thought the street where we lived was safe until a couple of months ago when we had to park farther away from our house. That's the night the battery and distributor were stolen out of the car. As the economic situation in Moz gets tougher, crime also gets higher as people become more desperate. This is another short-term move as WR looks for an affordable house to buy.

Mozambique News

Mozambicans talk now about the war in Mozambique and they don't mean the civil war that ended in 1992. Many people from the center of the country have abandoned their homes and fled to Malawi because of the insecurity. Schools have been closed and the main and only North-South road is dangerous because of snipers. The government-owned news stations have footage to show but they are not allowed to because of the negative consequences of admitting what is happening. People are very careful of what they say against the government and who they say it to. People march for peace. Mozambicans do not want to fight each other, but trust between the political parties has eroded.

Hidden debts arranged by government officials of \$1 billion plus have come to light recently, plunging the country into a severe depression and inflation. Businesses are closing, investors are leaving and the economic boom from a couple of years ago is over. People who were hopeful are now desperate. Please pray for Mozambique.

DIRE's at Last!

The saga of our DIRE's (residency permits) has been ongoing since March 2015. Due to greatly increased requirements, lots of bureaucracy, people wanting money under the table and our absence for six weeks last summer we got nowhere fast.

It is a major answer to prayer that Steve received his work permit in February, but then it took another 3 months to get the balance of the paperwork done.

We only had to deal directly with the bureaucrats once or twice, but we have never seen people making up so many reasons and excuses as to why the work could not be done in their particular office. One of the most common phrases uttered in such places is, "Come back tomorrow." May God grant grace to all the HR people who do this as part of their routine work.

We had hoped to receive a 5-year permit, which is allowed after you have 10 years residency. However, at this point we are just grateful to be back in the system with a 1-year. Maybe next year.

Steve & Rachel

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Financial Support: make checks payable to Harvest Community Church, 17285 CR 34, Goshen IN 46528 USA

Children's Church

Recently several of the Sunday School teachers from our church were introduced to story-telling by Shelise Boso, a friend from Ohio. We have started a children's church and are telling stories and having exciting discussions on the book of Acts and how it applies to us today.



Coconut Oil Transitions

We welcome Jaco Le Roux (on the right, below) as he leases the coconut oil business with an option to buy it. He has the same vision of business as mission and we are excited about his expertise and passion.

Sales in Maputo are reaching a new high. It is almost a challenge to keep up with the orders. There is still room for growth and improvement. We are hoping to add a few more store locations soon.



Thank you for your prayers. "Estamos juntos." (We are together.) We hope to see many of you in the U.S. between July and October. God bless you!

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