

## Steeves' Summary #43: Sharing the Word

May 2007

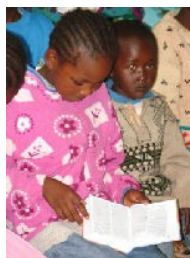


One of the biggest advantages to being invited to sit with the elders in front of the African church is to observe the people's faces as they worship. The second best thing about it is that one can observe other things. The last time Mike and I were invited to the Escarpment Baptist Church, we witnessed a very lively group of people worshipping through singing, dancing, and praying out loud, and playing the drums and a ring-gear off a transmission. Mike and I counted three Bibles among a congregation of over one hundred. We knew we needed to return to this church with Bibles in hand.

Last week this opportunity came, thanks to all who supported the "Steeves Christmas Bible Project"! We returned to the Escarpment Baptist Church with over 100 Kikuyu Bibles and a few English Bibles for the younger ones in the congregation. The joy in the church that day was unmistakable. Many firm handshakes, smiles, hugs, and "Asante Sanas" came our way as we had the privilege of handing out the Bibles. In each Bible, the person's name and the people it came from was written. Also, the passage from John 21: 15-18 was written, a passage about taking care of God's people. Several of those who attended the service who were not on the original list, lined up after service to get a Bible at a later date. These people included children and adults from the area as well as some lucky passer-bys. Mike and I each shared a message about the importance of the Word.



Escarpment Baptist Church is one of the two churches that get together for the once a month special Sunday service with a meal provided by the Feed my Lambs project. It is a real joy to see the people mingle together outside over a generous plate of rice, beans, vegetables and meat, topped up with a hot cup of chai . We suspect many friendships are formed and strengthened at this time, along with a few business dealings.



**Third term at RVA:** Bugs, bugs, bugs! The Nairobi eye beetles have found their way to the RVA campus. They are little red-and-black bugs that, if you squash them, fight back by giving you a nasty chemical burn that can last for weeks. Many students have visited Student Health Services with damage to their skin done by these unwelcome little critters. Thankfully, there are fewer bugs this week and a decreased number of burns. The only neat thing about the beetle is that it wears the RVA school colors! The flu season has also found the students at RVA this term. We have seen less flu this term, possibly due to giving out flu shots in March.

Mike has been asked to help teach a course on web design. He has never taught before but has taken on the challenge. He is enjoying more interaction with the students in this "hands-on" class.

*"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning." John 1: 1-2*

Blessings,

Michael, Bernadine, Julianne and Evan

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