

## Uganda Youth Camps – MAG Teams January 12 – 24, 2023

In April of 2022, the Lord raised a need for the continuation of youth camps in Uganda that had stopped due to Covid. This need was responded to by brethren with an exercise for both the youth in Uganda, as well as youth from outside the country who would in turn also benefit by participating in such camps. Through various ways, the Lord encouraged us to move forward with this exercise, and now we can look back and proclaim that **“This is the Lord’s doing and it is marvellous in our eyes”**. Ps. 118:23

Individual camps for girls and boys were set up for ages 16 – 20. While the girls’ camp took place in Busia, the boys’ camp took place in Mpondwe. (see map) Then, after the completion of these first camps each team travelled to the opposite location and hosted a new camp, so that in each location there were two camps, one for the girls and one for the boys.

(Affectionately known by sister Peg Sawires as the “Flip Flop Camps”)



The attendance at these camps was held to a maximum of 100 campers each. Therefore, at the end of the four camps, 400 young people were under the sound of the Word of God, had been challenged with the gospel many times, and encouraged to live lives for the Lord. These young people came from some 50 - 55 different cities, towns, villages, or small settlements where local brethren have contacts. Some of these locations have assemblies breaking bread, while many of them are interested groups who are searching for the truth.

After breakfast the first morning in Entebbe, the two teams set out in opposite directions for their first camps.



The girls took up the life of Esther enforcing the truth that the Sovereign God, is our only Lord and Saviour who is above all the circumstances and has in fact a divine design and purpose for each of His children.

The boys took up the life of Gideon, seeing through the example of his life, not to be overcome by the world, the flesh, and the devil, but to put your faith and trust in the living God who is able to help us stand against the evil one.

Our days would start out with a time of singing, enjoyed by all, and then the bible lesson. Through these lessons, the gospel was presented over and over again. The truth of the one and only God, who is both the creator God, as well as our Saviour was emphasized.



Large Group Bible Study Lessons - Boys and Girls Camps



This was followed by small group studies, where MAG team participants could interact with the campers directly, discussing the lessons that had been taught through a list of questions provided to each one in their camp booklets. These booklets included the scripture portions being discussed, as well as ample space for answers and notes, so each one could take their personal copy home for future reference.

Small Group Study Sessions  
- Notice Booklets



Small Group Study Sessions  
- Notice Booklets



*(There was a need for a flip chart to help with the lessons. The Lord directed us to the exact right shop to purchase one - then we had to make a stand for it.)*



Each of these lessons were then reviewed again with the whole group so that every camper had the opportunity to think things through on his own through the small group studies, and then revisit these lessons with the whole group again so that each camper was ensured to have the correct answers in their booklets.



The girls' camps were also able to include a craft time, where all the young ladies were able to make a small "bible bag" and thereby learn a few basic sewing techniques that they could use in their daily lives.



We can certainly attest to the fact that there were many challenges because the enemy always tries to hinder the work of the Lord, but we can also attest to the fact that the **Lord helped to overcome each and every one of these challenges** so that the Word of God would go forth.

There were many vehicle breakdowns, from flat tires to universal joints needing replacement on drive shafts and charging systems that stopped working, **BUT** the Lord is faithful and brought us through each one of these challenges as well.



Drive Shaft Removed From Vehicle.  
Thank the Lord, Peter, one of our drivers was a mechanic and could fix the problem



Just another Flat Tire

The Lord says in Isaiah 55:10 – 11 **“For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, but water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.”**

We can attest to the fact that some of the fruits of these camps are already being seen. **How faithful and wonderful is our Lord!** Young men from both camps have expressed their desire to continue to attend local assembly meetings, in order to receive proper teaching. One example of a young man who gave expression to the fact that where he gathered “for church”, the pastor denied the trinity of the God head, which he could see did not agree with the scripture. This young man has expressed the desire to attend as many assembly meetings as possible, and is now in contact with brethren locally, who are opening the scriptures with him and others that come from his community who have expressed a desire to do so.

Several other young people approached us after the camp and said that they came from Catholic homes, but would like to start attending the local meetings. Since the camp, permission has been granted by their parents to do so.

On the last Lord’s Day after the girl’s camp, one sister and one brother who had attended the camps were baptized in Mpondwe.

Numerous times we heard the comment that young people were encouraged to attend the camps because that is where they would hear the Word of God taught truthfully.

The Lord has again promised in His word; **“But ... you will seek the Lord your God, and you will find Him if you seek Him with all your heart and with all your soul.” Deut. 4:29.** The Lord is faithful to His word, and **He will answer** this cry of the heart.

Each of us on these MAG teams can truly say that we are thankful to the Lord who has enabled us to serve Him in this little way, so that the Word of God could go forth reaping fruits for the eternal glory of our gracious God and Saviour Jesus Christ.

#### **To Him be all the praise and glory who is ever faithful!**

We also take this opportunity to thank the many from around the world who prayed for us, and for the practical support that we have received. Your prayers have been and are being answered. **Thank you so much.** It is a wonderous blessing to serve the Lord together as brothers and sisters in Christ. Whether we are out in the field, or on our knees at home, the Lord is the rewarder.

May our desire ever be, to honour our Head in heaven **while we serve Him together** waiting for His soon return and **stand united** against our common enemy. Gideon could say to his faithful 300 – “Look on me and do likewise”. May each of us be “looking off unto Jesus”...and do likewise.

Uganda Youth Camp MAG Teams.

Girls Team:

Paul and Renate Meijer, Ellen Meijnen, Kathryn Ajami, Sarah Ebeid, Janessa Redekop

Boys Team:

John Redekop, Phil Hadley, Will Jaquemet, Fritz and Franz Petermann, Mike Redekop

P.S. – for more pictures and some day-by-day updates, please see the **Missions in Focus** Facebook page, or the **Foundations All Nations** Facebook page.