

Roderick Report

Mbale, Uganda

October 2023



Spring Bible Church - (New Church Plant)



Our move to Idaho

Praise the Lord, Church! Praise the Lord again, Amen!

"The LORD directs the steps of the godly. He delights in every detail of their lives. Though they stumble, they will never fall, for the LORD holds them by the hand."
Psalms 37:23-24 NLT

We are so grateful that the Lord delights in every detail of our lives. His love for us is incomparable to any rewards we may receive on this earth. We praise Him because we serve a personal God, He upholds us by His righteous hand, and He wants the very best for us—what a beautiful picture of a loving Father!

Our recent visit to the US was packed full of great fellowship, much encouragement, and many blessings! Thank you for loving us, and praying for us!

We praise the Lord that Steve's eye surgery went well, we received a two year visa, we had good travels, and we sold our home in WY, and relocated to ID to be closer to our kids and granddaughters. Praise the Lord—we saw the Lord's hand in orchestrating every event. (Note: new US address)

We returned to Mbale in late August with the great news of Spring Bible Church faithfully serving the Lord in the community of Nabweya. We are so excited to see God working in their lives. Please pray for committed men and women to the truth of the Gospel, for roofing materials, chairs, Bibles, evangelism outreach, and land for a permanent building in the future.

We are thankful to be back teaching, especially in the village to teach our Foundations class, and God's Design for marriage.

We still learn weekly something new about the Ugandan culture. We are learning how difficult the dowry can be for marriages. The "girl child" is treated like an asset to be negotiated—we are told it is an appreciation to the family. Unfortunately, shame and dishonor comes when the dowry is not paid in a timely manner,

for various reasons, and then the parents threaten to take their daughter back home. How do you handle "what do I do" questions? Well, we don't talk about the controversy surrounding the dowry—but we can direct this young man to honor God. When his father-in-law sees the husband's love and respect for his daughter he is more likely to give more time for the dowry to be paid or renegotiated.

We realize that we are not here to change the culture, as much as, it is hard to hear these types of struggles—we don't change people, God does! As more and more people understand God's design for marriage, our relationship with the Lord becomes more important, and the dowry becomes less important.

Prayer Requests: Thank you for praying!

- ▶ Spring Bible Church - Pastors John and Percy
- ▶ Teaching God's Word clearly while being culturally sensitive.
- ▶ Obedience to act on the Holy Spirit's leading.
- ▶ For Steve and his Pastoral Theology class –13 students.
- ▶ Continued prayer for our gardener, Yusuf's, salvation.

"Nothing is as useless as a pair of gloves without hands. We are the gloves of God in this world, but we're useless unless we are filled with Him –when we are permeated with His Spirit, we operate in His power, not our own."

-D. Jeremiah

We are so grateful for you!
Because of HIS love,
Deb and Steve



tentmakersbiblemission.org

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