



TIMO CONNECTION

July 2008

Training In Ministry for Outreach

A FRESH WIND BLOWING ACROSS AFRICA

I believe that God has brought change to AIM that has allowed the Spirit of God to breathe fresh air, fresh life, fresh vision into AIM.

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Changes in AIM:

ABO, the Constitution, IC, Regionalization and Units! Change often brings fear and uncertainty. Change can also bring opportunity! I believe that God has brought change to AIM that has allowed the Spirit of God to breathe fresh air, fresh life, fresh vision into AIM.

There was a time when TIMO filled a void in AIM. Branch leaders were so busy trying to maintain the ministries they had been entrusted with, it was hard to focus on new outreach. Team areas were less tied to the established ministries but also had fewer resources to invest in outreach. TIMO stepped in and tried to provide both vision and support to enable branches and teams to keep reaching out.

Today, with the redistribution of resources within Regions, Units are better positioned to impact their areas of greatest need. With the

new boundaries, Regions are laying claim to seeing the job of reaching the remaining unreached completed and the un-disciplined, disciplined!

Where does TIMO fit into this new Africa? TIMO was



designed as an on-the-job tool to equip new missionaries for effective outreach, focused primarily on finishing the task. TIMO exists as a tool available to our Regions and Units to help them fulfill their God given visions of reaching the unreached and making disciples for Jesus.

There was a time when TIMO was proposing teams to the branches and team areas, then trying to find team leaders. Today, not only are Regions and Units proposing teams to TIMO, but backing the proposals up with potential team leaders!

I believe that a breath of fresh air, fresh vision is sweeping across Africa and AIM is part of it. Led by very capable Regional and Unit leaders, God is moving AIM in new ways to finish the job He ordained for us to accomplish over a hundred years ago. I hope and pray that TIMO will be available and ready to be used wherever we are needed, to be part of finishing that job!

By David
TIMO Coordinator

Reaching the Lost with the Saving News of Jesus Christ

This is the central value of TIMO. The lost can be the classic "unreached" who have yet to be exposed to the gospel, but it also includes those who have yet to respond positively to the claims of the gospel. In general, TIMO will not seek to work where the gospel is already being effectively proclaimed by another group but will instead seek out groups of people who are most needy from an evangelistic viewpoint. Our motivation is to see the Kingdom of God increase and have people enter into an eternal relationship with the Triune God.

- from *Twelve Values of TIMO*



CURRENT & RECENT TEAMS

Nairobi Feb '08 to Feb '10

Leaders: Julio & Angelica (Brazil)

Members: Christy & Darnell (Canada), Megan (UK), Raja (US), Joseph & Safia (Kenya)

This team may be our most diverse team yet. Eight adults with 7 nationalities or ethnicities. This team is working cross-culturally within the team, not just with the host culture. But they've started very well. They have been working through language and culture acquisition and are now tackling the topic of Spiritual warfare as well, the first major core curriculum topic. They've established good working patterns with their language helpers and some are already sharing the Good News of Jesus with their language helpers and other friends in their neighborhoods! Of course, the refugee group this team is working with is very transient and so you never know how many chances you will get with them to share truth. A key challenge for this team is living in an urban setting where the English language will get most of what you need to do to live, done. But they have been diligent to date and learning the heart language will pay off dividends in the process and in the end. Pray for them as the people group they are working with are steeped in strict and greatly controlling Islam.



- Monte

Zaramo, Tanzania July '07 to July '09

Leaders: Tim & Emily (US)

Members: Paulina (US), Jeremy (Canada), Monica (US), Daniel (Canada), Keith & Tammy (US)



Paulina writes,

This is my language helper and neat lady, Mama Fed. She is very kind and important. She is the "go to" person when there is a conflict in the village. She takes care of a certain part of the village and the people listen and respect her. I am so glad she is my language helper. She knows what she is doing and she speaks a few words in English so we compliment each other. She is also attuned to the youth so I like her "punk" attitude. I just love her. I am so grateful for the time we put in language. Pray that she and her whole family can know the Lord. She is so sweet and I would love to see her in heaven one day.

"Death is only too common here in the village... my heart aches for her."



This is Mama Halima (Ha-Lee-Ma). And she is my closest friend thus far. I love hanging with her. She is very funny, although she started off shy and not wanting to talk. She helps me with language and I help her watch her daughter, Halima. She gets sick very easily whether it's a cold, malaria, or whatever. Her immune system just can't handle a lot of the village sickness going on. I pray for her health. Death is only too common here in the village and she lost a couple relatives thus far (meaning my six months living here) and my heart aches for her. I pray that she will one day come and ask me about my belief in God. I want so badly to tell stories about Jesus' life and what he has done. She is in her twenties.

* Excerpt from *Used for His Glory*, Feb '08

Chad May '07 to May '08 *

Leader: T (US)

Members: J& K (US), G& C (Chad), A (US), T & M (US)

Rod writes,

Last month our Chad TIMO team had the dubious distinction of being our first evacuated team. It seems that the neighboring government of Sudan is willing to finance and supply rebel "leaders" in Chad in order to fight a destabilizing and distracting war which will take away attention from the mess that is Darfur. Initially,

the plan was for the team to be evacuated by French paratroopers, and the team was packed and ready to go for a week. When the whop-whop of a choppers blades announced the arrival of airborne help, one of our team members went outside only to watch the helicopter fire a missile at an enemy target. (Okay everyone, back inside...) Eventually, the team safely drove out to N'djamena

and then flew on from there to Paris and to the US. The encouraging thing is that all of the team members are committed to returning to their town of Dourbali. If we can swing it logistically, we would like to gather the team in New York in early May for a debrief and in order to make plans for the future.

- March '08

* **Update:** The team was disbanded due to ongoing uncertainty in the region. Pray for the Lord's leading in the lives of each member. Some have returned.



...one of our team members went outside only to watch the helicopter fire a missile at an enemy target...



North Africa Jan 2007 to Jan 2009
 Leaders: D & D Members: 3 couples, 4 ladies, 1 man

D & D write,

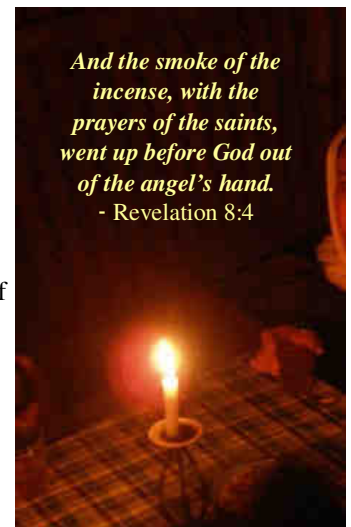
OK, so here is your big prayer assignment:

On the Saturday before Easter, we will be hosting a special drama. Students will invite friends who are Interested in the story of that holiday. The drama will be through the eyes of Mary Magdalene, a common woman who found forgiveness and salvation through our Savior. *We wish we could give you more details, but we are certain the Counselor and Teacher will show you how to lift this up.* This is a very, very special

event and we have a tremendous sense of His presence as we are preparing for it. We expect great things from it. This will be bold, and it will be clear, and friends in attendance will be asked to respond. **Your participation in this, will make all the difference.**

We also ask you to pray as a new group of UGBs (*underground believers*) have begun meeting weekly to seek Father's guidance in planting a new church in this area. How exciting that this was initiated *by them.*

* Excerpt from *Incense*, Feb '08



And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, went up before God out of the angel's hand.
 - Revelation 8:4



Sudan July 2006 to July 2008

Leaders: Stephan & Iris (Germany)

Members: Jen (US), Andrea (US), Pattie (US), Catherine (South Africa), Heinrich & Doris (Germany), Martin (Germany), Kim (US), Craig (Australia), Joshua & Justina (Kenya)

Catherine writes of her month out:

I was approached by the students to do some teaching sessions on how to put a DRAMA together. It seems the news about the dramas we have done in Lohutok has spread to other parts of Sudan. So I put together a couple of training sessions on first learning the culture of the people and what they believe (these people worship trees), then the men had to find all the scriptures in the Bible that had to do with trees and use that as their script and key to present the gospel to the people. I also showed them how to weave song and dance into their scripts in a way that the tribal people can relate to. On one of the Sundays I was there they presented a drama on creation and the fall of man in the tribal language using song and dance. The exciting thing for me is the Lopit language I have been learning over the past year is very similar to this tribe and I was able to fluently speak and understand which was great. We had a wonderful time and these future pastors gained another skill that will help them present the gospel in a relevant way.

- March '08

Rwanda March 2006 to March 2008

Leaders: Gilles & Myriam (Switzerland)

Members: Bruce & Jan (UK), Isaac & Azonye (Congo)

Bruce & Jan write,

As the Rwandan proverb goes, 'the person who wants to own a cow must lie down with the cows'. Referring to the ancient custom of paying a long-serving herder by giving him his own cow, it basically means that you don't achieve anything without hard work. And TIMO has been a lot of hard work: grappling with Kinyarwanda grammar, learning from our cultural

faux pas, working through conflict with colleagues and neighbours ('oh, so that was your hedge I just chopped down...'), feeling the pain of theft and deceit, fighting the spiritual battle of discouragement at the seeming enormity of the task God has called us to.

And yet God's faithfulness has been remarkable. On our Rwandan roller-coaster ride, he has been the harness that has held us firmly in our seats, allowing us to scream on the sharp de-

scents whilst reassuring us that we will come to no harm and that the respite of an upward curve is just around the corner.

... We feel at home here in Rwanda and whilst a lot of that is down to the thoroughness of the TIMO programme, all the glory must go to God, who has redeemed every experience here.

- Excerpt from *Rossingtons in Rwanda*, February 2008



On our Rwanda roller-coaster ride, He has been the harness that has held us firmly in our seats...

Islands Feb '06 to May '08

Leaders: C & B

Members: R, V, A, J, & A

V writes,

Peace like a river attendeth my way...

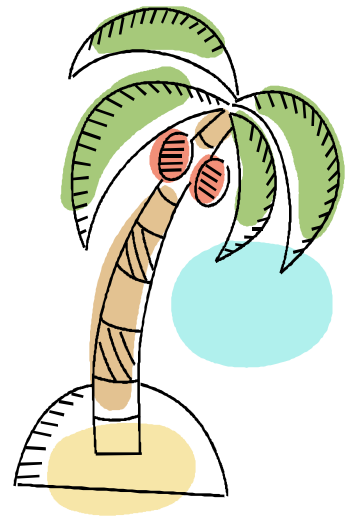
These words have come to mind many times these past few weeks, and especially the last couple of days. It is time for us to renew our visas in order to continue working here. Usually, it is a simple procedure; you drop off your application, your passport, etc. Then, you come and pick up your passport stamped and signed. But, not this time.

The head of our group went in with our passports hoping it would be a quick trip, instead he was told he needed to go and see the "big wig." He got no friendly greetings, nothing, when he entered this man's office. The man proceeded to drill him with questions in regards to our work here, and the many "rumors" that are floating around. Rod, the head of everyone in our group here, answered truthfully yet without revealing any "unnecessary" information. He was reminded several times that this nation is all

Muslim and there is no one who is not. And that he decides who gets visas and who doesn't. If they consider us a huge threat to their religion, which we are, then they could easily not renew our visas. So this has been hanging above our heads for the past couple days.

The verdict is in... and we can PRAISE God that he has given us favor in the eyes of the officials, and we have been granted our visas!!

* Excerpt from *Update from Gilligan's Island*, Feb '08



The Horn Feb '06 to June '08

Leaders: R & J

Members: 2 couples, 6 single women

R writes,

The Horn is not an easy place to work. There are bright moments, but what lingers most in my memory are the crowds crushing against my door... unruly and rude and ungrateful and demanding patients... poorly organized, poorly motivated and poorly trained staff... mud, dirt, disgusting odors... blood, pus and tears...lost patients, treatment failures, missed diagnosis, deaths... malnourished babies, crying women, hopelessly sick old men... impatience, slammed doors, anger, pride, lack of grace, frustration, helplessness on my part. Why stay on? Why come home mad every day? Why frustrate my family, coming home late again in spite of my promises and best intentions to leave my office at a reasonable hour? Why endure the feeling

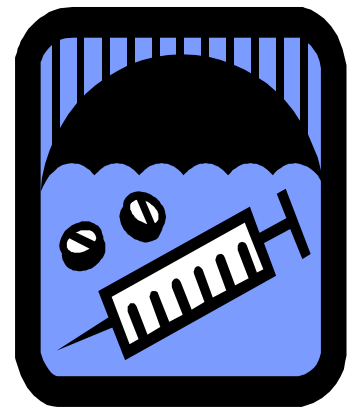
of life spinning out of control? Why did the Lord put me there in the first place, and keep me there when I tried to leave (more than once!)?

I expect it is because of love. God loves my patients and staff and even the watchman who sleeps most of the time. God loves my office assistant who eats all the candy. God loves the nurse who can't seem to figure out basic treatments. God loves the nurses aides who stole the money. God loves my AIDS patients, my TB patients, the ladies with breast cancer, the asthmatics who don't know where their next gulp of air is coming from. God loves the pregnant ladies and the dirty little kids who smudge up the walls with their dirty little handprints. God loves the lady who barfed blood all over my newly painted exam room. God loves the liars, rats, thieves, and manipulators. And God loves me. The Horn is the crucible He

has chosen in which to sanctify me. And I am one of the instruments God has chosen to love the people of the Horn. There are 4 groups meeting to hear the word as a result of the medical work in the Horn. There are seekers, new believers, growing disciples. The blind see (through cataract surgery!). The lame walk (through medical and surgical treatment!). The deaf hear (well, we clean out a lot of ears!), the lepers are cleansed (you could call AIDS a modern kind of leprosy. Nobody is cured, but many are restored to health and wellness through medicine, love, and kindness). The dead are raised (still working on that one!) and certainly, the poor have the good news preached to them. The kingdom is advancing. Through chaos, mud, disease, hopelessness, the kingdom is advancing. And for me, that is enough.....

-
*from *Medical Report*, Jan '08

"...it is because of love. God loves my patients and staff and even the watchman who sleeps most of the time..."



Sheffield Feb '06 to Feb '08

Leaders: J & B (UK)

Members: A (US), M & B (Hong Kong), W (Kenya)

This team recently completed two years dealing with a lot of different cultures both on the streets of Sheffield and within the team itself. Pray for the many contacts made among a specific unreached people group, many of whom find themselves as refugees in the UK. Pray for the team members as they seek the Lord's leading for their lives.

NEW AND COMING TEAMS

Chalbi, Kenya Apr. '08 to Apr. '10

Leaders: Scott & Suzie (US)

Members: Steve & Angie (US), Barbara (US) Charmyn (Canada), Paul & Salome (Kenya)

Located on the edge of the Chalbi Desert in Northern Kenya at a place called Kalacha, The Chalbi TIMO team continues in the footsteps of many pioneers who have led the way in reaching out to the nomadic Gabra people. Arriving in Nairobi, the team met for the first time and boarded the AIMAIR flight to

Kalacha. Susie was waiting in Kalacha with a meal waiting. After a quick welcome and a meal, Scott and Susie took the team members to their new homes spread throughout the Kalacha community, introduced them to their neighbors and settled them in. In the next eight days, the team worked through the language acquisition course and walked in their communities practicing what they were learning. After a few days of rest, they then spent the next week living with different Gabra families, learning how the Gabra spend their days. Pray for the Chalbi team, that God will use them to help the Gabra understand their need for Jesus.



Gabra Home

Didinga, Sudan Oct '08 to Oct '10 Leaders: David & Deborah (US) Members: Janette (US), Tianne (US), Kim (US), Shawn & Carly (US), Elly (US), Bill (Canada), Winny (Hong Kong), Dustin & Anne (Canada), Deborah (US)



airstrip with him. His land comprises about 50% of the land required for the airstrip. The rest of the strip has been prepared: trees uprooted, land leveled with hand tools. This one landowner's part is the one remaining. After much talking, he finally agreed.

We all rejoiced! And then the unbelievable happened! One of the landowner's sons refused to allow it! He came on the strip with his gun and threatened the local labor that began clearing it the next day! David met with him in his hut and the son was adamant that he didn't care what his father said, what the community wanted, what the govt. reported, he was not giving up his part of the field! Unbelievable. (This family has plenty of land. What we are asking for is a small fraction of what they have. And we have offered other land in exchange that community members are willing to give).

... We prayed and sensed God was telling David to return to Napep and give the man this message: "You are

defying the wish of your father, the community and the govt. but you are also opposing God whom we serve. We are putting you into His hands." He hiked over to Napep, gave the man the message and left. He made the round-trip in one day just to give him that message. So now we wait. That eve as David spoke with the son, I was back in Nagishot praying for him and I felt led of the Lord to read from Isaiah and could not believe my eyes: Is. 40:3-5; 40:9-10; 41:10-13; and 42:1-17.

* Excerpt from prayer update, Feb. '08

*A voice is calling,
Clear the way for the Lord in the wilderness;
Make smooth in the desert a highway for our God.
Let every valley be lifted up,
And every mountain and hill be made low;
And let the rough ground become a plain,
And the rugged terrain a broad valley;
Then the glory of the Lord will be revealed,
And all flesh will see it together;
For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.
- Isaiah 40:3-5*

David & Deborah write,

Pray, pray and pray some more!
The airstrip saga has reached a new climax. The Commissioner of Chukudum (local government of Didinga Hills) sent his representative and he stayed for a week in one of our tents at Napep. ...It took him a week to prevail upon the one landowner to see the community's need for the airstrip and the desire of the govt. to see it through. He called a huge community meeting and finally in the presence of the community and Commissioner's representative, the landowner agreed and walked the

Update: The airstrip is in, there's been much help with set up by short termers, and the team is on schedule for an October start date.



Madagascar, Coastal Tanzania, Lesotho, Islands, The Horn...

* teams in the works for 2009 & 2010



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*“For I
determined
to know
nothing
among you
except Jesus
Christ...”*

-I Corinthians 2:2

Training In Ministry for Outreach



We're on the Web!
www.timo-aim.com

Invitation to all TIMO team members & leaders, past, present and future:

Do you have any Tips for Bush / Urban Living or suggestions for TIMO Connection? Please drop us an email at

connect.timo@aimint.net

Also, don't forget to put us on your recipient list for any updates you might be sending out. We pray for you here at Engedi. Blessings!

Rod & Mel

David & Julia

Paul & Virginia

Monte & Kendra

John & Nancy

News from Engedi: The month of July will be bittersweet for us here at Engedi. After 14 years with TIMO and 12 years here at Engedi, Rod & Mel are leaving for a 7 month home assignment, after which they will take up new responsibilities in Leadership Development with AIM. Also in July, John and Nancy will be coming to EnGedi. John will be helping with logistics and Nancy with office administration. As is so often the case in our lives, the goodbyes are with sorrow and the hellos with joy. Pray for us as we pray for you!

Tips for Bush Living - from *Cooking in the Bush* by Virginia T.

In regards to living without a fridge:

- ⇒ Positioning in the house makes a difference. Keeping **eggs on the bottom shelf** is better than the top shelf. The cement floor is often the coolest place in the house.
- ⇒ **Paper bags are handy for veggies.** They don't trap the moisture like plastic & yet don't let things dry out like just being in the open.
- ⇒ **Reheat foods every 8 to 12 hours & keep them for a couple days.** This applies most readily to fresh milk, but also to meat (though we never had the courage to try it for more than about 36 hours!) The key is getting the heat throughout the entire item - so it really mainly works for liquidy things.

