

# Hope4Sudan

“Declare His glory among the nations, His marvelous works among all the peoples!” Psalm 96:3



## Prayer Points (April - June)

- Greg recently shared the need for more teachers at H4SS Primary School. Many vacancies have now been filled, but there is still **need for one more teacher**. Due to the nation's ups and downs, it's been difficult to find and keep qualified personnel on staff. Please join us in praying for the Lord's provision in this ongoing challenge.
- Pray for **continued spiritual growth, ministry mindedness, and academic success** for the four H4S girls in boarding school and the twelve H4S boys who are just beginning their secondary school education. Their names are Mary, Elisabeth, Ivy, Grace, John, David, Emmanuel, Nicholas, Alfred, Philip, Elia, Luiz, Mark, Bosco, Amos, and Albert.

## Evangelizing in the Villages & Investing in Future Leaders

February was a particularly busy month for ministry in the Kapoeta area. The weather was perfect for outdoor events and, with extra help from a Kenyan mission team, Greg and the young men on the compound were able to take full advantage of the opportunities around them.

Using a projector and the side of a truck as a screen, Greg and the boys were able to show the JESUS film\* for the first time to over 200 villagers one weekend. At the video's conclusion, several people repented and received Christ as their Savior. Others felt moved to give towards future ministry in the villages, even though no official offering was taken up. Their generosity was especially touching as it demonstrated the fact that *no one* is too poor to give!

The team of Kenyan pastors and church workers which arrived in mid-February was quick to help in any area of need. Their primary focus, though, was conducting a leadership training on the compound to further equip and encourage the young men in whom we've been investing over the past few years. The Kenyan Believers also assisted with the Village Sunday School that Saturday evening.

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*\*The film was only available in Turkana, a sister language of Toposa. Most villagers were, however, still able to understand the plot line and the truth statements being made. We heard from our friends at E3 Partners last week that the JESUS film has just been translated into Toposa, so we look forward to showing it in the native tongue in future!*

## Mass Clothing Distribution

Another organization, Christian Aid Ministries, recently entrusted to us over 2,000 lbs. of clothes to be distributed in Kapoeta County. With the growing economic setbacks in the nation over the past few months, this gift was a tremendous blessing to the many struggling villagers and townsfolk in the area.

We are so grateful for the partnership of other missionaries and organizations as we strive together to be God's hands and feet in South Sudan!



Vehicles loaded down with the clothing bundles



## On to Secondary School

Ten recent graduates of H4SS Primary School have now begun their secondary education. Eight of these are attending Grace Academy in Kapoeta, South Sudan. Since they still live relatively close to the Hope4Sudan Compound, Greg often receives visits from them and is able to include them in many ministry opportunities.

Two graduates, Mark and Bosco, were sent to Saint Elizabeth's High School in Eldoret, Kenya. They were joined by their friend, Albert, who has now been studying in Kenya for three years. Amos, another H4S boy who has been schooling in Kenya, received a special honor when he graduated this past December. His final exam scores were so high that he was offered a position at a "national school" – Saint Luke's Cheptiret Boys High School. This is a more prestigious establishment and will thus afford him a great opportunity to hone the skills God has given him.

*Our sincere thanks to those who volunteered to sponsor these young men in their educational pursuits! Your generous gifts are making a tremendous impact.*



*From left to right: Mark, Stephen (a friend and mentor in Kenya), Albert, Amos, and Bosco*



## Church Construction Update

Ground was broken on the new H4S church in mid-January. Local builders were able to reach roof-level on the structure in just two months and, on March 24<sup>th</sup>, a team of Christian laymen from the U.S. travelled to South Sudan to assist in the final stage of construction.

Hope4Sudan's previous church building required constant repairs due to a faulty foundation and, with a collapsing wall, was in dire need of replacement. In September of last year, Greg spoke to the local congregation concerning the need and asked them to pray with him for God's provision. The necessary funds arrived in record time, encouraging the faith of many.

*Thank you to the individuals and churches who sacrificed to meet this need! Special thanks to the Appalachian Conference, as well, for both giving generously and also sending laborers to help bring the project to completion.*



## God's Power Displayed

*"And as they went, they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice." Luke 17:14b, 15*

Last year, a certain couple visited the compound church in order to receive special prayer for their newborn son. This little one had been born with a severe genital birth defect, as well as other physical complications which were sure to make life difficult for him. Doctors had recently explained to the parents that nothing could be done for the child: he would simply have to cope with his condition, suffering social and physical setbacks because of it.

The young family had returned to the village disheartened by the doctor's report. One of their neighbors, however, suggested that they not give up but rather take the baby to the Hope4Sudan Church the following Sunday.



When Greg was approached concerning this visiting couple's special request, he called for some of the compound boys to come forward and join him in praying for the small child. As Greg later reported, "Afterwards, there was no lightning flash or goosebumps or the sort. But...our prayers had been answered!"

The couple returned with their son the next week and asked to be allowed time to share in the service. With great joy and thanksgiving, they testified that God had healed their baby – the birth defect and its complications were erased!

The church now has three new members faithfully attending each Sunday. *To God be the glory!*