



Kingdom Wok Ministries Int.

May-June 2016 Newsletter

When Peter denied Christ on the night of Christ's arrest it must have been heart-wrenching for both of them. Even though they both knew in advance that Peter would become weak and fall away, having the knowledge and witnessing the reality are two separate things. My best guess is that Peter remembered Jesus' warning at each denial, each denial being more deeply devastating than the one before. By the third "I don't know Him," Peter was at the lowest point possible in his walk with Christ, and must have ran away to be alone, weeping with self-hate and total shame. Christ was hurt deeply on the personal level because once Peter was gone, he was totally alone, in the human sense, with his captors. He knew what He must do and endure, and He knew He would have not another human being stand with Him.

So here is my question: Have you ever denied Christ? Haunting question isn't it? Before we can answer we have to know vulnerability and be willing to submit ourselves to it and the humiliation that accompanies such honesty. Perhaps that is a rhetorical question for you, but for

me it is a daunting reality of a question. I will come back to the story, but on our last mission---less than 45 days ago, I denied Christ.

We had three main objectives---all of equal importance---for the last mission. Treating the locals from K & K and the surrounding villages medically was one of our major goals. We took lots of medicines, and brought two great medical practitioners, support personnel, and local translators to make the weeklong clinic a success. We set up at the Amazing Grace Primary School, and the patients came to us. Over 350 men, women, and children came to be treated. There was much malaria, and many other sicknesses. By the grace of God we were able to either treat the maladies at the time of need, or we were able to refer them to local hospitals for deeper evaluation and treatment. Our second goal was to build three structures: a school kitchen, a school office/teacher workspace, and a parsonage. The third objective was tied in with the second: we wanted to teach the locals to build the structures, from the ground up, so they could move forward without us. They took great ownership in this goal, and by the time we went in to help

with the third structure, the parsonage, they had it done! What a blessing that was to see.

As team leader, it is my job to see to it that everyone is safe, gets to their needed location, knows what they are to do, and then let them do their thing without further interference from me. I give guidance when needed, but otherwise, I stay back and let the mission happen. Our overriding goal--- above all of the work goals, medical goals, construction goals, etc.---is to build strong friendships with our Ugandan friends. Cultivating those wonderful Holy Spirit led, God-given, and Christ-centered relationships has been, is, and always will be, our number one purpose. We want to share the love of Christ with everyone there, so that we can be with them for eternity.

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We had a lot of trouble getting our building materials this trip. Even though they were ordered months in advance, paid for, and reminders were sent that we were coming, the supplier was not user friendly like he usually has been in the past. The posts and trusses arrived in one load, but the perlins were not there. They sent temporary perlins so we could at least get the trusses up. Then, when the perlins arrived, the metal roofing (called iron sheets in Uganda) was not on the load. In fact, as of last week the iron sheets still had not arrived if you can believe that!

The result was that there were 2-3 days when we really couldn't do much work. Instead, we sat around, walked around, invented projects for fun, and just plain old spent time building what I call "closer than ever before" relationships with the men and women of K & K. Our overriding goal was met better on this trip than ever before.

Now backing up, the second day when no materials arrived at all, I was embarrassingly upset. I was deeply angry with the supplier, and felt like a failure as a team leader because it soon became clear that we were not going to get the structures finished prior to our departure date. I finally got so upset, and was so very close to "loosing it" that I got up, told the guys around me to pick me up on the way out, and started walking back to our home base at Sipi. I walked the 3-4 kilometers to Ngenge, and the van didn't arrive to pick me up. I walked through the village about 1 kilometer, as still no van. In short, I ended up about 5-6 kilometers from K & K before they picked me up.

You see, I denied Christ by losing sight of His goal and replaced it with mine. I wanted buildings up; He wanted me to learn patience. I wanted structures to be built; He wanted relationships to be built. On the walk out, after about 2 kilometers, the Lord got my attention. He told me just to listen and know that He is God. I did that, and what a difference it made. I was able to come back to Christ, beg His forgiveness, ask for forgiveness from my team, and move on. I was once again able to enjoy the unknown. I was totally able to give everything to Him, and to wait and see what His plans are for the future.

Since our arrival home, two wells have been put in at K & K, 10-12 people have been taken to the eye hospital for evaluation and treatment, and heart evaluations are being scheduled. I can't wait to get out of the way more often!

God certainly doesn't need us, but He chose us. In spite of our imperfections and sin, He loves us and has a mission for each of us. First priority: Love the Lord your God with all your heart and all your soul and all your mind and all your strength, and the second but equal priority: love your neighbor as yourself. Amen.

Have a blessed summer, Serving Him

D.C.

