

Report for November 2006

We had pelting rain during the month of November, which resulted, into floods, diseases (cholera inclusive), crop distractions and other relation calamities. There bare still many reported deaths as a result. We are still experiencing great downpour till date.

Political violence started again in November to our shame. This has caused lots of effects on businesses. University was closed, many people are locked in various prisons for trial. Sorry to say, but our current leaders has ruled for over 20 years and has run our of ideas and has resorted to violence to cover guilt. There are many potholes on roads, city streets are full of potholes, not street lights. We are all scared in our own country. Poverty is on the increase. Foreign aid cut off to fight corruption and poor governance.

Religious persecution has not stopped the way I thought. But the church has stood strong as our worship has continued.

I began preaching again, although still to pick up the full-scale commitment. Please pray for us.

3 Baptisms in November,

The fellowship in the slum has produced very wonderful results. I baptized 3 young men: John (20), Fred (19) and Kennedy (14). God has continued to add the number to the church of Christ here. Unfortunately, these young men are very needy but even then they are very faithful in attending church meetings. They do porttery work to survive anyway. 'and the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved,' acts 2:47.

Jinja Church of Christ

The church attendance on Wednesdays and Fridays have picked up to 15, and Sunday attendance has stayed on between 35 and 40.

I've started sleeping very late again, read and study the word of God, and teach and preach the word of God as before. I've started visiting homes and study with Christians and non-Christians, those not with full intensity.

We about to complete the book of James in our study on Wednesdays and on Sunday mornings. We learnt about the tongue, 'And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity....', faith by works, impartiality in faith, ..., motive in prayers, ... very rich book of the bible. The saints were very edified by the book of James. We still have prayer meetings on Fridays in the afternoons.

Sunday worship is still at 10.30am and observe the Lord's table and take collections as required on 1Cor 16:2.

I have continued to emphasize to saints how sacred the word the word of God is as in Proverbs 30:5-6 '**Every word of God** is pure; He is a shield to those who put their trust in Him, Do not add to His words, lest He rebuke you and you be found a liar'.

We believe brethren will give us a boost when they come next year in Uganda to teach in the church.

Major Challenge

I have gained strength after death of my father but still have a heavy challenge of taking care of my aging widowed mother (68), lest I become 'worse than an unbeliever' 1Tim 5:8.

Thank God, American brethren sent me support of USD 1000, still on one-time basis. 'He who has pity on the poor lends to the Lord' Prov 19:17. May God bless them richly. When I get a job one-day, these challenges will be history. This is my deep prayer, to get out of financial uncertainty. (Brethren please pray for me so that I do not fail and my children starve to death). 'That you also aspire to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business, and work with your own hands, as we commanded you, 1Thes 4:11, that I do not bring shame to church and be a laughing stock among outsiders.

Ever since brethren told me not to expect anything from them again, I have been leading a very scared life. Still if it stays this way, my preaching work **will cease** for sometime. Right now I am intensively looking for jobs seriously so that I can have a sure source of income. If I find a job in Jinja, preaching will continue though with lesser commitments because of time, but if I find job away from Jinja, its possible that Jinja preaching will come to a halt. My 4 little fragile children must eat and drink, get medications, dress, bath,

As I quoted earlier, 'Even so the Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should live by the gospel' 1Cor 9:14, if I should continue preaching then the impartial God (Jam 2:2-9, 3:17) will have to help me.

God bless you all,

Francis Okech,