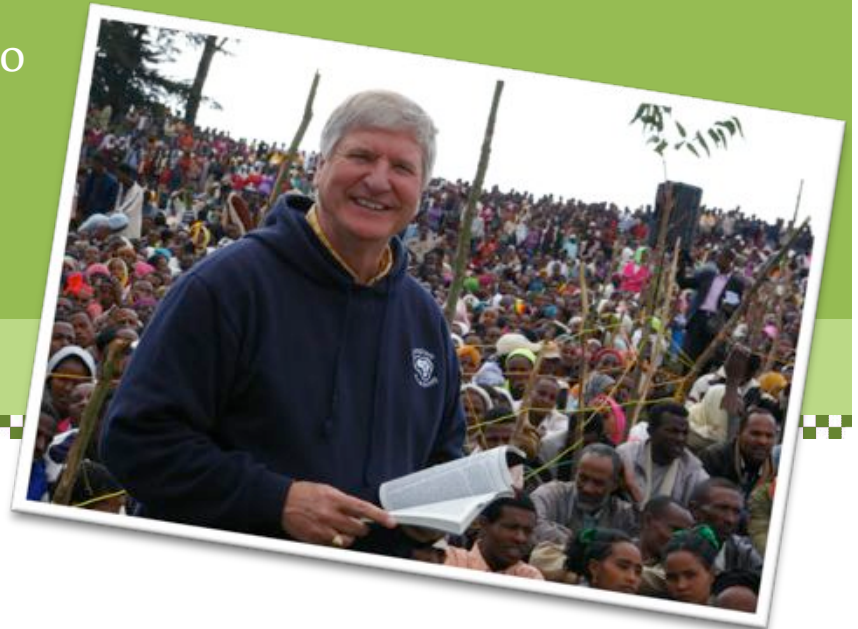


Back from Africa!

A report of Bill's latest trip to Kenya and Ethiopia with Kyle and Margaret.

February 2010



Upcoming events

- February 16 SIMCO, Charlotte, NC
Training for new members joining SIM.
- February 21 The Church at Charlotte
This is a Sunday focused on global outreach.
- Feb 28- Mar 7 Calvary Church week of missions. Our home church.
- March 12-18 Good Samaritan Church in Kissimmee, FL. Visiting friends and supporters in FL



Thousands gather.

After two hours of driving and two hours of intensive climbing, I arrived exhausted on the summit of Ambaricho Mountain in southern Ethiopia, near Durami. I couldn't believe what I saw! Tens of thousands of Ethiopians, who came for the expressed purpose to pray for the nations! Yes, the largest prayer meeting I have ever participated in. No bands, no celebrities, just crying out to the King of Kings for His will to be done in redeeming a people from every tribe, tongue and nation for Himself. The leader, pointing toward Jerusalem, all would pray out loud for the peace of Jerusalem. Nation after nation was prayed for. What faith, zeal, and exuberance that was exemplified as they lay prostrate on the ground in dependence on God!

Be diligent in prayer.

I was humbled and challenged by my brothers and sisters in Ethiopia to seek after God in prayer. Like many of you, I find that my prayer life is weak. May we all be encouraged by our brothers and sisters to persevere in prayer.



Back to Yirga Chefe

Kyle was able to show his wife, Margaret, where he was born and where he grew up as a boy.

How special to have our son, Kyle, and his wife, Margaret, to travel with me. Margaret, being a nurse, was blown away to see the hospital in Yirgalem where Kyle was born. The reception in Yirga Chefe, where we lived for many years was memorable as youth leaders from 193 churches in the area gathered. What a joy to share with them!

How great to see, our daughter, Kara! She is doing great winding up her 2 year commitment to Bingham Academy. She witnessed the trauma of a 5 story building go up in flames. Some jumped to their deaths. Kara is leading an effort to care for the injured and provide basic fire uniforms for the local fire fighters. No fire retardant equipment!

Helimission helicoptered us into the Tarra people of SW Ethiopia. It is the only vehicle that can get to this remote place on the globe! A five-day walk to the nearest government center! Very remote! How great to reconnect with the church leaders and encourage them. Prayerfully consider helping with a project to get their language in written form with Scripture portions.

Tragedy in South Sudan

Nairobi: I was blessed to spend time with three missionary families who were attacked and had their homes and all their possessions destroyed during a tribal raid on their village, Atar. Two of the families were Ethiopian and the other, Nigerian.

How beautiful to see the resiliency of their faith. Thank you for praying as you did! The miracle is that they survived and God blinded the eyes of the raiders as they fled to safety. Healing is taking place. They are heading back to S. Sudan to another location to serve.



Grace and I send our love with this update. We thank the Lord for you and for your prayers for us.

Bill and Grace



Africa was fun...thank you!

Thank you so very much for taking me to Africa with you! I can't believe where y'all come from... how incredible the journey and legacy you have in Ethiopia! I can't tell you how I appreciated everything we did, everyone I met, and everything I saw! It was so good to visit Kara; I admire her strength and perseverance, especially doing it all alone! It's hard still for me to understand how Ethiopia and even Kenya function the way that they do! However, it is amazing and wonderful to see these people who have so little, living for God and praising Him with all their hearts and with such devotion!

My heart was broken by all your many workers at how much they love your family and God! Let me tell you, that is a great encouragement and motivator for me!

Also, thank you for the spectacular time at Masai Mara! How thrilling and majestic to see God's creation in the wild! I absolutely loved our safari! Thank you again for everything, especially all the preparations you made for our trip! I have been able to share many stories with people at work through our pictures, and it's been a fun and easy way to verbally share my own love for God! I do definitely want to go back and visit again!

Thank you again... much love,
Margaret