



"You cannot come in."

The Rwandan immigration agent stunned our group of 9 Canadian volunteers. Having just travelled the 8-hour bus ride across Uganda to the Rwanda border where we walked across "no-man's land" (but not yet in Rwanda) to hear those words, our tired eyes blinked in disbelief. *Now what?*

Just before silent prayers amalgamated into all-out group prayer, an officious but sympathetic young agent listened to our dilemma. The *good news* was he had heard of Pastor Joseph-our host in Rwanda. The *bad news* was I could not accurately remember Joseph's phone number, and the **worse news** was my mobile phone (with the actual number) was in our bus which was still in Uganda...for some reason, our Ugandan driver was having some entry problems of his own and we could not communicate with him.

No doubt concerned about seeing 9 muzungu campers sleeping at the Rwandan immigration doorstep, our agent tried numbers that were close to those given from my tired memory...much to everyone's surprise, Joseph answered one of the numbers, and pled the case for us. Eventually, our team of tired volunteers was back on the bus, this time with visas stamped on every passport (new for Canadians). And with a deepened sense of purpose-we could hardly wait to see what He had for us!

PAINFUL MEMORIES

Rwanda will forever remain an example of unbridled hatred when one million people fell victim to the 1994 genocide, and every High Adventure visit includes at least a brief look at the nation's past, to educate our team and encourage them to stay focused on the vision of Christian radio.

At one point in our journey, Ugandan bus driver Patrick realized he dropped his wallet at Pastor Joseph's Kingdom Education Center and given the severity of Rwandan law, he dare not drive until a trusted person could carry the identification to him...as it happened, this "realization" happened outside Rwanda's new information center, so as we waited, our team of 9 chose to enjoy a polite visit with the director-a very serious man. We soon knew why!

After a brief reminder of the nation's history that detailed scenes like children being marshaled at dumps where they were killed (signaling killers' belief that Tutsi children were garbage) our once-relaxed faces were tight with such painful recall. And then he took us inside the building where shock simply exploded into tears!

No letter-no photo-no description can ever adequately describe the breathtaking reality of seeing 4000 people (including an entire high school student population) reduced to a huge pile of bones, many which reveal the machete blows that crushed their skulls.



NO MAN'S LAND



DISCOVERING RWANDAN HISTORY



OVERWHELMING SIGHT

HIGH ADVENTURE GOSPEL COMMUNICATION MINISTRIES

WEBSITE: WWW.HAGCM.ORG OR WWW.BIBLEVOICE.ORG

PHONE: 800-550-4670 | FAX: (905) 898-2500

IN CANADA: BOX 425, STATION E, TORONTO, ONTARIO M6H 4E3 | E-MAIL: MAIL@BIBLEVOICE.ORG

IN USA: P.O. BOX 249, BROWNSBURG, IN 46112-0249 | E-MAIL: ADMIN@HAGCM.ORG



PAINFUL EVIDENCE

The director's words punctuated the pain we could see with our own eyes and feel with our spirits. No one spoke for a while-how could one speak and cry at the same time? Once again, my resolve to make a difference here, hardened.

Who knew we would have opportunity to test this resolve soon?

RWANDA SOLUTION

Having witnessed the genocide first hand in 1994, Pastors Joseph and Rose Karasanyi had spent many long days praying and planning various projects and outreaches to help recover and evangelize Hutus, Tutsis and Pygmies. The result was a commitment to church, to Christian school and to Christian radio.

Beginning with their Deliverance Center Church in Kigali, this amazing Rwandan couple soon added a Christian school that enjoys help from concerned Christians across the world, including small sports focus for child development from our ministry. And then there was radio...

In 2005, we were privileged to be part of a team that provided the equipment for Joseph's dream-Sana (Restore) FM radio 98.0. From 1994 until 2005, he had planted 7 churches across Rwanda but had dreams to evangelize his whole country-his rationale was simple and yet so very clear based on his nation's history...*"Don, when the genocide broke out, Rwanda had been 89% Christian. But people did not know Jesus-they were religious but did not have the reality of relationship with Jesus. We must introduce them to Him-that is the only answer."*

Pastor Joseph continued the plans he and Rose had agreed upon before the Lord. It was such a privilege to take our team to Restore FM studios where John (who had heard the original radio appeal for help, by Canadian General Romeo Dallaire during the actual genocide in 1994) sat at the microphone and was given the opportunity to speak blessings to 2 million people in and around Kigali where much of the slaughter had taken place. It was a surreal moment, and one, which drew praise from us to our God; there are moments when one must simply be silent before Him!

GROWING A CHURCH

In a casual moment I asked Joseph how radio had fit into his dream of reaching Rwanda for Christ over these last 6 years. His answer lit a fire in me. *"Brother (he always calls me brother) so far we have planted 80 churches from radio. They listen, then they call and then we visit...then we plant a church. Up to now, we have planted 80 churches and are trying to teach and lead 200 new pastors...many are asking for help to build a church so people do not have to gather for service in a field."* **Joseph, how much does it cost to partner with a pastor to build a church?** *Brother, we need iron sheets and some bricks-about \$3000 for each new church."*

AND BY THE WAY...

As if I was not wound tight enough, he matter-of-factly added *"we have also planted 35 more churches in the Congo"* explaining the radio and church plant efforts were "spilling over" into the Congo. Joseph was not finished-he had one more thing to show our small but dedicated team!

KEEP GOING

"3000...4000...6000. No...we are at 7000' " And then to confirm it, John held up his special watch (equipped with an altimeter) for all to see. After a nerve wracking climb in our bus, winding around 180 degree switchback turns, sometimes our tires spinning to gain traction and keep the steep upward momentum, we finally arrived at the military check point where an armed guard maintained strict control of all visitors. After all, this site is host to the nation's majority of large commercial broadcasters, including the Rwandan military themselves. Radio was at one time used to perpetuate genocide when national rebel broadcasts compelled the killing of "cockroaches". We understood the concern and waited quietly until Joseph cleared the necessary process...and then we rejoiced!

Walking along the dusty road, with huge towers on either side-like soldiers guarding the airwaves over Rwanda, we soon arrived at Joseph's "promised land". It was a one-acre parcel of property looking high over the hills of Rwanda, affording spectacular view of one of the continent's most beautiful nations. More importantly, it represented to Joseph, an open window into villages, communities and fields that were until now, hidden from Restore FM radio.



RWANDESE CHILDREN ENJOYING SWINGS AT SCHOOL



OVERLOOKING KIGALI FROM RESTORE FM STUDIO



JOHN BROADCASTING WITH PASTORS JOSEPH AND ROSE



STRATEGIC BROADCAST MOUNTAINTOP

Rwandan broadcast authorities confirmed for Joseph this is indeed one of the nation's most strategic sites for towers, and his "new neighbors" also confirm they reach most of the nation from this one site. Enjoying the view and the dream, I asked the obvious "how much" question and learned a small but adequate parcel can be purchased for \$4000 (\$6000 for the bigger piece for high tower capability).

SWEET MEMORIES

Standing high on this hill, my mind went back to 1982 when we first built the Voice of Hope high on the Hill of the Doves at the edge of Mt Hermon, overlooking the hills of Lebanon (to the north) and the valley leading to Armageddon (south). At that time I experienced such an exhilarating sense of God's leading and call as we built a station that endured attacks for the entire 20 years it ministered Christianity to Arabs, Jews and everyone in between. It was our **first call** to minister peace among combatants!

And now, I had a new sense of that call here again, high on a Rwandan mountain where soft wind whistles quietly among the trees and where Restore FM could bring real Christianity to so many living with unresolved memories, deep among the small villages nestled in the distant mountains. To say I was motivated was an understatement indeed!

SEALED IN PRAYER

After the harrowing ride up the mountain, our team was more than anxious to pray about the trip down (mostly for the brakes), but even more excited to pray about this new opportunity for Rwanda. This amazing team of volunteers sensed destiny and no destiny is void of God-so all was committed to Him and even the ride down was enjoyable as it was safe!

DOES GOD ACTUALLY ANSWER PRAYER?

I will tell you what happened next and you can decide for yourself!

Six days later, back in Uganda and still serving with my running shoes on, I opened my email at the end of a very long day, just before bedtime (not a good idea). Eyes popped open and I sat up straight as I read these words from my good friend the Irish Christian Broadcaster David Robinson "Greetings Don, I trust that all is well with you and the work that God has placed in your hands. I have some good news for you..." and with that, explained he was given an opportunity to purchase a slightly used (but complete) 700 watt radio station for a very reasonable amount of \$6,300 and with that, offered to pay for half...if we wanted it! But there was a **condition**... *it had to be for Rwanda* and with that statement, asked if we had any opportunity to build radio in Rwanda at this time?

My fingers felt like hot dogs, not typing the reply as fast as my mind raced, but as it usually is, the answer was yes...faith always seems to say yes – yes - yes! And by now I was sensing the wind of the Lord-again. **I love it when He does that!**

SLEEP-WHAT SLEEP?

I did not need the roosters, or the Muslim call to worship or the dogs or the loud parties or even the occasional gunfire to keep me awake as it does in Kampala sometimes. I was still standing on the Rwandan mountain (in my head) trying to organize how we could raise Joseph's extra tower (that we had sent to him in 2005)...and how would we get the funds for land, and the building and the STL...and then there were the roosters...happy but groggy, running shoes went back on for more ministry in Uganda...

STILL IN THE DREAM

Back in Canada just two weeks later, I was sending out emails, asking for help to acquire the \$6000 Studio Transmission Link (STL) that would send the programs from Joseph's small mountain studio to the 7000' big brother site where it would be rebroadcast across Rwanda's 9 million people...and then in a casual conversation, our good friends at Galcom mentioned they have a friend who wants to become involved in a Rwanda radio project. However, Galcom had no ongoing need within Rwanda but may be interested in participating if our project fit their plans... they needed time...

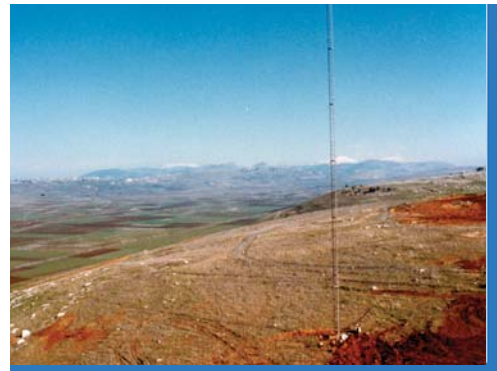
Within an hour, Galcom committed to the STL and 1000 solar powered fix-tuned radios for Rwanda's poor...two days later I spoke with a good friend who felt led to send support; in fact, the cheque was sitting on his desk, even before we spoke! And just days later, another email from Ireland..."Hi Don good news again, I have the 4000 (\$6300 CDN) in hand to purchase the equipment ptl for He is good for sure."



JOHN (SON) DAVID AND JOSEPH CHECKING OUT THE NEW SITE



PASTOR JOSEPH'S VISION FOR RWANDA



VOICE OF HOPE TOWER LOOKING INTO ISRAEL



PRAYING FOR NEW RESTORE FM SITE

REACHING RWANDA



HILLS OF RWANDA

TEA FIELDS

BUSY KIGALI STREET

AN INCH AWAY

This is a God-moment for Rwanda. Pray about helping us complete this new station-enjoy the wind with us!

Don

SOMALIA UPDATE



We thank God He has stirred international communities to provide food for the many refugees fleeing Somalia in these troubled days. Our radio broadcasts reach into Somalia, encouraging believers who are trapped by their circumstances and yet look to God. Our regular broadcasts (supported by partners) are touching these precious saints in one of the world's most difficult environments... pray for them...

Dear brother I am very happy to have your message this month, and it shows to me what your heart is like. Brother, I have had contact with brother XX through the Internet. Actually, we have to hear your GAT radio from www.biblevoice.org when we have private access. Also we have had contacts with one another some times, and would like to have more fellowship with others (new believers) through brothers XX house in the safe area.
A from Mogadishu

We praise the Lord that He has given us faithful men and women who are regularly attending our Sunday morning fellowship and worship service held in sister XXX house. We are getting encouraged and we are joyful.
H from Somaliland

PLEASE COMPLETE THE PORTION BELOW AND RETURN IN THE ENVELOPE PROVIDED. THANK YOU.

My gift of \$50 \$100 \$500 Other

September 2011

Make cheques payable to: High Adventure Gospel Communication Ministries

Or donate online in Canada to www.hagcm.org



Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Province/State: _____ Postal Code/Zip Code: _____

Please charge my gift to my credit card VISA MASTERCARD

Card #: _____ Exp.: _____

Signature: _____

NOTE: SPENDING OF FUNDS IS CONFINED TO PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS APPROVED BY THE CHARITY. EACH RESTRICTED CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS SUCH AN APPROVED PROGRAM OR PROJECT WILL BE USED AS SPECIFIED WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT WHEN THE NEED FOR SUCH A PROGRAM OR PROJECT HAS BEEN MET, OR CANNOT BE COMPLETED FOR ANY REASON DETERMINED BY THE CHARITY, THE REMAINING RESTRICTED CONTRIBUTIONS WILL BE USED WHERE NEEDED MOST.

US RESIDENTS ONLY: A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER RESOURCES BY CALLING TOLL FREE (800-135-7352) WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE.