

## Back To the Village

This past weekend we visited a remote village to participate in the graduation of 18 ATA students. This is our first visit to an African village since Bob was sick, and it was a delight to be part of the graduation. This village is very remote; one of the unique things about ATA is that our teaching works in even the most remote places. It was a very enthusiastic celebration.



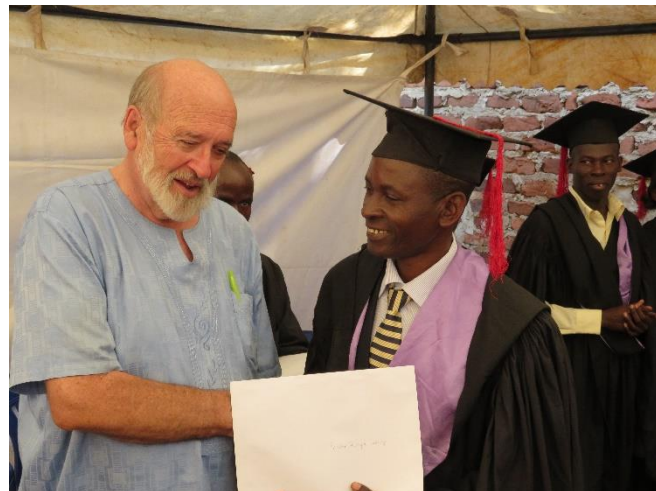
*The Whole Village Attended*



*MaryLee Teaching Children a Song About Jesus*



*Here I am with a Faithful Pastor who planted 40 churches*



*A Happy Graduate*

The Lord really blessed our ATA/ITI ministry, with great expansion, in 2015. We have prepared a report which I will send to anyone who wishes to read it. At the end of the year ATA/ITI had classes in ten African countries and India. It is not possible to report the exact number of classes and students; this is due to wars, remoteness of some classes, and poor communications. It is safe to report that we had at least 291 classes open at the end of 2015 with at least 5300 students. Most of these students are pastors while the remainder are lay people.

We often hear from graduates of ATA that the teaching is making a difference. Following is a report from one recent teacher and graduate in Kenya:

In Eldoret as well, I taught a class of 14 pastors and 13 of them had never been to any Bible College yet they are pastoring churches. Imagine what kind of sermons these pastors could deliver every Sunday without basic principles of Bible Interpretation and sermon preparation as well. During the day of graduation, all of them testified on how ATA has been of great help in their preaching ministry. I remember one of them called Pr. Godfrey Okwero saying that his church members had been encouraged by his preaching every Sunday unlike some years back when he has been preaching out of context due to lack of knowledge.

We look forward to God doing great things with ATA/ITI in 2016. Our goal is to add six new countries to ATA and three new states of India to ITI this year. This is a very ambitious goal but we look for God to lead us in everything. We hope to see our enrollment exceeding 10,000 people in a year's time.

As we continue to grow, we need increased financial support. ATA/ITI has hundreds of volunteer teachers, but our country leaders are so poor that we often need to furnish some travel expenses to the seven volunteers who travel and open new classes. They also continually request money for Bibles; some pastors only own part of a Bible.



Last week God added another country to ATA. We are now active in the West African country of Ghana. Here is a photo of Pastor Stephen Okan who is serving as country leader. He has attended several Bible institutes and is currently studying from Worldwide Evangelical Institute—Canada by Internet.

The addition of Pastor Stephen increases our ATA teaching to eleven African countries.

The other part of our ministry we call ATA youth. We are currently providing partial or total support to about ninety children. We find it impossible to ignore the terrible plight of children in Uganda so we help the ones God leads us to. We support a home for girls and also a boys' home. We also help an orphanage with some of its needs.

Our Sunday worship consists of travelling to the orphanage and teaching the children about Jesus. These lessons are taught at a basic Sunday school level. Then, in the afternoon, our regular Bible study is in session for 2 hours.

Our children are required to attend weekly church and Bible study. Currently we are doing a close study of the book of Matthew. We are seeing fruit from the years we have been teaching youth. Three of our students are currently in Bible College. Others are showing they will be future church leaders and helpers.



*At the orphanage, children show off the nice sandals provided by one of our supporters*



*Top is the dining hall at the orphanage. Below is the nursery section at our Bible study.*

Presidential elections are scheduled for Feb. 18 so please pray for peaceful elections. There is a potential for violence.

We remain very active and there is more to report but this newsletter is long enough so we will save the rest for another time.

We would love to hear from you so that we know how to pray for you.

God's missionaries to Africa and India. Bob and MaryLee

If you would like to donate to our ministry, send your tax deductible donation to:

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