

SEPTEMBER—OCTOBER 2014

boisvert update

SERVING WITH
**Tri-M
Africa**
Mobile
Modular
Ministry

“You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will receive me to glory.” (Psalm 73:24).



Mongolian Church Leaders and Mentors

FRIENDS, THIS WAS MY *third* time to experience a 36-hour day! Of course, God did not hold back the sun as He did for Joshua, but I *did* cross the International Date Line on my return flight from Tri-M's latest Mongolian training module. At times, as things are pressing in, I have wished for a few more hours in the day so I could finish the task before me. Well, I have learned that it doesn't help to just have more hours in a day; in fact, I got less done in that 36-hour day than I usually do in a normal 24!

MONGOLIAN MODULES

Doug takes two other Pastors with him each trip into Mongolia, so that each man teaches one of three courses during the week. Following this intense instruction,

the Church Leader-students will be disciplined by Mentors, who are also present during the teaching modules. This follow-up is critical to ensure that students are not only learning but will be able to put the biblical material into practical use in their ministries between the training modules. It was a pleasure to work with these 24 Church Leaders and four Mongolian Mentors.

We wish you could see the joy of these Leaders as they come together! Many know each other only because of the Tri-M training sessions throughout the year. However, they are establishing a network of fellow Pastors and Church Leaders on whom they can begin to rely for encouragement, prayer support, and counsel. These students are all first-generation believers who lead Churches composed entirely of first-generation believers, who are learning

for the first time what it means to walk in faith. What a privilege it was to assist them in learning and applying God's truth to their lives and building up their Churches! They have no tradition to draw from or to distract them. This is both a blessing and a limitation. There are few examples of godly families that have discovered how to practice biblical principles and Church practices within their specific cultural settings. All is new and fresh, but it is obvious that God is at work in this group.

One example is a student who testified that he was very glad his wife was not present for the course on Marriage! He shared, "I must now go home and become a godly husband and father and *then* begin to teach my wife all these truths about marriage and the family. Similarly, in this way, we will lead our Churches first by example and then by teaching biblical truths

of God's design for husband and wife. It will change our communities for sure!" This student said all this in front of 23 of his fellow students *and* his Mentor, who will be visiting him to make sure he is keeping his commitment!

NEXT TRIP: SOUTH SUDAN

The Lord willing, Doug will be traveling to South Sudan at the end of October into the first week of November. This African group began with the goal of completing only the first level of training, called the Certificate level. The students had never had an opportunity to attend a classroom—even for first grade. They can read but have never really learned how to be good students. However, the students worked hard, and to everyone's surprise, exceeded all expectations—including their own! It was a time of great joy and celebration to witness them graduate with Certificates of Biblical Studies, last May. Following the ceremony, the Leaders were so excited about the growth and change in the students that they approached Doug with a new plan: if they joined him in teaching, could a *new* group begin the Certificate level courses (now translated into Kakawa, their tribal language), while the graduates progress to the next level of training? (The last training module *did* confirm that many students were ready.) The proposal also spurred on the leaders to get



Certificate Level Graduates in South Sudan

more serious about training others to do the discipling follow-up that they had been doing so that they would be free to help Doug teach.

Just as Doug was thinking things were slowing down in his involvement in this venue, God seemed to ratchet it up another notch! So

we are beginning two new groups this next trip with Doug and two Sudanese Leaders teaching. This is certainly a great step forward, praise the Lord!

REACHING THE PEAK

While in Mongolia, Doug went on a hike in the countryside. It was a moderate hike except perhaps for Indiana standards that might consider it closer to a black-diamond grade! It seemed like a good-enough challenge—at the risk of missing breakfast—just to get to the top outcropping of rocks that stuck out against only blue sky as a backdrop. With just two short stops to catch his breath in what seemed to be thinner air than when he started, Doug finally reached the top! He raised his arms in victory as he looked out over the newly-lit valley where the sun was



rising, bright and clear. It was a beautiful sight, and Doug felt great to have accomplished such a feat first thing in the morning. Then he turned around and saw in the distance four other peaks higher than this—with cows grazing in a pasture! (They had been hidden from view on Doug's climb up.)

Why include this here? Metaphorically, there are still more peaks to climb. Yes, that is our ministry and often our life with Christ. He has far greater plans than us, and they are often just waiting for us to finally turn around and see. In two venues, which we thought were closing, God had worked and changed the group to exceed their own expectations and

keep progressing. God allows us to reach certain peaks, feel the victory, and catch a fresh breeze; but many times, He has more good challenges awaiting us as we follow Him!

OUR BUSY 2015 SCHEDULE

Doug and Cheryl must add an extra trip to East Africa next year, and in addition, Doug has scheduled three more trips to Mongolia. This means that he will be home only one or two weeks each month from January to October 2015. Please pray for us to be *continually* filled with the Spirit because then we will have wisdom, strength, and joy for ministry.

PRAISES

- ♦ Great teaching time in Mongolia! Students are growing closer to Christ with an obvious heart for following Him and His Word.
- ♦ Special gifts received that will help our extra-travel and increased-budget needs in 2015
- ♦ Jesus continues to draw Doug and Cheryl closer to Him and thus, closer to each other.
- ♦ The potential for new groups starting in South Sudan this November

PRAYER REQUESTS

(. . . if Jesus doesn't come first!)

Please pray these verses with these requests.

- ♦ Ephesians 1:17–18 . . . especially for the two Sudanese Leaders taking on the responsibilities of teaching during this module while training others to do follow-up discipling.
- ♦ Colossians 1:9–12 . . . especially for Doug and Cheryl—with extra travel time and expenses as they embrace new opportunities.
- ♦ Philippians 1:9–11 . . . especially for our Tri-M team's Annual Meeting in January 2015.

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