

Report on Bible Studies in Busia, Kenya

“As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever” (1 Peter 4:10-11)

As we prepared ourselves for mission work in Busia and Embu, we thank the Lord for His Word. We have been ready to answer calls to go places for the purpose of proclaiming the gospel of our Lord Jesus. Brothers Charles Mtavi and Richard Owino joined other brothers for the Lord’s Day meeting to prepare for a weeklong outreach in Busia, which is about 794 kilometers from Mombasa in western Kenya.

On our way from Mombasa to Busia, Kenya, we received sad news of the passing of brother Barasa, one of those meeting in Busia. It was very sad, but the Lord strengthened us. We received the news through a cell phone call from his wife, Anastasia. In the evening we were in Busia and on our arrival, we visited her to provide some comfort and to share from the Bible. The same day we held a meeting with brothers **Langa’t, Abungu, and Sebastian** to plan our Lord’s Day meeting and the Bible Study programs. Brothers from Busia were able to communicate with brothers and sisters around Busia as well as Munongo village, which is quite a distance from Busia. We were pleased by the way the three brothers took responsibility by helping with ideas. We also communicated with John Wangila from Bungoma, who asked for at least six people to come for the Bible Study.



At the Lord’s Day, we held a meeting at our usual location, < a forest park that is also Regina’s business premise. There were a good number who attended the meeting. After the service, we visited the hall where we were planning to have weeklong Bible study meetings. At evening brother Langa’t joined me and Richard to finalize the arrangements. Langa’t is a very good planner. We prepared the program and committed the meetings to the Lord in prayer, and left with each assured of our plan.

On Monday, we started our meeting as planned. By 10:00 a.m. many people had arrived, including those from Munongo and Bungoma. We decided to start the studies right away. Our theme was

The Church: Foundation and Increase.

On Tuesday, we continued and went deeper into the same topic. The number of people coming from Munongo increased by 15%. > We were encouraged by their desire to learn. We used the YMCA Busia Branch hall. The manager welcomed us and extended her future offer to use their premises. We asked how much they would charge, and the response was 2,000 per month.

We experienced an amazing thing when on the third day a large number of people from Munongo came for the studies! Because we were facilitating the lunch and transport for the attendees, we had to change some things in order to finish our Bible study without extra expense. We decided to change the meeting venue



by going to Munongo village ^ with four brothers from Busia in order to conduct the meeting there. This was to reduce the expenses and at the same time to continue with our meetings in a different way.

On Thursday morning we had a meeting with brothers from Bungoma before they left Busia.

We also held a meeting with brothers from Busia and visited the medical training center in Busia before leaving for Embu to meet our new contact Gerald Kiare. Our last meeting with the Busian brethren was more doctrinal including a warming of the heart message. We have been having meetings with them for almost two years.

This was a meeting of very few brothers: Lang'at, Abungu, Sebastian, Bwire, and Waka. Waka is from Munongo, but he comes every Lord's Day to Busia for Lord's Day meetings.

We had to reduce some of our own expenses in order to have enough cash for the remaining travels, going to Embu and then returning to Mombasa. We did that by selecting cheaper transport, accommodation, and meals. On Friday night we left for Nairobi and arrived Saturday morning and then boarded a bus to Embu. We joined Gerald Kiare in his village, Ishiara. He had asked us to minister to the meeting in their gathering place. He is a Pentecostal man in charge of four gathering places. He introduced us to the "bishop," and after the service the bishop requested that, when we go back next time, we make sure to visit all their gathering places. Our observation is that if we continue to visit, then they will need a lot of teaching.



We were encouraged to see some of the books (Bibles) they have been receiving from sister Ruth. He also told us how they came to know each other in the UK, when he went to learn about the CBC education system that has recently been introduced into the Kenyan syllabus.

Gerald is a family man and a primary school head teacher with three more years to retirement. He wants to be a full-time minister of the word of God after his retirement. What is first needed in Ishiara is a conference for the leaders to help them understand the proper way of teaching the Word of God, and then another conference for all. This depends on the response of the leader's conference and how they receive the teachings.

After spending a large part of the evening with Gerald, we left Ashiara for Embu town. Then we were fortunate to book a bus from Embu to Mombasa the same day. It was a tiring trip but with much accomplished. It was a joy to have completed our mission within our adjusted budget

Our thoughts about Busia.

Brothers Lang'at, Abungu, and Sebastian are serious with the Lord's work, and they are teachable. We also have Odongo, Bwire, Waka, Fred, and sisters Regina (wife of the late Felix), Dorah, a business lady, and Anastasia, wife of the late Barasa, among others.

Busia Kenya) meeting place need

In Busia the meetings have been held at a forest park, which is the business premise of the family of the late Felix. They have been meeting under a shade of a tree, using chairs and other facilities for free. The challenges come during rainy days: We were once forced to divide ourselves into the beautiful African grass-thatched shades that are on the business land.

This time we used the YMCA hall for the Bible study. YMCA premise is about 100 meters away from the forest park, and because we had visited the place some time ago with the late Felix, the manager was good to us by renting the hall at a reasonable price. The manager is a good person.

Your brothers in the Lord Jesus,

Charles Mutavi

Richard Owino



Copies of the Good Seed calendar, used a lot and on a daily basis



Attentively following Bible studies