

**Report of our visit to Uganda from 7 till 19 September 2018**  
*Simon & Pauline Attwood (Ipswich, England), Paul & Renate Meijer (Oudehaske, the Netherlands), Emanuel Munteanu (Bucharest, Romania)*

Dear saints of God,

Last month the Lord gave us the opportunity to visit Uganda together. For Pauline and Emanuel it was their first trip to Africa, for Simon it was his first time to Uganda. We are thankful to the Lord everything went well, He kept us safe during travels (due to heavy rainfall the roads sometimes were really slippery), He gave us good health (although Renate suffered some stomach issues for a couple of days, but she received strength to continue), but most of all He blessed our time together as visitors, but also the activities organised by the local brethren in the Kasese area (western Uganda, near the Congolese border), with two camps, visits in the homes and a conference.

On the 7<sup>th</sup> of September we met at Amsterdam Airport from where we flew to Entebbe, Uganda, a 10 hours' flight. We stayed overnight in a small hotel and travelled to Mpondwe the next morning, a 10 hours' drive. We stayed at sister Scovia's house, who welcomed us all and took really good care of us.

**Camps**

As with previous visits by Paul & Renate three-day camps were held, first for the boys and young brothers, followed by a camp for girls and young sisters. With the boys and young brothers we studied the life of Gideon. We started after the regular meetings on the Lord's Day morning. Paul gave an introduction to the subject and took up Judges 6, some of the young brothers from Mpondwe spoke on Judges 7 and Simon ministered on Judges 8. We saw how Gideon, who did not think much of himself and displayed weak faith, was taught by God and prepared bit by bit, in order to defeat the Midianite enemy. We can identify with Gideon and his weak faith in our own lives and be encouraged by the fact that God did not rebuke Gideon when he asked for signs, but gently answered Gideon's requests.

We had brought booklets with the chapters of Judges and questions, which were used during the sessions. After the camp everyone received a booklet 'Gideon', written by Hilvert Wijnholds, either in Lhukonzo—the local language—or English.

Many of the attendees were from the meetings in the area, but others came from various groups, the local brethren are in contact with. Many of them are believers and with some we could really notice the insight in divine things, whereas others are not saved yet. That is why during the camp the gospel also was preached daily. Please pray for those who have heard the gospel, but not yet



*Packing the minibus for the journey to Mpondwe.*



*The many suitcases, also containing literature and crafts.*



*On the road to Mpondwe.*



*At sister Scovia's house.*



*Lord's Day morning, just before the start Emanuel speaking in the open ministry of the meetings.*



*meeting.*



*Paul introducing the subject.*





*Simon answering a question. Phesto translates.*

*Group discussions.*

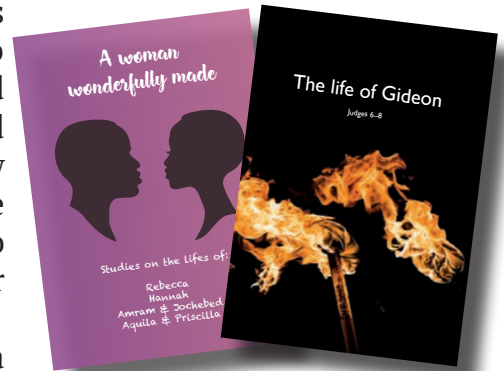
*Group photo.*

accepted the Lord Jesus as their Saviour.

The second three days were used for the second camp. The sisters looked at two godly women in the Old Testament on the first two days; Rebecca (Gen. 24) and Hannah (1 Sam. 1, 2). On the third day they looked at two godly couples: Amram & Jochebed and Aquila & Priscilla. These persons were looked at with the view to preparation for marriage, marriage and married life. Again we brought booklets with questions, with room for notes, etc., so when they went home, they had something to take with them for rereading and further study.

Pauline had prepared the crafts this time, with the help of a few other sisters. This time the aim was to make a needle book everyone could take home, including some needles, threads and a pair of scissors. This would allow them to do some needle work back home. They were very happy about this!

During the sessions many questions were asked, both in relation to the subject and other spiritual topics. On the Saturday, the last day of the camp, Simon, Paul and Emanuel came along to deal with some questions. But before we got to that, Emanuel first told one of his stories with a clear gospel message, as he did on other occasions as well. During answering the questions more questions were jotted down and handed to the sisters, so in the end we spend the entire rest of the camp answering the many questions!



*The camp booklets*



*Just before the start of one of the sessions.*



*Renate speaking on Rebecca.*



*Pauline speaking on the two couples.*



*Happy singing.*



*A finished needle book!*



*Group photo.*



## Visits

When the boys'/young brothers' camp was going on, Pauline and Renate made some visits in the area together with some of the sisters, in the homes of some of the brethren. During the girls'/young sisters' camp we did it the other way around; the brothers made some visits. In most of the homes the brethren invited either other saints or their neighbours, so they could hear the gospel. We felt warmly welcomed in the various homes. Brothers Ssemutereke Deo and Ddungu Daniel had also come over from the Kampala area to help out and be present at the conference and the manager of the hotel they were staying at allowed us to have a meeting in the hotel for hotel staff and other interested people. The gospel was preached and many questions answered. The initial plan was to have a short meeting for about 20-30 minutes, but we stayed for over two hours! A few of the hearers asked for Bibles and the local brothers promised they would come back and bring them some. How wonderful to experience there still are open doors for the gospel in this world!



Visit and 'Sunday School' at bro. Mungunga's home.



Visit in bro. Stephen's home.



The meeting in the hotel.

## Bible conference on the church (or better: assembly)

During the second week of our stay we had a Bible conference on the assembly. We looked at the assembly as the body of Christ, the house of God and the bride of the Lamb. In these three we find various aspects of the assembly. A good deal of time was spent on studying these features, but also our responsibilities connected with it. We concluded the conference by looking at assembly meetings, especially the meeting for the breaking of bread and the meeting of edification. It was beneficial for everyone to be occupied with this beautiful subject and have before our spiritual eyes the love of the Lord Jesus for His assembly and the price He paid to obtain His bride (see hymn 83).

Again a booklet—in Lhukonzo and English—on the topic with many reference verses was made available, so everyone could use that for further study back home or in the local meeting.

Also some brothers from eastern and central Uganda will visit the various gatherings and groups in the area, together with some of the local brothers, as a follow-up after the conference, also to deal with various questions that may have arisen.

1. Lord Jesus, how our souls adore  
That perfect love of Thine!  
We'd sing its sweetness o'er and o'er,  
Immeasurable, divine.

2. We think of Thee, God's blessed Son,  
Whom heavenly hosts obeyed,  
Girding Thyself to serve Thine own,  
And like a bondman made.

3. What deep affections moved Thee here,  
As Thou didst seek Thy bride,  
Joy of Thine heart, to Thee how dear!  
Love could not be denied.

4. Thou gavest all that love could give,  
The goodly pearl to gain;  
Thou gav'st Thy life that we might live,  
And Thou Thy bride obtain.

5. Fruit of that wondrous love of Thine,  
We praise, we worship Thee;  
Thy love unsearchable, divine,  
Our endless song shall be.

Spiritual Songs 83



Various aspects of the Assembly of God — in Lhukonzo and English



*Simon speaking, Godfrey translating.*

*Emanuel speaking, Festo translating.*

*Waiting for the next session to start...*



*Double translation;  
Luganda-Lhukonzo-English*

*The last day of the conference*

*Group photo.*

### **Conclusion and prayer points**

When we were travelling back to the airport on the 18th for our flight(s) back home late at night, we concluded that the Lord helped us in every little detail. He prevented the enemy's attempts to disturb meetings and discourage the local brethren. He kept us safe and granted us a blessed time of fellowship together.

Here are some points for you to pray for:

- Spiritual growth, both for the saints in the meetings and also for those in the various groups that are visited by the local brethren
- The lost souls who have heard the gospel
- Travelling mercies, wisdom and the guidance of the Holy Spirit during the visits by the Ugandan brethren
- The intended trip of Paul and Emanuel to Mukono (near Kampala) from, Lord willing, 29 November-11 December

We want to thank you all for your support and your prayers.

Yours in our soon coming Lord,

*Simon & Pauline Attwood, Paul & Renate Meijer, Emanuel Munteanu*