



Dear Friends,

March 2011

A very belated Happy New Year! I hope it has started out well for you.

Revision Project. The next courses for me to work on are Evangelism/Discipleship, Lay Counseling, and Church Dynamics. I have begun work on E/D, doing a preliminary review to see if anything stands out as needing special attention. After that, it will be sent through the editing process. *Please pray for me and the others as we seek to finish them as quickly yet as thoroughly as possible.*

2011 All-Staff Conference, Kuşadası, Turkey (April 13-19). I will leave for Turkey on April 8 so I can be there early to see that everything is ready to go. These early months of the year have seen many people very busy taking care of all the last-minute details. *Please pray for me and all who are planning the conference that everything will come together very nicely.*

Romanian Ministry and Celebration. As with recent visits I have made to Romania, I have been invited to preach and to lead two evening seminars with pastors and lay leaders on the book of James. I love this time with these friends. I have also been invited to attend the 30-year celebration of Biblical Education by Extension in Romania. How the Lord has used these committed leaders! *Please pray for effective, mutually edifying times in my ministry to them and theirs to me.*

Personal Time. As in past years after the all-staff conference, so also this year I will visit my friends in Vienna and other parts of Austria. *Please pray that the Lord will guide and use this time in important ways, along with providing good visits, safe travel and good connections, and occasions to share the gospel.*

Home Ministry. My Sunday school class is studying Isaiah. We expect to finish this study before I leave for the conference. The men's breakfast continues its study of the Gospel of John. One member of both groups has graciously agreed to lead both of these groups while I am away. *Please pray for me and my friend in our preparations that all of us will learn and grow in Him.*

How can I express my deep gratitude to you and for you? For over twenty-five years you have been wonderful partners in prayer and with your generous gifts. Each month when I receive the donor report, I go through the list and thank the Lord for each of you and your fellowship in this ministry. Your support makes you part of this ministry of training leaders to train others in many parts of the world.

I hope everything will continue to go well for you as we leave the beauty and chill of winter for the refreshing rains and renewal of spring that leads to Easter.

With great appreciation,
Wendall

More than a Mile Deep (MMD) is the name Africans have given to their partnership project. Entrust helps make the MMD partnership truly effective.

There is a saying in Africa that **Christianity that does not make a difference is a thousand miles wide but only an inch deep**. MMD seeks to go more than a mile deep in its ministry.

We in the States might think it strange that the first course that MMD would produce would be on HIV/AIDS, but you probably know that this is a huge problem in Africa. By doing this, MMD shows its love for its people physically that it might be able to serve them spiritually.

The report below comes from the director of the MMD work:

From Assignments to Transformation.....Andre Chitlango

“We observed during the tutorial sessions how the taboo is being broken permanently. The students said again and again that their ministries have changed: before no one could speak about HIV at church because members were thinking that this issue was not for believers, because believers are not infected. Church leaders who have started to address sexually transmitted diseases openly from the pulpit have seen members begin to discern and care for infected people. Some people (to be THE positive ones) try now to be advised by ‘More than a Mile Deep’ (MMP in Mozambique) students, who are church leaders.

In Central Mozambique, MMP student, Pr. Ndandoga, started a project in his church as part of the assignments for this course. The program was very effective and the district government adopted his program as the official government program for intervention and mitigation of HIV/AIDS and the government provided our student with the necessary funds. A course assignment turned into an official program covering a territory as big as the Netherlands (or New Jersey)!

In Maputo, Mr. Zeca started to work on a nutritional program for very ill AIDS patients, visiting them at home and helping them to take their medicine. Then he helped them start gardens (as well as chicken farms) at their homes to improve their diet. (In Mozambique there is plenty of land). The gardens were very successful and quickly the whole neighborhood started to grow vegetables in their yards. Now three students are actually doing this type of service. A program that started targeting a few families ended up transforming the whole neighborhood and improved the diet and income for many.”

For Tearfund, the link with MMP has become important as it has become their vision to mobilize the churches to advance community development (Micah Challenge). A partnership between the local chapter of Tearfund and MMP is developing. Students have indicated understanding the complexity of causes for HIV and AIDS to spread and both the projects of Tearfund and the courses (in the pipeline) of MMD are sought out, related to combating poverty and underdevelopment.”