

## **Kids' Evangelism Explosion in Central Africa, February/March 2007 Newsletter**

*“If you think you are too small to make a difference, try sleeping in a closed room with a mosquito.” - An African Proverb.*

This was an unforgettable trip. I remembered my brothers reminding me that Africa is not for sissies. This time I was a real sissy. I wrote a farewell letter to Steve thinking I will never see him again. I suffered from a sort of a Laryngitis and Asthmatic Bronchitis, due to trash burning continually in the city and the streets being filled with smoke and dust. But the most wonderful thing is that the ministry was a great success. What a mighty God we love and serve. In our weakness He is strong. He helps us in and through everything. As it is said, His work seems impossible, then difficult, then done.

We introduced Kids' EE to Central Africa by presenting two Kids' EE clinics in Yaoundé, the capitol of Cameroon in Central West Africa, just due north of the Equator. Sherry, my buddy from Texas, and I co-taught the first clinic in English while the second clinic in French was led by Pastor Lucien Bale. I was impressed with his excellent teaching skills as he passionately taught Kids' EE to a group of thirty-four Children's Leaders during the French clinic. Pastor Lucien inspired us all. He is a man of great vision. He looks like a famous professional basketball player, standing 6'5" tall. He radiates the joy of the Lord. He built a strong leadership team of six Cameroonians who helped him with the organization and running of the clinics. I looked at them and realized that this is a dream come true for local leadership to take ownership of the ministry and run with it. There is no stopping them now. They are already planning the next Kids' EE training clinic for next month.

The first clinic was hosted at the Bastos Presbyterian Church. This church has 800 children in their Sunday School classes. We had seventeen Children's Leaders at the clinic from different churches who are now equipped in Kids' EE. We even had the joy of having Joanna from Michigan, a first time missionary to Africa on our trip with us. It was fun experiencing Cameroon through her eyes as she was fascinated by the sights and sounds of Africa. Debby, the wife of our EE Director for Central Africa also attended the clinic. Chuck and Debby used to live in Cameroon and Debby was a great blessing to us. She organized our transport and accommodation and took us to a local joint for Pizzas and the market for shopping. She was also our designated “dragon-slayer” (Cockroach-killer).

We stayed in Madam Tolen's house on a hill. She is a native of France, and she and her late Cameroonian husband, lived in Yaoundé almost all her life. She treated us with kindness and hospitality. Some days we had no electricity, others no running water, but we learned to adjust to it. One day we went to an Animal Orphanage and Rehabilitation Centre in a tropical rainforest. We walked a long distance through a thick rainforest. It was fascinating. Oh the wonder and indescribable beauty of creation. We saw adorable baby Gorillas, Chimpanzees, Monkeys, and Baboons. We couldn't stand in one spot for

long because there were colonies of huge “man-eating” ants seeking for unsuspecting tourist as an afternoon snack!

During our on-the-job-training for the first clinic we shared the Gospel with about 40 children. It was precious seeing them listening with undivided attention to the greatest story ever told. During the second clinic we chartered a bus to a school, and shared the Gospel with 150 children in small groups. There was great rejoicing on the way back as everybody sang and danced in our overloaded bus rocking all the way back to the church.

As always, I experience these clinics deeply and could not do it without the strong prayer support of family and friends. Thank you so very much. Each of you has a special place in my heart and ministry and I think of you often and thank God for you. Our team was aware of intense spiritual warfare even before the trip started. Sometimes it manifests itself in past wounds suddenly hurting again. We are often surrounded by sickness, discomfort, and great adjustment. We feel a sense of oppression, but joy comes in the morning and the new day is brighter and more beautiful after a dark night.

My next Kids’ EE clinic is scheduled for the end of April in Mpulungu, Northern Zambia on the Southern Edge of Lake Tanganyika, a twelve hour drive from Lusaka. The Kids’ EE materials are currently being translated into the Bemba language. We’re excited about it. A very good friend of mine, Naomi will be there with her brother, Div and his wife, Eleanor, who are missionaries from South Africa serving the Lord in Zambia. Please pray with me for them and for the clinic, 30 April to 3 May. Steve and I are very much looking forward to spending a few days with family and friends in South Africa before heading up north to Zambia. In the meantime, it is wonderful being back home with Steve again.

Love and blessings in abundance,  
*Elise*

***“One generation shall praise thy work to another, and shall declare Thy mighty acts.”***  
Psalm 145:4

*Steve & Elise Stimpson*

5831 NE 21<sup>st</sup> Way  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33308  
USA  
Tel: (954) 493 5201

**PEF Mission Board**  
425 State Street (Suite 312)  
Bristol, VA 24201  
USA