

Upcoming Events

Spring 2014 — Sharing Rwanda Challenge in North Carolina, Virginia, and New Hampshire. Frank is preparing for future lessons and the August/September Rwanda trip.

Marriage, Divorce, and Remarriage

I have been thinking about marriage a lot lately. Myra and I celebrate our 39th wedding anniversary on May 24th. We are preparing for Abby's (our sixth child) wedding for June 22nd. I am meeting with a couple who have asked me to perform their wedding at the end of September. My desire is to provide them with a biblical foundation for their marriage covenant.



Frank and Myra - May 24, 1975



Jeremy and Abby - Spring 2014

There is one more reason I have been thinking about marriage: divorce.

Divorce is becoming a growing issue in Rwanda and a diminishing concern in the U.S. Divorce has become a "normal" part of the American culture. However, the divorce rate is dropping in America due partly to the decrease in the marriage rate. According to Groucho Marx, "Marriage is the chief cause of divorce." The Barna Group reports that one-third of adults in the U.S. who have been married have also divorced at least once.

One of the growing concerns for church leaders in Rwanda is the increase in divorces (another sign of Western influence). These leaders usually take an extremely conservative view of divorce and remarriage. They shared the story of a man who wanted to get married. His wife divorced him and left him and the children for a life of prostitution. The Church is telling him that biblically he cannot marry someone else. However, in Matthew 19:9 Jesus says he can. This is one example of the confusion

The Vision

Rwanda Challenge... envisions local church leaders throughout Rwanda who have the capacity to lead the Rwandan Church and become missionaries to neighboring countries.

among the church leaders about the biblical teaching on marriage, divorce, and remarriage.

Our views on these issues are shaped by culture or the Bible (or a misunderstanding of the Bible). So, I am preparing lessons on "Marriage, Divorce, and Remarriage" to be taught in 2015.

Rwanda Challenge 2014

Gifts of Bible Lessons and Kinyarwanda Study Bibles

The Manchester Community Bible Study has given over \$1,000 to help Christians in Rwanda to participate in the International Community Bible Study.

Funds for 40 KSBs was given by the Women's Bible Study at Manchester Christian Church.

Kinyarwanda Study Bibles @ \$20 each

For gifts see "Financial Update" below. Write "KSB" in the memo line.

The gift of a KSB can now be purchased online.



Elijah, Joshua, and Aaron using their Kinyarwanda Study Bibles to prepare lessons from Genesis

A "Thank-you" from the North

While traveling to our seventh and final group of church leaders in January, Theophile received a phone call from the North Province. It was one of the church leaders we taught in September. He was calling to express gratitude for the difference Rwanda Challenge had made among the churches in his area. He shared that as they applied the teaching, the churches had grown numerically and spiritually. Also, Theophile revisited the area in the Democratic Republic of the Congo where he and Jean D'Amour had taught the same lessons in December. The church leaders there reported similar results as they applied the teaching.

Prayer Requests (Phil. 1:9-11)

- Ask for wisdom and discernment for Rwanda Challenge
- Praise God for more Kinyarwanda Study Bibles and Bible lessons offered by International Community Bible Study
- Seek God for Theophile and Frank as they make final decisions for the August/September trip
- Praise the One who provides "every good and perfect gift" (James 1:17)

Financial Update

From February 2013 through January 2014 Rwanda Challenge was almost able to fund four trips to equip church leaders. However, the funds were in the negative following the January trip. As of May, RC is back in the positive. This means the needed funds should be available for the Aug/Sept trip and plans are being made for January and May of 2015.

Your financial support is crucial to the ministry. If you are already a supporter, consider increasing your giving in 2014 or making a more regular contribution. **Consider setting up a reoccurring contribution through your banks Electronic Bill Pay.**

Make checks payable to:
Rwanda Challenge

Send checks to:
Cornerstone Church of Christ
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