

The Sudan Project is a mission outreach of the Mt. Juliet Church of Christ in Mt. Juliet, Tennessee.



# THE SUDAN PROJECT

Churches of Christ at work in Sudan

## SEEDS OF LOVE



In February of this year, because of your generosity, the brethren in South Sudan were able to provide seeds and farm tools to many returning refugees. This was necessary because those returning to their homeland after years in a refugee camp did not have the money to purchase seeds and tools to plant crops to feed their families. Rather than just give them food occasionally, it is much more beneficial to provide them with the means to grow crops to eat and from those to save seeds to plant crops each succeeding year and thus become self sustaining.



People waiting patiently for their turn as the bags of seeds are distributed.

These pictures are from the second distribution since the first one was cut short by rain, which destroyed the delivery roads. This distribution was for those who missed receiving any seeds or tools last fall. Last fall's distribution was very successful as the seeds germinated very well.



What smiles! She says you have made their world a little brighter!

Each beneficiary family received a bag of corn, beans, a machete for clearing, and a hoe. Below are some of their grateful comments upon receiving your help.

*"Thanks so much for helping us resettle in our motherland! Your gifts have meant so much to us over the years."*

*"Thanks to all the brethren in the U. S. who have financially made the resettlement of this multitude (back to Sudan) possible."*

*"Thank you so much. If it rains well this year, I will become self-reliant food-wise!"*

*"Thanks for helping us through our food insecurity. It shows you are thinking of us and remembering us in your prayers. May God bless you!"*



## LOOKING FOR A GREAT BARGAIN?

A recent advertisement by one of our U.S. brotherhood preacher-training institutes reports that their typical cost of providing tuition free training for a preaching student is \$15,000. And that does not include the two-year off campus cost of living for the student and his family which he must provide. I don't know the entire cost of everything involved in being able to provide free training to Americans wishing to be trained so they can preach, but I am sure this is a good bargain in this country.

I know the cost of educating a man in the U. S. is difficult to compare to a nation like South Sudan, but this figure caused me to reach for my calculator. Including the salaries of the teachers and the cost of providing food, room and supplies for the students, it will cost in the vicinity of \$300 to train a Sudanese preacher in the soon-to-open South Sudan Bible School.

When he gains experience in preaching, he may choose to return for free advanced training in the level two program for an additional \$300.

Talk about a good bargain for our mission dollars ...!

## MEDICAL CLINIC TO BE ADDED TO CAMPUS

John Jock emigrated to Ethiopia to escape the brutal killing in the civil war in his native country of South Sudan. While in Ethiopia, he came into contact with one of God's preachers and became a Christian.



John Jock, the nurse for the Pajok clinic.

Being a serious searcher for God's truth, he eagerly attended levels one and two of the preacher training schools in that country. Also seeking some training in order to support his family, he attended a medical school to become a nurse. This profession is in high demand as estimates are that there are only about 10 certified nurses in the entire country of South Sudan.

John has now finished his medical training and will return to his homeland this fall to run a clinic on the South Sudan Bible School campus! You can see the impact for good this will

have when you consider that in the trading center of 45,000 population where our school is located, there is not one single doctor. The clinic will be free to those who cannot afford to pay but if they can give a chicken, some potatoes, beans, etc. they will be encouraged to do so as it is better to pay a little than to receive something free.

Training preachers to save the spiritually lost but at the same time telling them that we are sorry their children are sick and dying because they have no medical care is heartbreaking. Jesus helped the crowds to get well and then He taught them about salvation. This needs to be our example, as well.

Suzi and Dick Stephens of Indianapolis have worked for years helping treat the sick in the African country of Malawi by starting clinics and finding free medicine for the people of that nation. They have graciously offered to partner with us and Healing Hands International of Nashville to accumulate the equipment, supplies and medicines to equip a clinic on our campus.

Their knowledge and help in this area will be invaluable! And the supplies they help collect will enable John to share his medical knowledge with all the Christians and villagers around Parajok.



Dick and Suzi Stephens, veteran medical missionaries to Malawi.

This medical aspect of our mission will give great credibility to the church, showing that we love the people as well as their souls. It may eventually grow into a school to teach Sudanese to become much-needed basic health care providers, which is similar to our nurse practitioners. John can also work with our preacher students so that they can return to their villages with some basic knowledge regarding how to save bodies as well as souls, thus improving their potential influence!

## ENCOURAGEMENT FROM ONE OF OUR READERS

"Thank you for the newsletter on the 'Sudan Project.' How thrilling it is to see this great work go forward, to see how the Lord is working through you all; and to see how He has brought together *His* team to do the work.

Couldn't help but cry tears of joy and thanksgiving reading about all *He* has done. We are so extremely grateful to be part of this effort. Thank you, thank you!"

**And we would add to this, "Thank you, thank you!" None of this would have happened without your loving generosity!**