

“You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, these entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.” 2 Timothy 2:1-2

This verse comes to mind often as we work with lay readers, pastors and teachers at Uganda Bible Institute and we sometimes wonder how much entrusting is being done. Don has all the normal frustrations of teachers in the States - tardiness, sleepy students (especially after lunch!), distractions, etc. plus the ones specific to this ministry - students struggling with his southern accent, students struggling with English in general, students struggling with reading anything because of poor educational backgrounds. But all these frustrations seemed to dim when we were visiting with four students after class on Friday.

One student, named Grace, asked Don for the text of a sermon he had preached the previous Sunday - he had appreciated it along with another student named Benson. Then Nathan said that he really wanted to learn as much as possible about how to put sermons together. He shared that now when he preaches in his home church, the people have said he has changed (for the better) after being at UBI. He now sees that you are not supposed to take one verse out of context and then proceed to preach whatever comes to mind at the moment. James really warmed our hearts when he spoke earnestly, “I want to preach expositively, to study a text and be able to share with my people what it really means, to be a good preacher and teacher of God’s Word. Thank you for the training I am getting at UBI.”

Well, Don and I were praising God and grinning like mules eating briars! This is what we are here for! What a privilege to be able to entrust God’s Word to these faithful students. Thank you for making this possible. We have told the students many times that we may be the only ones they see, but that there are many, many people overseas who love them and are sacrificing in order for us to be here. You are a partner in this ministry and we are so blessed to be sent.

“The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, And we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, Full of grace and truth.” John 1:14

We pray for you in the upcoming holiday season, that “He who became flesh and dwelt among us” would make His glory known to you, that you would behold Him and experience His Grace and Truth.

In His Love,

Don and Fran McNeill

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