

Bishop Kivengere Mission

As the saying goes, **the journey of a thousand miles begins with the first step.**

This marked the beginning of a week-long mission journey in the Kabale district in Western Uganda. Staff and Evangelists set off from the Kampala Metropolitan area in the morning for the mission grounds. At the same time, Zambian delegates continued their journey from Zambia, expected to arrive in Kampala from their stop-over in Dar es Salaam after a 16hr gruesome trip.

Filled with excitement and anticipation, over 100 churches from the Kigezi diocese were expected to participate, with over 300 missionaries carrying out door-to-door evangelism and other activities.

Sunday, 24th July, marked the launch of the Bishop Kivengere mission week, whereby African Evangelistic Enterprise (AEE) members shared the Word of God in five churches celebrating the launch of the events.

The National Team Leader (NTL) noted that he was looking forward to seeing lives transformed in Kabale, adding that the churches are organized and welcoming. Godson, a missionary who has gone on several missions, reflected that "Every time I come on these missions, it feels new and exciting. I can't wait to see all the people we are going to reach, and I pray that all those we reach will hear the word of God and that many lives will be transformed."



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Some of the Fruits of the Kivengere Mission

At Murambo Primary School, the school chaplain led the team to assembly grounds, where pupils patiently waited to receive the gospel's good news from the missionary. After the preaching, Mr Tusiime Allan, the school chaplain, thanked the team and said, " ... we remember the late Bishop Festa Kivengere, who used to love and care for the children in many ways. We are privileged to have a message about him again in the diocese of Kigezi. We hope that by the time the mission ends, most of the children will have accepted Jesus as their personal Lord and Saviour". He also commented on the theme: "The scripture reminds me that I should focus on what is ahead until I win the race."



Ministry in Schools

African Evangelistic Enterprise-Uganda (AEE-U) kicked off the Kabale mission dubbed 'Bishop Kivengere Mission'. AEE staff were given a platform in five different churches and schools, marking the mission week's launch.

By 10 am, Bishop Kivengere Girls' school was filled with angelic voices singing spirit-filled praise and worship, students dancing and surrendering their lives to Christ. The spirit of the Lord came upon the students and many testified the glory of God.



We praise you, God, we praise you, for your Name is near; people tell of your wonderful deeds.

Psalm 75:1

At Trinity College, the young students were thirsty for the Word of God. Ministering to them, Oscar Sabit encouraged the students to remain focused on the right path referencing his teachings from *1 Peter 1:24-25*. By the end of his sermon, several students had given their lives to Christ.



Students filled the room with songs and praises to God.

Evangelism Everywhere

Day two saw the streets of Kabale town lit with enthusiastic missionaries hungry to harvest souls for Christ. The activities included radio programs, extending ministry in schools, one-on-one ministry, street evangelism and door-to-door evangelism.

Divided into seven large groups, over **200** missionaries combed the streets and hills of Kabale, reaching out to people in their homes, workplaces, and hospitals, among others. Over **2,244** people were ministered to, resulting in **153** new believers accepting Christ as their Lord and personal Saviour. This means that, on average, each missionary ministered the Word of God to **12** people.

According to The Informer Ug, Bishop Rukirande said that during his tenure in God's ministry, late Bishop Kivengere was so loving, loved God, spiritually gifted and inspired many Christians into the Ministry of God without judgmental preaching. He also implored Christians to take advantage of Bishop Festo Kivengere's memorial week to repent their sins and give their lives to Jesus Christ.



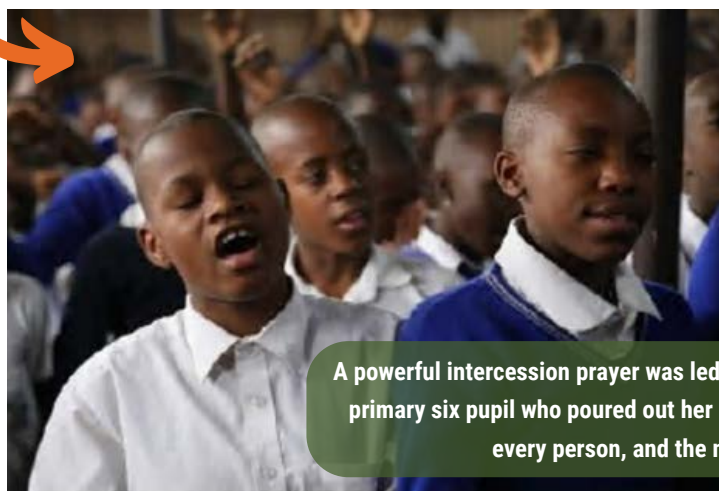
Morning devotion on Revival radio led by Oscar Sabiti the Mission Coordinator, reached about **50,000 to 100,000** people.



The Children

On the second day of the mission, the missionaries arrived at Kabale Universal Nursery and Primary School in the afternoon amidst a warm welcome from the school's Headteacher. The pupils were joyously dancing and praising, and the presence of God was manifested. A powerful intercession prayer was led by Ainomugisha Doris, a 12-year-old primary six pupil who poured out her heart to the Almighty and dedicated every person, and the mission week, to God.

Drawing teachings from *John 3*, Job Kigundu, the Mission Manager, appealed to the pupils to give their lives to Christ and be born again if they were to enter the Kingdom of God. He continued by saying that those who are not born again are dead, but those born again are alive in Christ Jesus.



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Reach the lost

On day 3 of the AEE Bishop Kivengere mission, after combing the dusty hills of Kabale town, missionaries converged in their respective centres to get the morning updates and prepare for the day.



At St.Philips Bugonji, evangelists joined at the venue by 8 am and were provided breakfast before spilling into their groups - ready to minister to the people of Kabale. 134 evangelists turned up for the door-to-door, schools, homes, streets and hospital evangelism, reaching out to 1,608 people, with 107 receiving Christ as their Lord and Saviour. Evangelists knock on a gate during door-to-door evangelism.

Morning devotion on Revival radio, led by Oscar Sabiti, the Mission Coordinator, reached about 50,000 to 100,000 people. Revival radio has a wide frequency that can cover a large area.

Angels on the road less travelled

After a gruelling journey from Zambia to Kabale, Uganda, Mr Joseph Kawele and Mr Joseph Chishalla, delegates from Zambia, arrived in the Kabale district after sundown on Monday. Narrating how his journey went, Kawele said, "I started my journey on Tuesday and arrived in Dar Es Salaam on Thursday."

Kawele encountered two people along his journey that God sent, he swears. "Upon entering Uganda, we had no way of contacting our contact person for guidance. A woman who travelled with us on the bus took a keen interest in us." The woman's name was Harriet and she was concerned that connecting to the Kabale district was too far a journey. She offered to host the two evangelists. "Harriet told us that she would be happy to host us for the night so we could proceed with our journey in the day. When she consulted her husband, he was not happy about the idea and cautioned Harriet from hosting us", said Kawele.

Instead of leaving the now newfound friends stranded in Kampala in the middle of the night, Harriet offered her phone for use. "She even gave us UGX 10,000 to help us on our journey. We prayed for her, and she went her way."



Continuing the harrowing journey, Kawele and his friend Joseph found themselves again worried; they were in a Rukungiri-bound bus. As much as the bus would go through Kabale town, the two would need to figure out at what point to jump out. As luck would have it, along the way, a man jumped onto the bus, sat between them, and immediately struck up a conversation. "I asked him where he was going, and the man said he was headed to Rukungiri. He then offered to let us know when to jump off the bus.

I am grateful to God because He sent two angels to guide us on our journey. I now look forward to seeing many lives transformed in this mission. Uganda is a beautiful country, and I am happy to share this with the rest of you".

The importance of Evangelism

The day started with missionaries converging to different zone churches to participate in the morning prayers, after which their zone leaders briefed them about the day's programs.

The missionaries were also reminded that since they are meeting all kinds of people, they should remember to use different approaches that best fit whom they are reaching at the time because people receive missionaries differently.



Go into all the world

As door-to-door evangelism activity continued, mobile rally evangelism commenced. Two mobile rally trucks set out in different directions targeting markets and trading centres, reaching hundreds of people. Many people heard the word of God and received Christ as their Lord and Saviour. As the night sky opened, the mobile rallies ended their mission by playing "Jesus Film".

Whilst watching the "Jesus Film" in the Kekubo night market, Rev. Edward Mwesigwa noted that this was the first rally being done during Bishop Festo Kivengere week, saying, 'This is the first of its kind. We normally do it in our different church services but have never done an open-air rally. Today we have been moving from house to house, which will be historic. Mobile rallies are more effective because many do not attend church every Sunday. Since we brought "Jesus film" for them to watch, I hope it will transform their lives.' Rev Edward also added that many bars and other businesses open daily, so bringing the gospel closer to them is ideal. Rev Edward appreciated African Evangelistic Enterprise (AEE) for working with Kigezi diocese to organize this mission, noting that " ... it is historical and this will impact the lives of people of Kigezi. The people of Kabale are hungry for the gospel. The prayer is that we should stretch even to the rural areas".



He said to them, "Go into all the world. Preach the good news to everyone."

Healing in the name of Jesus

In St. Mark Murambo, the healing hand of God was manifested. Christians filled in the small Church spilling outside on the compound, hungry to hear the Word of God. Ministering at the Church, evangelist Joseph Kawele drew the day's teachings from *Ephesians 1:1-5*, which speaks of spiritual blessings in Christ." One must believe in Christ to see the blessings that come with it", he said. By the end of the service, many people gave their lives to Christ. Some people testified, and Evangelist Joseph Kawele prayed for the sick that they would be healed during the service.



Testimony

“Since last week, I have been feeling sick. I felt like something was moving from my face towards my neck. I went to the hospital for a checkup, but the doctor said everything was fine. When I went back home at night, it got worse. I was in a lot of pain. By Wednesday, I was ready to go to another doctor; the pain had moved down to my chest. I could barely breathe. Still, the new doctor did not find anything wrong with me. I decided to ask my friend, who prays a lot, to pray for me. After the prayers, I started feeling better. Then she told me about this mission and said I should attend Church. When I went back home, I cooked food in the evening. The pain came back, and I could barely feel my legs. The next morning as I was getting ready, the pain was so much that I could not walk. I had to struggle because I wanted God to help me. When The preacher was praying for the sick people, I felt relieved. Right now, I don't feel any pain, and I declare that if you believe in God, he can heal you.” Gladys said that she would start praying daily and renew her faith in Christ for the joy of other church members in attendance.



Testifying of the goodness of God, Tukahebwa Gladys said she had been feeling sick before coming to Church.

Healing by Jesus

Niwamanya Brendah had a problem with hypertension; when Joseph prayed for her, she said she felt her heart rate slow down, and she was feeling much better. She was later dancing and praising God with no worry on her face.

Kyampeire Rominate, had intense stomach aches and went to the hospital for a checkup. The results came back and there was nothing wrong so she was given medicine and bed rest. When she felt better and was about to leave the hospital, she received a phone call from home. Her son had passed away. She rushed back home and after the burial ceremonies were completed, the stomach ache came back more intense and she could not stand straight. When going to bed I keep seeing dark figures and hearing voices. She was so scared. She heard that there was going to be a mission in Kabale and decided to go. When the preacher was praying for sick people, I touched my stomach where the pain was and feel relieved now. I believe that God has healed me and I will always praise his name." Evangelist Joseph Kawele prays for Rominate who was full of darkness and uncertainties so she decided to give her life to Christ.

Evangelist Joseph Kawele prays for Rominate and her stomach pain is relieved.



The work and conversations

Rt. Rev. Gaddie Akanjuna hosted African Evangelistic Enterprise (AEE) team at his house. He appreciated AEE for bringing this mission to the Kabale district, appreciating the team from Zambia and noted that the people of Kabale do not take it for granted. Bishop Festo Kivengere week is celebrated annually in May, but the diocese decided to celebrate with AEE since the organization is making 60 years since its inception.



At the National Teacher's College, Kabale town. the Rt. Hon. Ruhakana Rugunda, the former Prime Minister was the guest speaker at the event. Over 300 guests are expected to be in attendance. Pictured here is the Staff and Guild Leaders of NTC being gifted a bull from AEE Staff.



The cumulative number of people reached with the gospel through door to door/street evangelism, radio ministry, mobile rallies and school outreaches is over **529,202** people, with over **108,557** people having accepted Christ as their Lord and personal Saviour. Radio ministry has a wide coverage and people even as far as part of Rwanda listen to Revival FM.

Memorial Lecture



On Saturday at 9 am, student leaders and Archdeaconry youths thronged National Teacher's College main Hall. The diocese of Kigezi, in partnership with African Evangelistic Enterprise, organized a successful Bishop Festo Kivengere Memorial Lecture.

Those in attendance were eager to hear guest speaker Rt. Hon. Dr. Ruhakana Rugunda, who was accompanied by Rt. Rev. Gaddie Akanjuna, the Bishop of Kigezi Diocese, Rev. Can. Dr John Senyonyi and Ms Charity Kivengere, among others. In his address, Bishop Gaddie Akanjuna hailed the late Bishop Festo Kivengere.

Rt. Rev. Gaddie Akanjuna, the Bishop of Kigezi, hailed the late Bishop Festo Kivengere for his commitment to Christ and his works. The message of an African evangelist still speaks.

Speaking about the Bishop during the symposium, Bishop Gaddie said Bishop Festo was "very ambitious and worked towards it, committed to his works, available, a great shepherd and dependable not only to his family but to all".

He cautioned today's young leaders that if one does not have ambition, they can lose track of where they are going. Citing from *Philippians 3:14*, "pressing on means you set a target, goal, and are not pulled by other forces because you know what you want. I encourage us to know what we learnt today, press on and work towards your goal, and at one time you will achieve it".



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The end to a wonderful time in the Lord

On July 31st 2022, the mission came to a close after eight days of intense mission activities, including door-to-door evangelism, mobile rally, school outreach, radio ministry, street evangelism, and one-on-one sessions.

AEE staff were posted in different churches, schools and the radio to share the Word of God and encourage Christians to press on towards the goal as cited in *Philippians 3:14*.

Cumulatively, the total number of people reached during the mission was 67,244, and the number of people saved was 12,336. This is a great harvest of souls, and we thank God for keeping the missionaries safe during the mission week.



Thank you
Never the same again

People Saved
12,336

People Reached
67,244

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Stratified Evangelism

Our missionaries spent their final day out in the streets after a week of ministry. It has been an amazing spiritual experience for those who gave their hearts to the Lord as much as for the missionaries who were themselves spiritually refreshed.

Boniface accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Lord and Saviour during street evangelism. "I am tired of taking alcohol. I want to be born again so that I can be able to quit alcoholism. I am also choosing to forgive each and every one who has ever hurt me." After being prayed for, Boniface was filled with joy and he thanked the missionaries for preaching in his community.



*"Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!
For the Lord is god; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations."*

Psalm 100:4-5

