

June 2009

# SHELBY

## Ubutumwa bwiza

In Kinyarwanda, this means "the good news." It's the term used for the gospel. We have also learned all the books of the Bible and several other Biblical terms.



Genocide survivor Juliette, telling Jill the story of losing her family

## WALKING TOGETHER, SUFFERING WITH

One thing we have said over and over again about coming to Rwanda is that we wanted to come and "suffer with" the people here. I received my first true glimpse into what this might be like last week. We took my mom to the south-west part of Rwanda. We stopped outside of Butare at the Murambi Memorial. This was a technical school where 50,000 people sought refuge in over 5 buildings in 1994. The interwahme came and threw grenades in and then worked at killing the ones who survived over the next four days. The bodies were buried in mass graves. However, the bodies have been exhumed, preserved in lime and displayed in the rooms as a witness to the atrocities committed during those days. Juliette was our guide. She spoke no English. After the first two rooms, I had seen enough. However, it was obvious Juliette was intent on us looking in every room. It soon became clear why. She said she and her one month old child were there that day and survived. However, her husband and two other small children were among the bodies displayed. I'm sure she knew exactly which ones they were and didn't want us passing them by. In broken Kinyarwanda I expressed my sympathy and love. That day last week was a reminder to me of all the pain still present here. There are days when I don't know exactly what I am supposed to be doing here. However, on that day I knew I was exactly where I was supposed to be. Walking together with a beautiful, but wounded, product of God's creation.

--Jill



### FRED'S FRIENDS

Fred has been making friends in the neighborhood. These boys come over to play basketball and football (aka soccer).

# A Day in Our Life

People have asked what a typical day is like for us here in Rwanda. Now that Fred is out of school, we have had to re-work our schedule a bit. We have tried to be diligent about how we spend our time so we try to keep pretty much to our schedule.

So, a typical day in Rwanda...

6:00 a.m. -- 7:00 a.m. Everyone begins to wake up to start the day. We have our personal study times, even baby Tess who watches a Praise Baby DVD

7:30 a.m. -- Breakfast together

8:00 a.m. -- Family prayer time, Bible study and Scripture memory

9:45 a.m. -- Jill's Kinyarwanda language study at ATN office while Chris stays home with Fred and Tess

11:30 a.m. -- Chris's Kinyarwanda language study at ATN office while Jill stays home with Fred and Tess

1:00 p.m. -- Lunch

1:30 p.m. - Fred's Kinyarwanda language study at ATN

3:00 - 7:00 p.m. -- Errands, personal language study, and exercise

7:30 p.m. -- Baby Tess goes to bed

9:00 p.m. -- The rest of us go to bed (Because of the sun coming up at 6 and going down at 6, we are always ready to go to bed early.)

Here are some different things that go on throughout the week. On Monday afternoons, we have our weekly team meeting and dinner all together. On Tuesday afternoons, Chris and Fred play golf together. On Thursday nights, Chris teaches missions at the Bible college. On Friday nights, Jill teaches English at ATN.

In our spare time, we study language, go on hikes meeting people and practicing language, visit other parts of the city and country, play games, have people over for dinner or just be together as a family.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

### 1. Jill's Mom Visiting

Jill's mom has been here for 2 weeks and will be here for 2 more. What a blessing that has been! Thank God for her willingness to come and for others who made it possible for her to come; also pray for safe travels home.

### 2. CPM Conference

A church planting movement conference is being held in Rwanda in August. Pray that God's kingdom will extend through what happens here. Those interested in church planting from 17 different nations plan on attending.

### 3. Housing Decision

No water has come to our house from the city in 8 weeks. It is only affecting 12 houses. Our lease is up. Please pray for wisdom in what to do or, even more boldly, please pray that water comes soon so we can stay here.

### 4. Prayer

Our team just started a study on prayer recommended by some dear friends. Please pray the Lord teaches us to pray and that we learn to listen and partner with Him in His mission in extending his kingdom throughout Rwanda.

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Hiking in Kigali with Tess. The kids ask, "Why is that baby in a bag?"