



CAMPUS POUR CHRIST INTERNATIONAL
REGION D'AFFAIRES D'AFRIQUE FRANCOPHONE
BUREAU NATIONAL DU RWANDA
B.P. 2229 Kigali Tél. (250)574791

Faith

Comes



By



Hearing



Report

Rwanda
Rwanda

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INTRODUCTION

Rwanda was reached by the gospel in 1900. They are catholic roman missionaries who pioneered evangelism in the country. Before 1994 Rwanda was among the 1st countries among the world where Christianity was developed. But the massacres and genocide of 1994 committed by Christians toward their fellow Christians challenged the gospel preached during the years before.

Many hypothesis where developped to explain that paradox. Some were saying that there is no relation between faith and actions, others were simply saying that missionaries divided people instead of preaching the gospel. The concept of evangelism in Rwanda is well understood if you go to the beginning to see how these people became christians. Truly speaking, many rwandans became christians not because they were personally convinced, but because they were socially and economically constrained to be so. For exemple no child could not study without being baptized. None could not access to any important political position without being baptized. Though these people were called christians, they were not

actually born again. This means that the profession of their christian faith did not come from what they had heard but out of constraints.

However, the Bible says "Faith Comes By Hearing, hearing the word of God". In this context CCC/ Rwanda contracted a partnership with "Theovision" in the program called "Faith Comes By Hearing"

Though there were some constraints to reach the objectives of the partnership, the program born fruits. This present report portrays its situation.

I. First Steps

The partnership between Theovision International and CCC Rwanda on FCBH program was agreed upon in June 04. CCC Rwanda attached the program to Jesus Film one which so far operational in Rwanda. Before beginning the activities 14 staff to work in FCBH program was recruited and trained.



Marc, CCC/ Rda explain how to use the cassette

II. Continuation of activities

After the training the team was deployed in 11 of 12 provinces of Rwanda. Their tasks were to:

- to contact church leaders to sustain them with the FCBH program
- to present the vision of church planting using the program
- to train them if they were open to the training
- to begin the activities in their churches
- to do 25 Jesus Film shows in their respective film teams

In the agreement of the partnership, 13,072 \$ was agreed as the budget for 6 months. This including monthly stipend, bicycles, tape players batteries cost of training including transport accommodation, conference hall materials cost of supervision and administration.

Up to now 160 New Life groups work with the Jesus Film/FCBH program. Through those groups, we planted 10 new churches and baptised 270 people who are members of those churches. Today, the Jesus Film/FCBH program has gathered 420 members.

III. Beautiful experiences with FCBH program

a. Jesus centred message

one of the most advantages of FCBH strategy is to offer people the occasion of hearing the integrity of the Jesus' message and stories. People get now committed to surrender their life to Jesus from what they have heard. Wherever the New Life Groups were set, people were committed to follow the cassettes.



The word of God is in the center of their interests in New Life Groups

b. Evangelism and repentance

“So also will be the word that I speak – it will not fail to do what I plan for it ; it will do everything I send it to do.” Isaiah 55:11. (G.N. B.) Throughout the program of FCBH, people confessed their sins and turned back to God. And those who believed in Jesus Christ have been baptized.



Baptism of new believers in Methodist church Janja

c. Saved people were also delivered from evil powers.



This person under the tree was epileptic possessed

This person who sits under the tree was possessed by epileptic demon. He was delivered on the day he was invited to attend to the program of FCBH.

d. Unity and reconciliation

One of the successes of this program is that it was able to bring together people of different tendencies for hearing the word of God. One day a mayor of district said "Tutsi and Hutu are not only coming together, but they are praying and talking together. It is amazing to see the good relations between them.

e. Social building

After his election, the president of Rwanda said: *"the success or failure of rwandan social compact will be decided over the next few years, as hutu and tutsi to find way to live together again."* The photo bellow shows one of New Life groups, where Tutsi and Hutu come together for the fellowship.



JF/FCBH brought people together

An other good aspect of this program in social building, is that children are also welcomed in New Life Groups.

This gives hope that the new generation will grow in God's

f. FCBH/JF brought revival into churches.

word and christian maturity.
"Teach children how their should live, and they will remember it all their lives." Prov. 22:26 (G.N.B.)

After Jesus Film show and distribution of FCBH cassettes, New Life Groups were started in different churches, such as in the Episcopal churches, Baptist church, Pentecostal church, Methodist etc. These New Life Groups contributed to the spiritual, numerical, financial growth of those churches.

g. Implantation of new local churches

we have up to now 160 New Life groups which are the outcome of the Jesus Film/FCBH program. Through those groups, 10 new local churches were planted and 270 people were baptised and became members of the churches.



church was in the beginning it has already finished

h. Leadership development

The 160 New Life Groups already existing have the leaders. This implies that the program has contributed to development of leaders in our christian communities through training.

i. Mission Trips.

They are crossing the river with traditional boat



People involved in JF/FCBH program have become “missionaries” in their home land. These people travel from one village to another for reaching souls with the gospel message, crossing the streams, valleys, rivers, and climbing and descending the mountains on foot, because of missing other means of transport.

IV. Hindrances

The main problem the program faced is the lack of the full budget. This has affected the transport of the Jesus Film/FCBH workers and the efficiency of the work on the field. It has also discouraged some workers. Others were sometimes obliged to make tiresome long distances on foot and please remember that Rwanda is a country of mountains. However we believe that the Lord will help up to the end.

CONCLUSION

- For this period of six months, the program has been successful and manifested good results.
- The main problem faced was the lack of full budget. This affected the efficiency of the work and the commitment of workers.
- We suggest the consideration of the project because it is a great contribution in evangelism ministries and it is fruitful for a good discipleship.

TESTIMONIES

- At the time when we were showing Jesus film at the Prespyterian church, many people came to watch the film of Jesus and were about 1579 people. Among those people, who came was a man who had a conflict with another. Both came to watch the film.

One came with a panga aiming to kill his fellow. But when he reached the place, he first watched the film and heard the message and forget to kill his fellow. But afterwards he was arrested with the panga, and the man told the people who arrested him that for him he is saved if they want to arrest, let them arrest the panga only.

- At Methodist church Janja were a new life group of 4 people who was delivered from the boundage of evil spirit through this program of JF/FCBH.

1st person : this is an old woman, testifying that she had contacted many doctors for treatment of her sickness in vain. But when they prayed to receive Jesus, she was set free.

2nd person: this is a man who was set free by the FCBH team from the a “Nyabingi” demon who was telling him to commit suicide.

3rd person: this is a woman who gave birth to a child whose digestive system was not working well. When JF/FCBH team prayed for the baby, she was totally healed.

4th person: this is a girl that had a problem of an epileptic spirit. This could even make her fall her in the fire. But when JF/FCBH team prayed for her, she was set free. All those people joined one New Life Group and called it “***A Way of Truth***”