

Yotkom Prisons Outreach



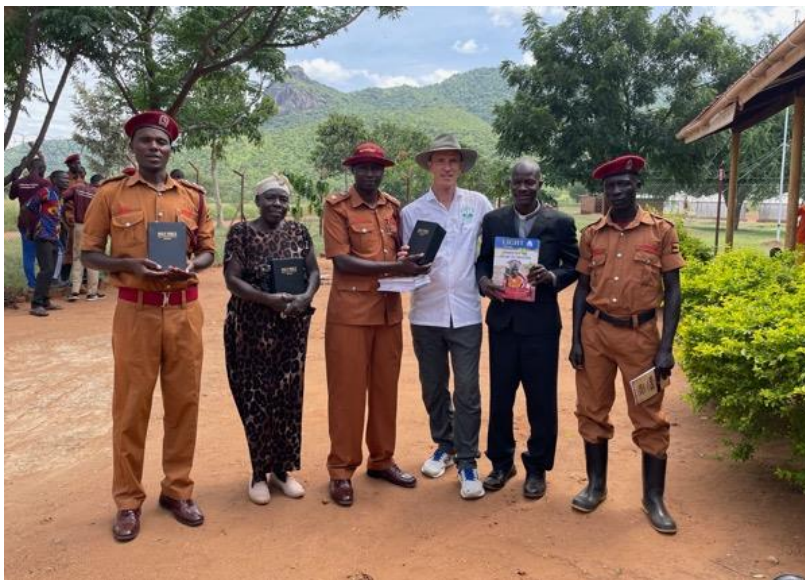
On Saturday 27 May 2023, Yotkom initiated a prison outreach to a very isolated Prison Farm in Orom district, about two and a half hours drive on a bumpy dirt road to the northeast of Kitgum where our hospital is based.



We had been invited by the prison warden to come and help bring hope to the 500 male inmates who are housed in this facility and rarely receive visitors.



The prison administration encouraged us to come and give medical care but also allowed us to include our chaplains in the program so we could meet the spiritual needs there. There is a deep sense of abandonment and loss experienced in that place with a corresponding high level of depression and suicide.



We see this invitation as an open door and a wonderful opportunity to bring the gospel message of hope and healing, fulfilling the call of Jesus on us, his community of followers, to visit the prisoners as well as treat the sick and care for the poor.

“... I was in prison and you came to visit me”. Mathew 25: 34-40)

This is part of our mission and vision at Yotkom.

Our heart and our desire is to regularly provide these services for free to the prison community as well as the surrounding isolated villages.

There is a small clinic already built adjacent to the prison but it is not adequately staffed.



Ideally we would like to employ a Christian medical officer and nurse to lead this facility well, and also to aim to subsidise costs of essential medicines.

We will also address the need for chaplain services, counselling, sharing the gospel and encouraging small groups within the prison for bible study and discipleship.

The prison department is at this point in time very supportive of our initiative.



When we find ourselves living and working in close proximity to the poor the observations of Jesus in the gospels seem to take on new meaning and urgency:

“When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”

(Mathew 9: 36-38)

Thank you for praying, helping, encouraging and empowering us to do this ministry in Uganda.

God Bless

from

Andrew and Anne Wright

Australian Directors

Yotkom Uganda

www.yotkom.com