



On Prison, Woodworking and a New Mission Field

Jim Roszell, a ruling elder from Christ Presbyterian Church in Richmond, Ind. accompanied his pastor, Bob Clark, to All Nations College in Thika, Kenya.

A student named John is a local pastor who does services in the local prison. Jim and Bob went with John and Daniel Muindi (ANC Director) to the prison. Here, Roszell talks about his visit to the prison.

When you were invited to tour the prison, did it make you nervous?

No, not really. I had gotten to know John, and he wanted us to see the prison.

Describe walking in the door. What did you see and what was it like?

We had to get past a guard and a locked gate. We parked and got out. There were some prisoners walking around, and there were guards carrying guns behind them.

For the prisoners who weren't walking, the guards made them squat. There was a group of prisoners that were squatting when we got there.

Two hours later, when we left, they were still squatting. I guess that's how they control them.

The prison is totally self-sustained. They have a garden; they have cattle; there's a church within the compound. The guards live on the compound with their families. There's a child-care facility for the children of the guards.

What were the conditions like inside?

They were pretty primitive. John took us to a woodworking shop. The prisoners build furniture. There were no power tools. It was all hand tools—saws, drills, whatever else. But they were turning out some pretty nice-looking furniture. The government takes that furniture and sells it. Other prisoners work in the garden and with dairy, things like that.

What did you learn, while you were there?

One thing we asked pastor John was about recidivism. He told us that if a prisoner is released and continues in the lifestyle that brought him to prison initially, the police will hunt him down and shoot him. There's not a lot of recidivism.

What was your perception about their receptivity to the gospel?

John has a real ministry with the prisoners. One of the prisoners told John he was a Christian, but he was innocent. John prayed with him. He told the prisoner to pray every morning and every night, and that if he was truly innocent, God would get him out. That's what happened after a couple of months.

Daniel (Muindi), who heads up All Nations College, wants the men who come and teach at All Nations College to also teach at the prison.

Maybe the next time we go we'll be teaching not only at All Nations College but at the prison as well.



Free Books, and How We Plan to Send Them to Kiev

Free books.

Really?

Yes.

But we need donations anyway.

Willem VanGemeran, renowned and retired professor and author, has donated many of the books in his library to the Evangelical Reformed Seminary of Ukraine (ERSU) in Kiev.

VanGemeran plans to send this library to ERSU, which moved into a newly renovated building in Kiev in September.

VanGemeran will be sorting through his library to pick the best books, and ITEM will pay for the shipping. VanGemeran estimates that there will be more than 40 boxes of books to ship.

If you are a bibliophile and/or recognize the great value of this gift and the importance of sending the books to help train pastoral students in Kiev, please consider contributing toward ITEM's effort to get them there.

You may contribute by sending your gift to ITEM's address. (See address elsewhere on this page.) Mark it "**ERSU Library Fund.**"

Prayer Requests

1. Pray for Bill Wilton and Maurice Sikes as they teach Christ-centered preaching in Campina, Romania from Oct. 3-5. Wilton will continue on to Kiev, Ukraine to teach with Perry Tinklenberg at the Christ-centered Preaching Conference, Oct. 10-13.
2. Pray for Eugene Oldham and Bruce Brown as they teach Evangelism and Apologetics at All Nations College in Thika, Kenya, Oct. 11-18.
3. Pray for Daniel Muindi, director of All Nations College, as he and his family grieve the recent death of his father.
4. Pray for Will Hesterberg and Tom Smith as they travel to Grand Rapids, Holland, and Kalamazoo, Mich. Oct. 21-28 to present the work of ITEM and the many teaching opportunities to pastors, churches, and others.

ITEM Is on Social Media

Staying informed on what ITEM is doing around the world has become easier. ITEM has recently created its own pages on Facebook and Instagram.

We want our newsletter readers, prayer partners and contributors to follow us on social media. World-wide over 2 billion people use Facebook and over 1 billion use Instagram to share ideas, thoughts and information.

We want you to be better connected with ITEM and the people we serve in 13 locations in 9 countries around the world. So we are also asking our supporting churches to mention in their bulletins and/or newsletters that ITEM is on Facebook and on Instagram.

How to Contribute

In the U.S. send contributions to ITEM, PO Box 31456, St Louis, MO 63131 or at www.ITEM.org through PayPal.

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