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# THE LEVI FAMILY - SUDAN, AFRICA



UPDATE ON THE FAMILY AND OPERATION NEHEMIAH
BY WILLIAM OCHAN LEVI

**Upcoming Family Mission Trip**: We are now counting down the days to our departure on October 30th to spend three weeks in the field as a family for the first time. Our children are thrilled to be finally preparing for the **big adventure** and we are working out the many details that accompany an outing of this scope! Please pray for us as the date draws closer, that we will have wisdom, discernment, and above all, *peace*.

The Lord gives us a spiritual theme for each mission trip. This trip's theme is from Acts 18:11. Now the Lord spoke to Paul in the night by a vision, 'Do not be afraid, but speak, and do not keep silent; for I am with you, and no one will attack you to hurt you; for I have many people in this city'''. After Paul heard these words, he continued there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them''

#### Please Join with Us in Prayer for the Following:

- Against fear as Hannah and I are bringing all of our little ones for the first time, as we rely completely on God to fulfill His plan for us on this trip.
- That the 40ft relief container shipped in August will make it safely through Somalia waters and arrive in South Sudan.
- That we will succeed in finding ground water as we attempt to drill wells for the clinic and farmland.
- That the radio studio will be completed and the broadcast equipment installed.
- That many will come to faith in Jesus!

## OPERATION NEHEMIA — SOUTH SUDAN, AFRICA

#### **Relief Containers**

April: We praise God for the safe arrival on site of our 20 ft medical relief container carrying \$20 million in supplies that left the USA back in February, along with \$20,000 worth of solar equipment!



In the midst of all the challenges that we have faced in Uganda and custom clearance, **the container has safely arrived** in Borongole and off -loaded into the ware house by our field director Joseph Levi. Thousands of South Sudanese are benefiting from it.

**October:** God has worked through the local Body of Christ here at



our home base to fill up a 40ft sea- rail container with over \$200,000 worth of materials bound for New Sudan. This

outpouring of love and generosity has been astounding, and a precious reminder of what it means to be a part of the family of God. Most who contributed their goods to this effort have never been to the Sudan, but their faith and love will help tremendously in the fight to transform an entire culture for Christ.

On Friday, August 28<sup>th</sup>, we witnessed the departure of the container from the Port of Boston en route to the South Sudan. It was on this *same* date 21 years ago that I arrived in the USA from the Sudan with virtually nothing in my hands, a refugee in exile. I had no family, friends or ministry. Since that day God has truly



been with me each step of the way. He has not only sustained and kept me alive; He has provided me with a family, a ministry, and has planted me among the broader family of God across the country. Joy filled my heart as I watched the loaded container be shipped off as a gift of love to my homeland from the Body of Christ here in America. Together, we have become a part of a ministry greater than ourselves. God marvelously has provided every piece of equipment needed, and every tool for which we have prayed.

### OPERATION NEHEMIA — SOUTH SUDAN, AFRICA

### **Agriculture: Growing Food**

Okang Wilson Ezekiel, our agricultural director in the South Sudan, has taken the lead in transforming hundreds of acres of wilderness into a lush farm in Beth Israel Ako, my childhood home. Okang has planted 40 acres thus far with fruit trees and a great variety of nutrient dense crops. This is no small assignment, considering the amount of prep work involved, soaring temperatures, and only a small team of dedicated workers. His vision and success has inspired the surrounding community to get involved and stop relying on un-

predictable, sparse U.N. rations for their food supply. His leadership in developing this program demonstrates that, when we as God's children put our hearts and minds together, we **CAN** turn back the darkness, to the Glory of God.



#### **The Gospel and Church**

Pastor Michael Levi faithfully shepherds his growing flock day after day as senior Pastor of Congregation Beth Israel on the Nile. The people of New Sudan are turning to the Lord in large numbers and rely on the church for teaching, fellowship, material support, and biblical counseling. Pastor Levi ministers tirelessly among broken families and individuals, many of whom are suffering under bondage to alcoholism and other addictions.



### Solar-Powered Gospel Radio Station

Our coordinator of engineering and information technology, **David Firth** and our field director **Joseph Levi** have procured the completion of the Nehemiah Trumpet Call (7.3 FM) Broadcasting Gospel radio station in the South Sudan. The broadcast studio and fencing projects around the property have been completed. The wiring process to power the station with the solar panels is going to start very shortly.





### FROM R.K.'S CORNER

Fifteen years ago, Steve and I were introduced to a young Messianic believer from South Sudan, William Ochan Levi, as he visited us in our home in Florida. Relatively new to this country, he shared his testimony of God's protection and favor as he had fled his war-torn homeland and through many hardships ended up in the States. Here, he wanted to forget the past, study engineering, and enjoy the good America life ... but God had other plans for him!

As the war kept raging on in his country, and the Arab Muslim government in the North kept crushing the African Christian population in the South, the Lord spoke to William that He had called him to this country to be a mouthpiece on behalf of his suffering people. Finally, William yielded, and changed course. After he finished engineering school, he established his mission, *Operation Nehemiah*. Since then, he has been an articulate promoter and activist in helping raise awareness of the plea of his people, as well as providing South Sudan with spiritual and physical help. Over the years, we have watched William



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> LINKING GOD'S PEOPLE TO REACH THE UNREACHED

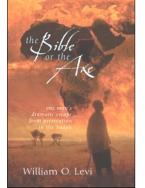
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experience a few knocks and bruises, however, he never lost sight of his call and vision to help rebuild the Sudan by establishing communities within his country built on the foundation of a Judeo-Christian world view, while sharing the Gospel with his people. In the early years, while most of the population was living in refugee camps in neighboring countries, and later, when they began repatriating their homeland, The Bridge, with our supporters, financed many of William's field projects: education of children and Bibleschool for adults, agricultural tools, microbusinesses, financial support of field workers, etc.

Now, almost two decades later, William's vision is coming into concrete fruition. God has blessed him with a lovely, supportive wife, Hannah, and a quiver of beautiful children. They reside in the States, from where William co-ordinates the activities of their ministry, which is building community of believers and supporting

the larger community in South Sudan by spiritual means and practical infrastructure. The report in last month's Bridge Report on the general state of the situation within South Sudan is a reminder that the task ahead is insurmountable - but for the grace of God!

By first-hand experience William deeply under-



By first-hand experience, William deeply understands the clashing of civilizations between the Christian faith and Islam, not only abroad, but also within the United States. His autobiography, <u>The Bible or the Ax</u>, is available on **Amazon.com**. If you want to financially support William and Operation Nehemiah's ministry in South Sudan, please memo your gift 8370 South Sudan Workers—Levi.

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