

Subject: Sunday the 28th update
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Thanks again for your continued prayers.

This morning at the church at Kiyoola, Thomas DeMoss shared his testimony of having made a profession of faith as a child but not truly knowing God at the time. It was truly God coordinating things because I had never heard his testimony, but had chosen to speak from Jeremiah 9:24 about boasting in knowing God. You could not have planned for a more fitting testimony to lead into the sermon. In the message, I spoke of knowing about God, but not truly knowing Him and then knowing Him intimately in a growing relationship. This was not what I had originally planned to speak on, but simply didn't have the time to adequately prepare to preach from the next section of I John 2. So God it is fun to see God use us even in our limitation.

To be candid in reporting, I thought my Sunday School lesson went over the heads of most of the people. Hopefully something from God's word will make an impact in spite of the presentation - a lesson hopefully learned by me for the future.

Thanks for praying about coordinating bringing patients from the church for surgery. I had sent ahead a list of name from charts I had reviewed in October for patient who either needed second eye surgery or who didn't have the surgery they needed in October. Amazingly it worked rather smoothly. A few people had unrelated needs - most of which we could help, and a few people didn't show up. All in all it went better than I would have expected.

I saw Luke, one of the local pastor's sons in whom I repaired a cornea laceration last week. He will not have good vision until we remove a cornea suture, but he has almost cleared the high risk time for developing an infection which has been my greatest concern.

Miriam, Baker and Kosea, the Mengo hospital staff I mentioned earlier, came to the guest house and were a great help in examining patients and preparing them for surgery. We were able prepare 13 patients for surgery, have to send one for medical treatment of uncontrolled hypertension, and had to tell 2 that there was nothing that could be done due to having end stage glaucoma or macular degeneration. We worked from 5 pm until 10 pm when I decided it was best for everyone to get some rest. The good news is that we will not have access until the operating room until noon tomorrow so we can all sleep in. Miriam and Baker will return at 10 am. Bob Hayes will be here as our chaplain during the day visiting with and praying for/with the patients. He did an excellent job of this in October. Pray that he is empowered by the Holy Spirit in this task tomorrow. Pray for me to have good skills and judgement in surgery. Last week, I was mostly facilitating and teaching. This week I get to do a lot of surgery.

Bob Hayes was quite crafty with putting together patients photographs along with their biometry and patient numbers that he emailed to me so that we will be able to use my Ipad as a source of the chart for surgery. We will have paper back-up just in case, but it is pretty cool to be able to have a form of electronic records in Uganda that is probably better than the paper charts.

Unfortunately, you may not get this until a day late due to loss of electricity and internet service.

Thanks for sharing in the work,

J.D.