

Kirui Kronicle



Celebration Edition—July 2007

Dear Friends & Family,

Greetings to you and yours in the precious and powerful name of Jesus!

What a momentous day it was to receive my visa! In fact I am still celebrating this great answer to prayer. The visa arrived by certified mail on July 12, 2007. Thanks for your prayers and support. This visa opens many doors for me.

With my visa, I enjoy a number of benefits. For instance, I can:

- ◆ Participate in full-time study in the U.S., and
- ◆ Travel freely in and out of the United States.

Due to the delay in obtaining the visa, my online leadership studies at Regent University have been deferred to May 2008. Thus, I have a window of opportunity for raising my ministry budget including school fees, personal living expenses, and ministry startup expenses in Kenya. God works in mysterious ways.

When I meet a Kenyan in the United States, it's like meeting my own flesh and blood. The weekend of June 1-3 was a great time of reunion with nearly 40 Kenyans and friends (see photo – I am at the top of the stairs) at Asbury College in Wilmore, Kentucky. Most of them are either studying or working here in the United States. We represented Mississippi, Illinois, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Texas, Kentucky and Oklahoma, and we had a memorable time of fellowship and encouragement. I was especially happy to meet a number of them who were in the youth groups of the churches I served as Pastor in Kenya!

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Here are some highlights of the ministry opportunities I had in June & July:

1. **June 28-30.** I had a one-on-one training session in Dallas, Texas with Mr. Dave Dawson, the Executive Director of *Equipping the Saints* (ETS). I wanted to go over the discipleship materials he developed in Singapore while he served as a missionary there for 12 years. ETS is now in 61 countries of the world. Most recently, Mr. Dawson trained some pastoral leaders in Kenya and Cameroon. In fact his material is being printed by the Baptist Media in Nairobi. I wanted to explore the possibility of using his discipleship program in my equipping ministry in Kenya and the rest of Africa. We studied one of eight books, and he sent me home with the rest. Over the next month, I will be reading and evaluating their relevance for ministry in Africa. I will then meet with Mr. Dawson in September to discuss the way forward.

2. **July 8, 2007.** I filled in the pulpit for Pastor Kirk. What a blessing it was to exercise my spiritual gift of pastor-teacher as I brought a message on *Developing Faithful Leaders to Influence a New Generation* at ALL NATIONS CHURCH in Oklahoma City (OKC). My cheering team comprised seven individuals from Heritage Church, one friend from NW Baptist and two Kenyans who live and work in OKC. I praise the Lord for His anointing and the freedom He gave me in preaching His Word. It's my hope and prayer that those who come behind us will find us faithful in raising up others to carry on God's work.

"Pass on what you heard from me—the whole congregation saying Amen! — to reliable leaders who are competent to teach others."— 2 Timothy 2:2, according to THE MESSAGE by Eugene H. Peterson.

One of my **great joys** that comes with the granting of my visa is that I get to be home for Christmas to visit my family in Eldoret, Kenya. God willing, I will be there after Thanksgiving for five weeks, from late November through December 27th or so. I am looking forward to worship services and ministry opportunities in my homeland. Anyone interested in scheduling please contact me ASAP.

There are two other associated possibilities that may accompany this trip. I am hoping that a young couple from Heritage Church would join me in Kenya for about a week. They sense God's call to be involved in full-time mission work, and they would like to test the waters in Kenya. Additionally, there is a possibility that I will be able to stop over in the UK to visit some dear friends for a few days on my way back to the U.S. **Please pray that the Lord will provide for our tickets, and that the young couple will get their passports soon.** If you are interested in hearing more about this trip, please contact me.

In closing, **please commit the planning of a "visa party" to prayer.** We hope to invite some friends to come and hear some personal testimonies of the Lord's goodness. If you would like to receive more details on how to give a tax-deductible gift toward some ministry opportunities, please drop me a line on e-mail today.

In His exciting steps & service,
☺**Sam**

"Spiritual leadership requires superior spiritual power, which never be generated by self. There's no such thing as a self-made spiritual leader. A true leader influences others spiritually because the Spirit works in and through him..."— J. Oswald Sanders

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