



Distributing Bibles to the Oromo People in Ethiopia

Dear Pat,

Now it's 6:05am Monday (7/29). It's the rainy season in Ethiopia. Yesterday was more full than I expected. We left the capital at 9am, returned at 11:30pm. Traveled about 500 miles, my translator drove about 9 hrs. Stopped at 6 churches; distributed Bibles at 5 of them. Drove by about 7 bad crash sites, mostly at night. Our lives were spared in one potential accident about to happen. Gaping potholes, tens of speed bumps, dark country roads made the journey a season of prayer.

But the people who received Bibles were the highlight of the journey. Amazing. Every time there were Clapping hands. Tears at receiving the Bibles. They said "seeing you" was the best part because we know now that people in America who gave the Bibles love us, and we know that God loves us.

I remembered the words of Paul how he "longed to see their faces" in Rome or Ephesus or Corinth.





At the first church stop, in a very radical community, I said to my friend, “pls tell me about this town.” He said, “just 6 yrs ago, in this Fully M dominated area, persecution took place daily. 6 yrs ago it was a crime to be a Christian. They were killed brutally, if found. Sometimes the frenzy is so high that the attackers took guts and body out and gave it to animals or threw away in trash.” I looked up and could easily see a mosque about 100 yards away.



Now about 200 meet weekly to worship. They were so happy beyond my expectations. One of the leaders walked to me; we embraced. He buried his face in my shoulder and kept repeating: “Thank You, Thank you, Thank you. So happy to see you here with our people.”

Yes, that's what the Gospel is all about. Thank You, Pat, for making this possible.

For His sake,
John

