

## **Baird Journal #6 -- Bob's Eyes Are Healing! Praise Be To God Most High!**

For those new to our email list, here's the history: Bob has Mybomianitis, which is an infection in the very tiny glands that surround his eyes. Some of these mybomian glands have now atrophied, but many of them have simply quit working. Some were cleaned out through the Intensive Pulsed Light Treatments, and other treatments he received, but they still put out only a very little of the oil they should produce in order to sustain the tears his eyes make.

We have now been in Congo for 4 months and since that time the condition of Bob's eyes has worsened. He has been able to preach almost every Sunday by squinting and struggling through hours of sermon preparation. Then, when he preaches, his eyes stay open with almost no problems at all! Praise God! There is nothing wrong with Bob's vision (he does wear glasses); it is that his eyes want to close because they are so dried out and because it is the body's way to try to suck oil out of those dysfunctional glands.

A few weeks after moving to Bukavu, we became pro-active in seeking prayer by Congolese Christians. We had heard about the powerful prayer warriors living in an area called Chanampanzi and we have been friends for years with the preacher there whose name is Bagalwa. Bob called Bagalwa after our family had prayed and decided together to ask the Chanampanzi prayer warriors to pray specifically for Bob's eyes, but to leave the how, when and where completely up to their digression. Between them and us, we tried three different times to come together for prayer, and on the 3<sup>rd</sup> try, we finally succeeded.

**This is what took place on Monday, July 18<sup>th</sup>.** The Praying Christians from Chanampanzi met together in their Prayer Chapel at 3am (see pictures – on top of a high hill above the village of Chanampanzi) and then climbed two hours to the top of a mountain to pray very specifically for Bob, for other sick Christians, for the Church at Chanampanzi, for South Kivu – where Bukavu is also located – and for the country of DR Congo. After two hours of prayer they climbed back down the mountain to the prayer chapel where they had a worship service and where Bob, Elizabeth and I and Ed and Brenda, met them for a further service of prayer. Much happened before they actually prayed for Bob, but finally, they had him kneel in the middle of the room and as many as possible laid hands on him and they all prayed at once, as is often their custom. They prayed only for a few minutes and were finished. After they finished praying, Bagalwa opened a small notebook in which he had written down what the Prayers believed God had communicated to them throughout their prayer sessions. It goes as follows:

**Part I.** *The illness will leave very slowly and in God's time. And out of this illness God will teach you (Bob) many things. And the illness will bring glory to God.*

**Part II.** *Your (Bob's) work is revealed to be here in South Kivu*

After waiting so long for any response from God, the five of us met this proclamation with quiet gratitude. Our appreciation and gratefulness was and is deep and solemn. But the picture to be seen after the service – Bob jumping up and down shouting huge praises to God with the rest of us laughing and clapping with joy! To All of **YOU** who prayed for this coming healing, please shout for joy and clap with us!

For the Lion of Judah, *Bob, Dawn and Elizabeth*



Bagalawa, Preacher at Chanampanzi Christian Church.



The Mountain Top where Answers were Given.



Elizabeth and Brenda Outside the Prayer Chapel with Ladies from the Worship Service.