



PEACE & RECONCILIATION MINISTRIES IN AFRICA



Dickson & Jennifer Ogwang

A member of the marginalized Lango tribe of northern Uganda, Dickson Ogwang grew up in extreme poverty. During his childhood, he narrowly survived attacks by Idi Amin's forces, and later by the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), in which many others died or were abducted. While a military policeman, his integrity in a corruption case resulted in a contract on his life by a politician against whom he testified. His response was to confront, forgive and be reconciled to that person – who is now his friend!

As a leader in military ministry, Dickson graduated at the top of his legal courses while serving on active duty. The government therefore sent him to law school. As a public prosecutor, he established himself as an attorney who finds ways to settle cases restoratively. Until his recent run for Parliament, he was responsible for the quality assurance of the national Directorate of Public Prosecutions with a sterling reputation for pursuing peace and reconciliation. He is also an elder who oversees a number of evangelical congregations.

Dickson met CMP President, Craig Conrad, at the 2004 Association of Military Christian Fellowships (AMCF) World Conference in South Korea. The result was Craig's 2005 trip to Uganda and Rwanda for fact-finding, exploration, and participation in peacemaking and reconciliation events with religious, military and government leaders. In 2006, Dickson enrolled in and completed the Peacemaker Ministries' *Reconciler Self-Study Course*, visited the USA to complete their *Reconciler Practicum* and begin their process of certification. We were thrilled to be with him in 2010 when he received his credentials as a Certified Christian Conciliator. He has also since 2006 been appointed a staff member of the Association for Christian Conferences, Teaching and Service (ACCTS), served as a director of the Peace in the Land project for Advocates International, is a regional leader for the Christian Legal Society, a mentor for the Blackstone Institute, and hosted numerous missions trips and events for all those agencies as well as Peacemaker Ministries.

We are pleased to partner with him as he establishes our Africa Directorate as well as his indigenous *Peace and Reconciliation Ministries in Africa (PRMA)*. In addition to conducting actual mediations and training others in the skills of biblical conflict resolution, he will be working to establish a network of conciliators/peacemakers throughout Africa, beginning with Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and Democratic Republic of the Congo. He and his PRMA colleagues are especially busy training mediators and mediating violent land disputes in northern Uganda as after more than 20 years in Internally Displaced Persons (UDP) camps, people are returning to reclaim their family and tribal lands. They are also working to reconcile repentant and returning LRA rebels with the communities they had formerly terrorized.

Dickson and his family will much appreciate your prayer and support as he has definitely taken on a God-sized task. He is shown here with wife Jennifer on the left, daughters Faith and Daphne in the center and right, and son David in the foreground. Please remember them and all their PRMA colleagues as you pray. Their work is extremely difficult and very challenging. You can provide financial support by sending checks payable to "CMP" and designated to Africa to our Greeley Post Office box. You can also give via the designated PayPal button on our website or by direct deposits if you give us a call to make those arrangements.

