

## Change for Burundi

There has been strife in Burundi. Tribal tensions, genocide, and civil war have plagued the small country for decades. Death and drought has taken a toll on the people of the land, and right now, it is one of the poorest countries in the world. Burundi has been striving for political and economic change since restructuring the constitution and political offices in 2005; however, with 93.5% of the population living below the global poverty line, it's clear that socioeconomic progress is coming slowly.

We pray together with the Christians of Burundi for the continual growth and healing of this nation. And the good news is this: He is making all things new. Jesus said to His followers, "The Kingdom of God is within you." And we know that God's kingdom *within us* is changing the world *around us* to be a place that reflects His glory in even greater ways. It is incredibly exciting to see how God is working through Soles For Jesus and our partners in Burundi to bring about His desired restoration. As you read the quotes below, I invite you to see how God is affecting the hearts and perspective of leaders in Burundi through SFJ shoe distributions, honest leadership, and the life-changing message of Jesus.

### Burundi Revenue Authority

*Shoe distribution, Burundi*

Today we have come to officially oversee the distribution, and we are whole heartedly comfortable to say Rev. Evariste is different from other church workers and ministers. We are very glad that he has given you people of Rutunga these gifts from America. May all Americans who gave the shoes know that we have seen Rev. Evariste and his team freely giving these shoes. All the people here must clap for this openness! Come again in our office with tax exemption requests. **We will help you get charitable donations into the country because you are faithful.**

### Rutunga District Leader

*Shoe distribution, Burundi*

I am 61 years old and have been serving God the last 45 years but, until now, I have never seen these kinds of blessings. **Praise God we are here to see the hand of God at work today.** Thank you for the shoes.

### Government Administrator

*Shoe distribution, Burundi*

We thank God for Rev. Evariste, who was able to find an organization called Soles for Jesus that gave him these shoes freely. **Let us clap for God, the big donor!** For some, it is your first time possessing a pair of shoes. For others, you've had no shoes for the last fifteen years, because the civil war was very intense and very bad. **Please use these shoes for the glory of God, and serve Him** as you serve your nation and community.

### District Police Officer

*Shoe distribution, Burundi*

I have served in this nation for the last 25 years as a police officer. I have seen many church workers stealing from the organizations and churches. Today, I am cautioned to change my mind. **I have seen a true servant of the ministry and the nation, doing what is right.** This is good.

