

Robert C Blaschke – Short Bio

Robert Carvel Blaschke (Bob) was born May 3, 1928, in Elizabeth, NJ. Through the teaching of his mom, he gave his heart to Christ at ten years of age. A passionate athlete, he excelled in football and baseball during his time at Wheaton College. After graduating as part of the great 1949 missionary class at Wheaton, he completed graduate studies at Gordon Conwell Seminary. Bob became a missionary serving with Sudan Interior Mission (SIM) in Dahomey (now Benin), West Africa. He lived with a remote tribe at the request of the area premier, Chief Omar Kismisa, of the Boko people. He learned their language, helped create an alphabet, taught them to read their own language, began translating the Bible and developed a unique church leader discipleship and training approach.



During his first home furlough in 1959, he met and married Carol Lee Stoker, a nurse whose medical care saved many lives among the Boko. Together with co-worker Ross Jones, they saw a significant growth in the Boko Christian community. Currently, 10% of the Boko people are Christians with a fully translated Bible, worshipping in over 40 churches. Bob also served in various leadership roles within the mission.

While on furlough, in 1981 at LeTourneau University in Texas, Bob and Carol Lee saw the need for the care of adult MKs (Missionary Kids) in transition from overseas to the USA as they started their college education. They opened and developed the MK and Family Care Department at SIM headquarters. In 1983 Bob was honored to receive the Wheaton College Distinguished Service Award and was inducted into the Athletic Hall of Honor.



Carol Lee passed in 2001. Upon her passing, the then Boko church president referred to her as “The mother of the Boko Jesus people”.

Bob continued ministry work and later married Betty Erickson (Stam), also a Wheaton grad. They lived in PA and enjoyed a wonderful friendship for almost 12 years before she passed

In 2021, Bob moved to the Villages of Summerville, SC to be closer to family. There he was well taken care by a wonderful staff that loved him for his humor, kindness, and faith.



Dispensary

Starting his missionary ministry in the villages of West Africa, he ended his Kingdom work in the Village of Summerville. He was a humble, simple, ordinary man living with the normal challenges of life, who obeyed God’s calling and in faith walked with Jesus the path set before him. His favorite verse was I Corinthians 15:58.

At the age of 97, Bob passed away on December 30, 2025, leaving a legacy of faithful service to the Lord and loving others. He leaves behind 5 children, 20 grandkids, and 14 great grandkids. He is reunited with Carol Lee, family, and friends from Africa and beyond who have gone before. He will be remembered as a humble servant of God who faithfully followed His call and heard the words upon entrance into heaven, “Well done, good and faithful servant”.



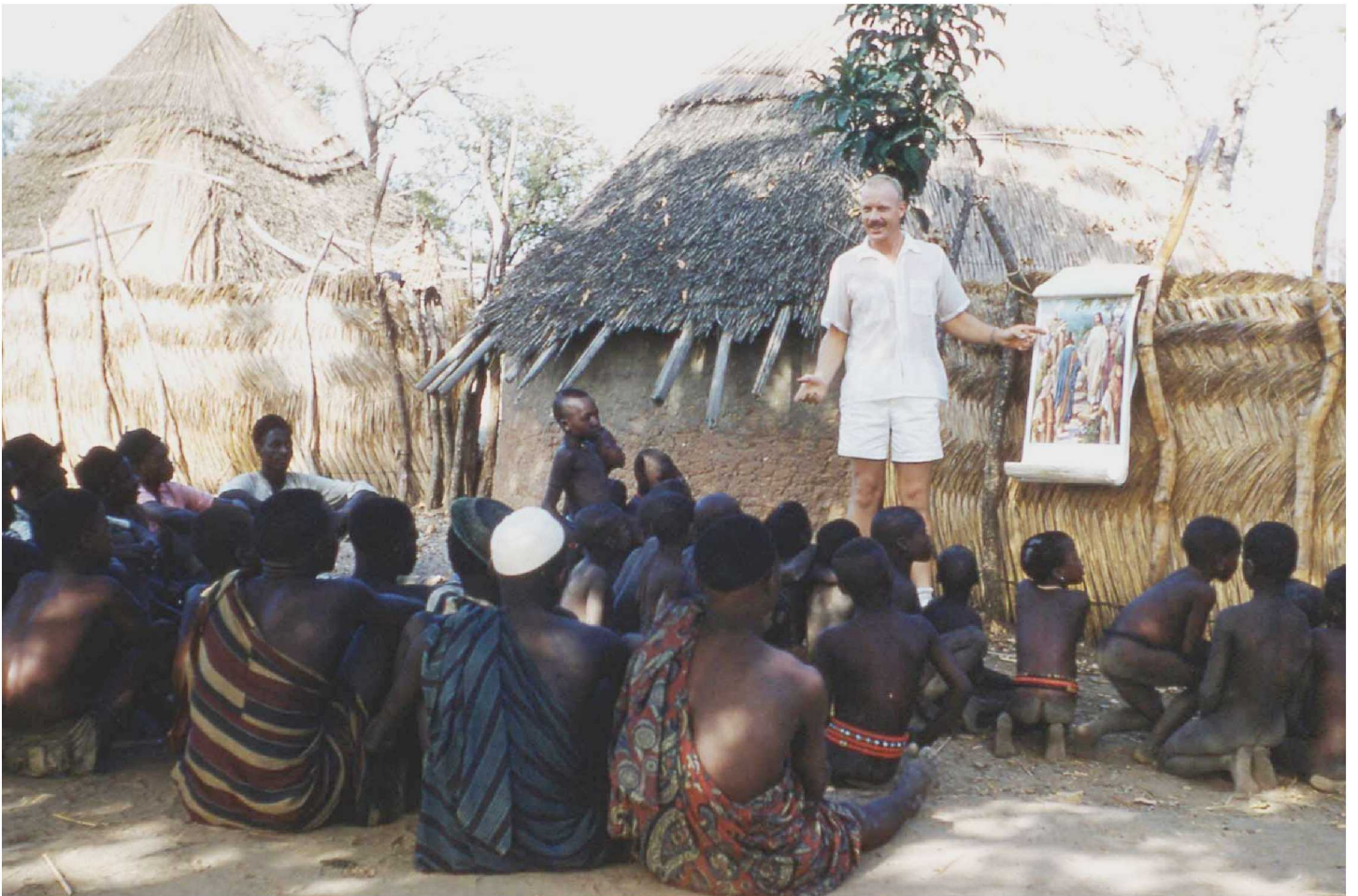
Chief Omar Kismisa



Bob and Carol Lee



Baptism in a hole dug in a bed of a small stream



Early Days