



78 ❖ A rich man in the Lord's service

Macaire Kilambo was born into a Mennonite family in 1961. From childhood he was a compliant boy, devoted to his parents and respectful. They passed on to him a good education and good moral conduct. He was baptized in the Mennonite Church of Congo (CMCo) in Gungu in 1987.

After studying in Mennonite primary and secondary schools, he gained a state diploma at the technical institute of agriculture and veterinary studies in Gungu. He married Wivine, and they have one child so far.

Macaire Kilambo is a successful merchant, but he has arrived at his current level of commerce with struggle and difficulty. He began by traveling long distances on foot from his native village to Tshikapa, carrying goods—hot peppers and other produce—on his head to sell at his destination. Through these sales he had God's blessing in obtaining capital, which encouraged him to abandon the sale of produce and turn to selling cattle. Currently he is the head of the KKM business based in Kikwit.

Macaire Kilambo does not fail to thank God for blessing him. The Bible tells us that everything comes from God. If you share your joy with others, the Eternal will bless you even more. This is the typical example of the one who abandons himself to the hands of God. In fact, as Kilambo says, "wealth must not separate us from God or his works. Rather we must recognize that whatever comes from the

photo—Macaire Kilambo with his wife Wivine Kilambo

hands of Christ no one can take away, and the Lord will see that it lasts a long time.” Thus, he adds, “I am in service to people and I must continue to help people.”

At the denomination level he has worked as a delegate to all the large assemblies. He has reconciled pastors in conflict several times. He has brought peace throughout the church province of North Bandundu. Because of his contribution in the resolution of conflicts God has elevated him to the rank of universal ambassador of peace.

He confirms his new career of universal ambassador of peace in his deeds in the church and elsewhere. In the Lukolela congregation, where he worships, he built a large permanent building, bringing masons from Kinshasa to Kikwit and supporting them at his own expense. He has always made his resources available to the church. Kilambo has often helped delegates with transportation to get to the assemblies. Recently he put his large vehicle at the denomination’s disposal for transporting material from Kinshasa to Tshikapa for constructing the Centennial Guest House. He helps anyone who approaches him—those with physical disabilities, widows, and orphans.

Although he had obligations in Kinshasa at the time, Macaire Kilambo abandoned his work to be present at the ordination of his wife as deaconess. If any other needs arise in the entire CMCo, he is available to lend his aid, because his desire is to see the church grow. He and all his family dedicate themselves body and soul to the Lord’s service.

Jackson Beleji