

East Africa 2013

Nairobi, Juba & Bungoma

This year was amazing. An unprecedented budget, which I didn't have, was raised very late in the day. There were clear signs of God's calling for this particular mission. There were many boundaries and difficulties in setting this mission up and seeing it through. It became clear that this was not going to be easy but God opened doors time after time and 2013 will always be the year God took this ministry to a new level. Below is the report of a mission born in struggle, bathed in miracles and saw the realisation of a long standing vision to enter South Sudan.

Nairobi - A New Unity Among Believers

God had placed it on my heart to seek to develop and pray for connections in the cities where I went. My desire was that churches would come together. Without any direct influence from me this happened with the contact I have in Nairobi. He and his congregation have joined forces with other ministries for the promotion of the gospel in their part of the city. In 2008 I had given a prophetic word about this church having an influence beyond their numbers. In 2010 I visited the church again to find it had suffered a split and the remaining people were discouraged and demoralised. It seems that word lay in the ashes. Now I return to find the church growing again and working with others, taking new ground and doing things they could never do on their own. I had the blessing of sitting with 10 men who were leaders of their ministries who had covenanted together to see Jesus glorified and the gospel spread.

We had a joint outreach over three days which included an awesome outdoor event.

The celebration was amazing. I wish I could show you here.

We saw three people give their lives to Christ that night.

I had the chance to minister in two different churches and on both occasions the response to the word of God was emphatic. This set the tone for the whole mission.

The Vision

God showed me what this mission was going to be about. God has sent me to be a fire starter.

The word preached was going to ignite a fire which would be overwhelming. My time in East Africa being short there is a need for the fire to be carried and that is what I saw happening. As the word of God was being released people would run with it and spread it to others. I saw many fires being lit and spread through East Africa in the regions I would go. This was going to be a mission about a fire coming through the preaching and igniting congregations who would then take that burning word and spread it to others.

Juba - A Great Open Door

Problems, Problems! I stopped in Nairobi for a few days so I could get my visa for South Sudan.

There is too much to tell here but I finally surrendered this issue to God knowing that without a miracle I would not be going. Somehow they gave me the visa. God is doing something in my

life here. I am having to die to self. So much is going wrong yet when it comes to ministry so much is going right. Finally, after God laid this land on my heart in 2008, I am here {and I know why}. This place is a tinderbox for the gospel.

Y.L.A.N.K school

I preached at a school set up by a ministry for the poor and orphaned {which are the vast majority of children here. There are virtually no schools}. I had the chance to speak about God's heart to the fatherless and to share the gospel to 200 children crammed into a modestly sized wood and mud shack which is a classroom. After taking pains to clearly explain the gospel and what it means to commit to following Christ I asked for a show of hands for those prepared to commit their lives to follow Christ.

200 hands went up! This was amazing. 200 children were led in a prayer to repent of their sins, put their faith in Jesus and follow him. I had no idea how the ministers were going to look after the spiritual needs of so many children so I did the only thing I could to help them along. I invited those who were willing to pray for the baptism of the Holy Spirit {and they were all willing}. I only wish I could have spent more time here but what a fantastic day.



At this school in Juba, 200 children and youths, most of them orphans, hear about a heavenly father who loves them. They responded emphatically to the call to repent, believe the gospel and be filled with the Holy Spirit.

Gospel Harvest Church

Our first Sunday service was with the Gospel Harvest Church in an area of Juba called Jebel Ali. The church was packed and by the end of it they were greatly stirred in the word of God which they heard and three people received a miracle of healing.

Crusades in Jebel Ali

You simply cannot do very much here during the day. The temperature is regularly well above 40 degrees and all you can do is rest and try to stay out of the burning sun. The evenings are the time for outreach and we had a fantastic crusade series. People were saved. Others were miraculously healed by the power of Jesus. Numerous women brought their babies which were burning up with malarial fever {There are hardly any hospitals or medical facilities here for the two million people who make up this city.} On the final night we had testimonies of babies who were completely healed of malaria. The infant mortality rate here is sky high. Death is normal.

Malaria is just a tragic part of life but this week God showed his compassion and his power.

Those condemned to death have been blessed with life!

There is such an amazing openness to the word of God here. It was electric. People take it in, believe it and run with it. On the final night we prayed at the end for an encounter with the Holy Spirit and the worship and celebration that ensued would have lifted you off your feet if you were there. It was dark and people didn't want to go home. It was simply an absolutely wonderful time.



Preaching to a receptive audience in the open air crusade at Jebel Ali.
Next to me in the picture is an Arabic speaking interpreter called Lazarus.

Western Kenya - Spread the Fire

We had numerous fire starter meetings in small rural churches where the response to the word was fantastic. People in the churches are really taking it on board and we are hearing many testimonies of a fresh boldness among members of the congregations to take the word of the gospel to the people.

The main theme of this mission in terms of the preaching is "7 Things everybody needs to know about Jesus". Time and again we saw people stirred with the burden that 'people need to know this.' The fire has been kindled and people are taking it out to others.

I had an impromptu meeting with a good sized group of religious leaders I was introduced to and it was a pleasant surprise to see a stirring among them too in an area known for religiosity.

Before I came here God gave me a picture of speaking to a group of religious leaders and lighting a fire with which they would set the whole region ablaze. I didn't hold back. I got to the essence of the gospel and pressed the need to be born again and have a personal experience of God. You could see these people really catching the vision for this. It touched them personally and that is always the key first step to sharing it with others.

Praise God!

People are indeed catching the vision. In almost every place we went we invited anyone who was willing to come forward and share a testimony. Time and again we heard how this particular meeting was a life changing one and how the word of God has made an impact on their lives and changed the way they saw things. We heard again and again how people were greatly stirred and impassioned to spread the message to their neighbours. Something is stirring here in Western Kenya. God is doing something in the hearts of the people.

We set up an open air crusade at a road junction near a remote village and saw crowds begin to gather. God was moving on people's hearts and around 30 people gave their lives to Christ after a serious altar call which spelled out what it means to make this commitment {Easy believism' it is not. People are making serious commitments}.

There were regular opportunities to pray for the sick and possibly the most dramatic one presented itself in the village of Tulumba where a man who was blind in one eye came forward for prayer. His right eye had no discernable pupil and when I covered his good eye, held up my hand, and asked him to tell me how many fingers I was holding up he could not even see my hand in front of his face. After praying for him in the name of Jesus I repeated the actions and he rightly answered...5.

There was much singing, dancing and celebration in the church after that. His mother was overjoyed and the whole congregation was rejoicing. This wonderful healing touch of God was one of a number of miracles that day.

Another wonderful miracle occurred in the town of Kitale. I was due to preach two sessions and had just concluded the first and asked if anyone would like to share a testimony. A man stepped up whom I had assumed was part of the church. He explained that he used to be a Christian but had fallen away and pursued a lifestyle of pleasure and sin. Walking past the church he heard the preaching and decided to simply come in and sit down. As he listened he was deeply convicted by the Holy Spirit of his wasting his life on smoking, drunkenness and general worldliness. As he sat there he repented of his sin and recommitted his life to Jesus. It wasn't an overt 'You need to get saved' message. I don't think I specifically even mentioned smoking and drunkenness and I didn't put out a call for salvation in that first session but God knew him and drew him in. The man came forward to give glory to God for saving him. It is an amazing testimony of the power and grace of God to save and restore those who have drifted far from him.

We thank God for his grace, power and mercy over the course of this mission. I started out with an unprecedented budget of £2,700 {Money I did not have} and the costs were met right down to the last pound {only just}. There were so many financial miracles and answers to prayer just to make this mission possible and it was worth every penny. Everywhere we have gone people have testified to being deeply touched and stirred to spread the gospel. We have seen an estimated 23 adults give their lives to Christ and 230 children! We have heard and seen 27 healing miracles {and I'm quite sure there are others we do not know of}. We have seen obstacles and opposition and we have seen favour and blessing, both in copious amounts. All in all God was in the middle of it, God was glorified, the devil was sent packing and the kingdom of God advanced apace. This was everything I expected and so much more. We leave behind many people whose lives will never be the same again.