

THE GOSPEL MOVING FORWARD DESPITE OPPOSITION: SALVATION, FREEDOM, AND HEALING IN JESUS' NAME

JULY & AUGUST 2021

MINISTRY IN KYOMBO

This elderly woman was unable to walk without assistance, and was nearly blind and deaf. After our team prayed over her and shared God's love with her, some of her hearing returned. She was even able to walk home by herself. While we were praying with her, several people walking by observed what was happening and asked that we pray for them as well. Stomach pains, back aches and even a tooth that had been swollen and infected for 3 months were also healed in Jesus' name.



Our team also visited the local jail and shared the gospel with 17 prisoners awaiting their trials. (In Congo you are guilty until proven innocent, and it can often wait many months for a judge) All made a decision for Salvation. The warden also wanted to follow Jesus.



“NOW TO HIM WHO IS ABLE TO DO FAR MORE ABUNDANTLY THAT ALL WE ASK OR THINK, ACCORDING TO THE POWER AT WORK WITHIN US, TO HIM BE ALL THE GLORY...”

It is impossible to share all that has happened in the last few weeks: too many answers to prayer, too many testimonies, too many miracles. I'm genuinely overwhelmed by what God has done in and through our team... But I am confident that God will be faithful to finish what He has started and that this is just the beginning of revival in DRC.

32 people from 5 Nations: Congo, Zambia, America, South Africa, and Finland. Joined in unity for our first ever Expedition in Congo. Some arrived with years of experience working with Overland, and for others it was a completely new experience. It was not without some challenges along the way, but we saw many lives transformed by the power of God. Every corner of our house in Likasi was filled with tents and mattresses as the Zambian team of 16 arrived and we prepared to go to the villages. The team was incredibly flexible as we faced some logistical challenges of inconsistent electricity and water (which is a bit normal for our city).

We started in Mukumbi, which is the area I have been focusing on for the last 2 years. We got permission, in advance, from the chief and went through all the channels necessary to do ministry in that area with the team. After 24 hours on the ground, we were met with significant opposition, and asked to leave by the community leaders. I am unable to publicly share all the details now, as we do not want to offend the government officials involved.... but we are thankful for God's protection and the peace He gave to our hearts and minds during the chaos.

TEACHING IN THE CLINICS

During the last 2 months I have been able to teach 3 times at different clinics and hospitals - health care providers from more than 12 different clinics were included in the training.



Some have quite terrible statistics, and all the skills and principles presented were new. Others had a fairly good grasp on responding to these specific emergencies and were encouraged to review and receive some additional tools to help save lives.

I am so thankful to be able to freely share about the power of prayer and that God is our Healer. The clinics that I have followed up and visited are working under incredibly difficult circumstances: Understaffed, lacking basic equipment, the maternity wards have not been updated in years, and often there is no running water or electricity. I can see how people who have no knowledge of God's power would turn to witchcraft for healing and protection... because they have no confidence in their government funded clinics (and justifiably so).

Thank you again for each of you who generously gave toward these trainings. I am confident that many lives will be saved as we continue classes in the upcoming months.



During those brief hours on the ground, we shared the Good News and prayed for many who were sick. 3 Men who were at an informal bar surrendered their lives to Jesus. We prayed for a baby at the clinic, who was in respiratory distress, and within moments we saw her breathing calm and vital signs begin to improve. A older woman who had not walked without pain in more than 2 years, was able to walk without assistance or pain after we prayed with her. During a night meeting we had more than 20 people give their lives to Jesus. And the other smaller teams who did house to house evangelism had many testimonies as well.



As we were packing up to leave, I chatted with 2 of the nurses from the clinic I have gotten to know over the last several months. If they are not busy, they attend our Bible studies. They were shocked that we were being kicked out, and sad because they have seen first hand, the witchcraft and alcoholism which destroys their village. I was able to encourage them and remind them that the same power of God that raised Jesus from the dead lives in each Believer. It is not necessary to wait for the missionaries or pastors to pray over the sick, share the Gospel or cast out demons. We are trusting God that one day I will be able to return with our local team and continue ministry in that region. Please be praying over the believers of this community that they would rise up and walk in godly

confidence during our absence.

Our team responded in such a beautiful way: Prayer and worship commenced at our house, even as the Congo team leaders met with various government officials and new plans commenced. With 36 hours of all the drama, we were able to get meetings at 4 offices, in 2 cities, with 5 key leaders. When they heard what had happened the response was all the same: We cannot stop the work of God- you are free to continue ministry with our blessing. And they wrote down their phone numbers to contact them in the future if we ever faced any similar problems. One asked to join us someday because he also wants to be involved with Evangelism. The security commander of the entire region asked us to pray for him after our meeting (he was a Muslim, with several tattoos and wore necklaces and rings like a Hollywood mob boss from the early 90's). We praise God for reopening doors and giving us favor!

The team was able to do street evangelism in Likasi and had a soccer match (which ended in a penalty shoot-out!) for 2 days as we made plans for ministry the next week. They shared the Gospel and were able to pray with the other team.

Week 2: Although we have been working in Mpande for a long time, it was evident that God had even more prepared for us. We preached at 3 different churches on Sunday morning. I helped translate from English to French to Swahili. The church service lasted 4.5 hours as there was a lot of special music and dancing (videos on social media!) As the Gospel was presented, 90% of the church came forward for salvation. Then we started praying for those who were sick. More than 20 people manifested demons during this time- it was slightly chaotic, but we praise God for those who were delivered in Jesus' name.



The next evening we had a night meeting. Some of the local pastors were hesitant as it was cold and they thought the time was a bit late. But two pastors were confident that we should move forward, and the others conceded. Was it exhausting and a bit inconvenient? Absolutely. But God was calling people to himself. Once again, many people received salvation and another 15+ people manifested demons during the time of prayer. It was quite evident strongholds of the enemy were being broken during our time in this area. Please continue in prayer with us that the new believers will grow in their faith.

Each day our large team would break into smaller groups- some going out on motorcycles to the small surrounding villages, and others stayed within Mpande. We were thrilled that 3 pastors and a few others who have been attending our leadership meetings jumped in and came with us during ministry. They shared testimonies about how their faith was stretched and they were encouraged during this time. Some people were very welcoming and desperate for God to minister to them, others had quite hard hearts and even refused to let us pray or talk with them. We found people who had some crazy stories of pain and brokenness, and the Spirit of God brought encouragement and healing to their souls.



Vehicle Update: 90% of the funds needed for my 4x4 vehicle are in! Thanks for your generosity and prayers. If anyone is interested in giving towards the remaining amount, please message me for details.

We rejoice in all that God has done, and are looking forward to following up with the new believers. Thank you for your prayers and partnership with the Gospel! Because of Christ - Julie Engeman