

## **Kenya Mission 2018**

8/19/18

This trip to Africa was different from previous trips. We have become accustomed to watching God heal and deliver people in Africa through our hands, i.e., by we in the ministry team praying for them. That happened some on this trip, too, but most of the people that we saw God touch on this trip, received their healing and deliverance at the hands of lay-people around them. We saw just as many healings and miracles this trip as we normally do, but most of those miracles happened at the hands of ordinary believers, not we world-traveling American ministers.

We were in Kenya for 8 days and averaged three ministry events per day – it was a very busy schedule, and we saw God do many wonderful things for many people. But at most of the ministry events, especially in churches, the Lord led Cn Dan to teach from Mark 16:17-18, Luke 9:1-2, 6, and Luke 10:1,9. In the Luke passages, we see Jesus delegating his authority to heal and deliver to the apostles and the disciples and then sending them out to do just that. In Mark 16, in some of the last words that Jesus spoke to his disciples while physically on this earth, Jesus literally commanded all believers to, in His name, “lay hands on the sick and see them recover,” and “cast out demons.”

The message we taught based on these scriptures was that every believer in Jesus as Messiah has not only been called but has been commanded to allow the Holy Spirit to operate through them to show God’s love to lost and broken humanity by healing, delivering, and performing other “signs and wonders.” We do not heal or cast out demons ourselves, but through the delegated power of the Name of Jesus, the Holy Spirit actually moves through us to do these miracles. God loves to heal and deliver people and He chooses to do it through our hands.

So, at each church service, this was the message. And God had an interesting way of demonstrating this concept to each congregation. After teaching the scriptures, Cn Dan would call out one specific malady for that congregation: chronic headache, depression, anxiety, racing thoughts, chronic knee pain, etc. He would then ask those with this condition to either stand or come up front. Then he would invite two or three lay-people, not clergy or elders, to gather around those needing healing and lay their hands on them. Cn Dan would then demonstrate to them a simple prayer of commandment in the Name of Jesus and ask the lay people to pray a short pray over the sick folks. After about 30 seconds or a minute of prayer, Cn Dan would ask if anyone being prayed for felt anything while we prayed or could tell a difference in their condition. Invariably, at least two or three people would declare that they were completely healed or at least better. For those who were not completely healed, those around them would pray another short prayer. We would again ask if they felt anything or noticed any improvement. And again, invariably, at least two or three people would declare that they were completely healed or at least better. We would repeat that process for another cycle or two of prayer until everyone who had come up for prayer was either completely healed or better. Although it was unusual, occasionally one or two of the people needing prayer would see no change.



Then, encouraged by what they had just seen, others would come forward for prayer for various other conditions while other lay-people would volunteer to pray. In some churches, nearly everyone in the church was prayed for and was healed while nearly everyone in the church got a chance to pray for someone who was healed at their hands. Afterwards, we would ask for a show of hands of those who had for the first time in their life prayed for a sick person who was

healed by God. It was fun to watch the reactions as many did not just raise their hands but waved their hands over their heads and jumped for joy.

One of the other interesting aspects of this trip was the number of times that one team member would have a prophetic word for the church that was confirmed either by another team member or someone at the church. For example, when we ministered in the church in Kibera, Hannah gave a prophetic word that the streets of Kibera would be flooded by the Holy Spirit and the source of this flooding was this church. What Hannah did not know was that a few days before she arrived in Kenya, one of the other team members had preached in that church a message about how the Holy Spirit wanted to overflow from this church and flood the streets of Kibera.



Another example of this kind of confirmed prophetic word happened at Word of Faith Church in Kiambu. When Cn Dan walked into the church on Sunday morning, the Lord spoke to him the Scripture from I Cor 2:9-10 which talks about God doing things that are so amazing and so miraculous that they are hard to even imagine. The Lord told him, that that is what He wants to do with this church, demonstrate his love to the people in the area with miracles that up to now have been unheard of. Before Cn Dan began to teach in that service, the senior pastor, Bishop Thomas, quoted that scripture to the people and encouraged them to believe for even greater miracles than they have seen up to now. So, when Cn Dan began to teach, he shared the word that he had received earlier and explained how it had been confirmed by Bishop Thomas.

On these trips, it is always fun to watch the "coincidences" begin to build up. For example, we were invited to minister at a noon service in a church in Kiambu on Monday. Right before that service, Cn Dan realized that the Lord wanted him to teach a message on "Who condemns us?" It is not God, but the devil who condemns us. "Coincidentally," a couple of days before this service, a man who lives about an hour and a half away was invited to this service. That morning, before making the trek to the church service, this man was asking the Lord to help him with feelings guilt and shame. He had prayed for forgiveness but had never felt forgiven or free from guilt - he was under a cloud of condemnation all the time. The message that morning opened his eyes to see that when we pray and are forgiven, then we are made innocent. After the service, the team prayed for this man and he was completely set free from guilt, shame, and condemnation. He was smiling from ear to ear afterwards and said that his spirits had really been lifted.

One of the fun things about returning to a location a year later is hearing all the testimonies of how God had healed, delivered, and answered specific prayers the year before. Some folks traveled considerable distances just to catch up with us and tell us about what God had done for them since our visit last year.

Although the ministry team spent most of their time guiding lay-people in how to pray for others, we did have opportunities to pray for individuals. As we thought back on these ministry opportunities, one of the things that stood out was how the Lord used "prophetic" gifts to touch people in a way that opened them up to even greater levels of healing and deliverance. An example of this was a lady who came to a home meeting with chronic pain in her left knee. She had never heard prophesy before and had never been prayed over for healing. As we began to pray for her knee, the Lord revealed to her some details about her childhood, early adult abuse, and how much He loved her. These prophetic words let her know that God knew her personally and was there to truly touch her in tangible ways - which He did in healing her knee. She came to a few other ministry events after that, and you could see in



her face how God had revolutionized her life. We saw her again on the day before we left, and she was excited to tell us that her knee “was still healed!”



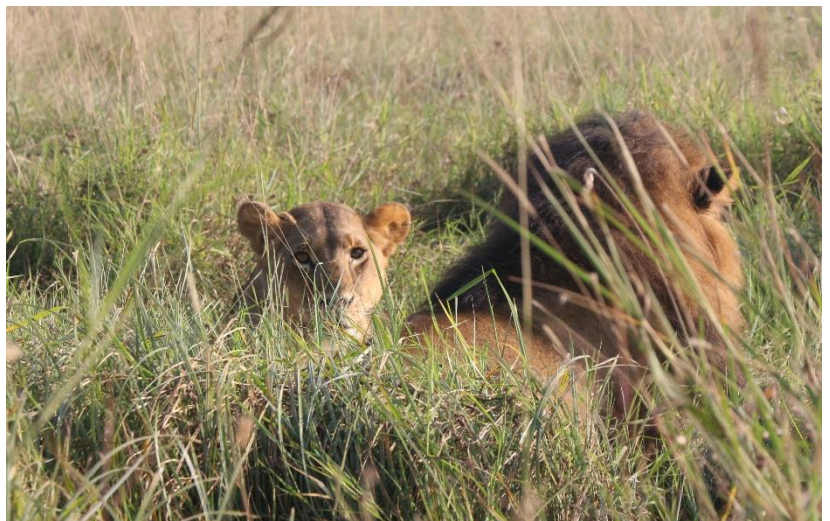
We did hold one open-air crusade in Kibera on the next to the last day in Kenya. This crusade was sponsored by the local CEC church, St Michael’s. The Rector, Fr Collins, and his parish worked so hard setting this up and had to work through so much spiritual warfare (Kibera is a very dark place, spiritually). But, God loves those folks in Kibera and broke through to bring salvation, healing, reconciliation, and deliverance to many. One story from the crusade involves a lady who was riding by on a boda-boda (a motorcycle taxi) when she heard Cn Dan say that God delights in healing people in the Kingdom of God. She got off of the boda-boda and came over for prayer for her knees and legs. She had been in chronic, deep pain for years and although she had spent all of her money on doctors, the condition just continued to worsen. After praying for her for a minute or two, she began to shout out, “Praise God, I’m healed. For the first time in years I am without pain. Oh, all that money I wasted on doctors...”

Before the crusade, we spent about 3 hours with the folks at St Michael’s teaching, answering questions, and ministering to those lovely people. God touched and healed almost everyone at that meeting. We think that God probably did more in that meeting at the parish that afternoon than he did later at the crusade. But, we loved doing both.

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As we have seen on other trips, many people were saved and baptized in the Holy Spirit on this trip, too. What a joy it was to watch people become empowered to serve God.

For Deborah and Dan, one of the greatest joys of this trip was being able bring with us our 18 year old granddaughter, Hannah. Hannah did not just do well, she thrived! She helped lay-people pray for healings, she prayed for individuals herself, she gave bold prophetic words to individuals and churches, and she was always enthusiastic about and engaged in anything and everything we did. She even loved haggling over price at the local market. We look forward to bringing Hannah on other trips with us.



We also hope to bring the other grandkids on a foreign mission trip sometime soon. This trip was not all work and no play. Friday was a day of sightseeing. Hannah and some others went to the National Park just outside Nairobi. We saw about 15 different species of animals (zebras, lions, baboons, impalas, giraffes, monkeys, water buffalo, etc.) and many species of birds. We even got to pet baby elephants in the elephant orphanage.