



GREETINGS FROM TEACHER IBRAHIM

I am very happy to write to you this mail because in the Christ we are one therefore we need to know each other in spiritual life and physical as well.

It is by the grace of God to communicate to you through mail but in spirit we communicate every day through prayer as the Bible commands us (praying without ceasing). Through your prayers the CLC Zambia is growing and many people are coming to learn the word of God after being reached by the gospel.

The following is the testimony which I faced last week when we reached one tribe in Zambia called Tonga Lea (Tonga) Most of this tribe lives out of developments and most of them are living in houses which are built with grass from foundation of the house up to the roof (But others are living in town and they are rich). Most of them don't know

things called good house, good food, good clothes, Television etc. We remember we were with evangelist Peter Mwerwa, the one who is working as a Timothy and with two brothers in that area. We approached some families but it was difficult because whatever we spoke needed to be translated. But we thank God for those two brothers to help us to translate (the people can't speak English well, especially the old people).

One family asked us this question "are you speaking words of Jesus, where is he? Can we welcome him to visit us? And if these words which you are speaking to us are true, where were you since we were young until today? They concluded by saying we were selfish for hiding these good news". These questions made us to sit down and start crying in the heart because many preachers in Zambia forget this area by the gospel. They like to preach in the town and like having nice cars.

We shared with them the word of God and having discussion for two days and we returned back to the place where we stayed to collect more power to visit them again for a seminar one week on this month or December this year(2011) . We can say that this people are really hungry for the word of God but few people sacrifice their lives to preach to them. This is because of the distance from the town. This tribe is living in Southern part of Zambia. You need to drive almost three to four hours from town.

Please keep this tribe in your prayer and our effort to reach them. Also we will need your help while we are arranging the seminar for them. I need to spend time with them and to plant a CLC congregation there.

May the Lord bless you as you share with others about this mail.

Thanks. From Zambia (Central Africa).

Pastor Ibrahim karioki

***'For a wide door for
effective work has
opened to me, and there
are many adversaries.'***

I Cor.. 16:9

ENCOUNTERS OF A SPIRITUAL KIND

THE THIRD PARTY-ACTS 13:5-12

This is what could be called a spiritual tug of war. With Paul on one end, Elymas on the other and Sergius in the middle. It is also confrontational. The confrontation though is not with Sergius, the object of the witnessing, but with the opponent Elymas. Here Paul must hurl the law at Elymas who is interfering with Sergius who "sought to hear the Word of God." In a way this reminds one of the Leipzig Debate where Luther was not so much trying to win over his opponent at the opposite podium as to influence those observing the debate.

Sergius was a man of intelligence who truly was interested in Paul and Barnabas' message. Elymas tried to turn the proconsul away from the faith. We of course do not have apostolic power to do as Paul did. But we do have the law to refute and condemn the modern day Elymas. There are those times when in a very small group of three or so we may have one individual who we are trying to witness to, but are hindered by someone else. Then it is that we must turn to that opponent and direct the Word on what he is saying.

I can remember discussions in college in small groups when I would have to refute a Mormon in the discussion to get through to another listening.

The beauty of this encounter of Paul and Sergius is that the proconsul did believe, "astonished at the teaching of the Lord." It was the Gospel that Paul then preached that won him over after the interference was eliminated.

IT IS NOT DEATH TO DIE IN THE LORD.

In the BELC - Pastor Anand Rao of the Chenna Dist. went to be with the Lord in Nov. He had joined us in '09.

In the NCLC - I have just learned that Pastor Antai's spirit returned home very recently. This brother was with us from the beginning of our work in Nigeria with Pastor Essien's group back over 30 years. He was a pharmacist and upon retiring attended our Bible Institute for five years and became pastor in Mbokpu Oduobo where he had started a congregation.

Both of these men whether with us for a long time or a short time we rejoice over, that we could work together for Him. Blessed(happy) are the dead who die in the Lord.

Pastor Koenig

The following is a report from Pastor Nolting on CLC work in Peru. Read with prayer of thanks.

Regarding the work in Peru. Daniel Pfeiffer (member of CLC Mankato, Mn.) is back in Lima until Thanksgiving. He will be working full-time in mission outreach and teaching. He had begun the instruction of about 20 adults before coming back last October. He has an additional ten or so that were interested in starting, so he should have about 30 adults in class. He will also be instructing the elementary students at Stella Maris School, owned and operated by Dimas Vivanco and his wife, Blanca. There were about 35 children last year and it looks like the enrollment may be up to about 45 this year. He will be instructing the students in Religion and English. I will be making a twelve day trip down to Lima in April. It is hoped that the weekly Bible Study of last year will be turned into a weekly worship service this year. Dimas would like to plan a conference for the summer of 2013, in which a number of people from the US would come to present various Biblical topics. I have talked to four or five people with some Spanish fluency to participate in such a conference, but we will have to wait and see whether the Lord permits it to develop and proceed.

JANUARY 2012 EAST AFRICA

VISITATION TRIP REPORT

"And they went out and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them" – Mark 16:20

In Badagari, Nigeria, a new church standing on the border between Benin and Nigeria welcomed me and pastors from three other countries. Some of these pastors came from churches with traditions and songs vastly diverse from our typical Lutheran heritage. Here traditions were shared while unity was preserved. As the words of F. Pieper reminded this group, "The unity of the church consists in its holding fast to the Word of Christ and its division consists in departing from that word." Unity was sought and maintained in truth while all other diversity was a source of joy.

In Ethiopia, Pastor Ohlmann and I had a short layover. We were there barely long enough to sleep and enjoy a fresh brewed cup of Ethiopian coffee.

The Democratic Republic of Congo is a land of extreme



CONFERENCE IN KITWE - ZAMBIA



MEMBERS IN KITWE - ZAMBIA

poverty and strife. In the north, dwindling remnants of their last bitter civil strife continue to flutter. How sad it is that this same trouble should have found a place within the church. Yet, despite our ugliest sins the Lord brings His life. Here where once we were hindered by familial fights the Lord sends out His servants. Muzukuza and the ELCC are reaching out through five districts and 31 called servants as far away as Kinshasa. Yumba and the CCLC are exploring new areas to the south, even crossing the border into Zambia. Here in Kitwe eight congregations eagerly desire instruction, asking as did the Ethiopian, "How can I [understand], unless someone guides me?"

Further south in Lusaka, Zambia, we are greatly encouraged to find that those whom we have trained are not content to receive and sit, but being filled with Christ are compelled to go and give. Ibrahim,

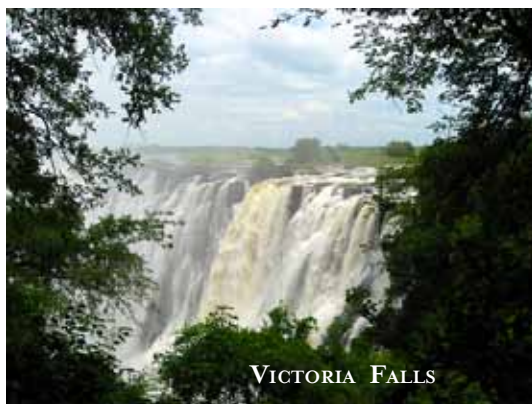
who has worked closely with Pastor Nathanael Mayhew in Tanzania, took the initiative and traveled to a distant and foreign land to bring the Gospel to these people. Far from home and family Ibrahim teaches a handful of prospective future pastors, wanders in destitute villages giving short devotions from house to house, and visits the sick at AIDS hospitals bringing those who mourn with sadness the comfort of release. ". . . and the poor have the gospel preached to them. "

Continuing south we stopped briefly at Mosi-oa-Tunya, that is, "the Smoke that Thunders" and saw the raw power of Victoria Falls where each second 100,000 cubic

feet of water pour over the cliff and send mist and spray 1,300 feet into the air. Yet, even this awesome sight cannot compare to the power encountered further south in Bulwayo, Zimbabwe. Here a group of 15 young men by the power of the Holy Spirit without Lutheran pastors or Bible schools recognized the truth of Scripture and reached out, seeking to learn and grow in that understanding. Although Pastor Todd Ohlmann and I only had two days to spend with these young men, Pastor Mark Gullerud has been corresponding with them for the last year with materials, guidance, and encouragement.

- Missionary Matthew Ude

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VICTORIA FALLS