

AECM EAST AFRICA MISSION 2001 REPORT

July 24 – August 17

Overview

East Africa officially consists of Kenya, Uganda, & Tanzania. The AECM currently has 17 apostolic networks in the region. According to their reports, they comprise 761 churches, 1,415 intercessors, 580 leaders in training, 5 Bible schools, and a church-planting goal of 579 over the next five years. The missionary journey began in Kampala, Uganda and ended in Nakuru, Kenya. Musoni Wilberforce, a new AECM partner from Rwanda (Central Africa), and David Matovu, an evangelist from Kampala, traveled with my son, Joseph, and me to form the AECM Int'l Ministry Team in the field. The mission involved ministry visits to three AECM apostolic networks in Uganda and two in Kenya. Two unscheduled visits were also completed in Kampala and Gayasa. In addition, two new churches were successfully planted in Idudi Town (Uganda) and Sambonjo Center (Kenya). The journey culminated with the AECM Leadership Training Conference in Nakuru on Aug. 9-12. The AECM Int'l Ministry Team for the Conference consisted of Alan Langstaff, Michael Gross, Francis Macharia, and Chungthang Thiek of Northeast India.

Highlights

Mt. Zion Church, Gayaza – This is the main church of the Resurrection & Power Network with Pastor Joel, a new contact from Amsterdam 2000. At this service there were 4 new converts and 2 deliverances from demon possession.

Victory Church, Kampala – This is David Matovu's home church and is a part of a network of over 300 Victory Center Churches throughout Uganda. 82 returned to the Lord at this evening service and 7 were also baptized with the Holy Spirit. Also, a woman with sores over her body was healed as the sores disappeared. In addition, a woman with a wound inside her stomach later described as a large cancerous tumor was healed as the tumor went away. David Matovu also pointed out the garbage dump where he had once lived as a "street boy" prior to God saving and calling him to preach the gospel. I could not have survived a day there.

Miracle Center Church, Iganga – This is the main church of the Apostolic and Prophetic Ministries Int'l; a network of around 10 churches in relationship with Bishop Francis Macharia our AECM Int'l Field Representative for East Africa. Pastor David Kjakulaga scheduled multiple services, a seminar, and a church plant during our stay. 12 were baptized with the Holy Spirit during the evening service. Over 70 including a number of pastors and leaders attended the seminar. Surprisingly there were 3 salvations after the seminar and one was a Muslim. On Sunday, the AECM Field Team was disbursed to three different churches. There were 3 salvations (1 Muslim) and 8 deliverances from demon possession as a result of the team ministry.

Miracle Center Church, Idudi Town – An unannounced open-air crusade was conducted to plant this new church in the center of a Muslim stronghold. 8 people came forward desiring salvation prior to the preaching and 35 (mostly Muslim young people) followed after. The next morning over 40 adults attended the first meeting of the new church including 3 headmasters of the local school.

Faith Church, Namaloko Village (Mbale) – This small village church is a part of the Association of Charismatic Churches of Uganda overseen by Patrick Okabe. The team spent two nights living in this isolated village attempting to encourage the local pastor and the very small village church located there. Although there were 3 teenagers who came to Jesus, we do not know how effective the team was here due to the confusion in the church's vision and that the planned ministry events did not materialize.

Pentecostal Outreach Fellowship, Bugiri – This is a network of 29 churches overseen by Kanito Tomas. Our first two days here were villages. At Masiriga village 7 Spirit and we also witnessed 6 the reeds of Lake Victoria. We a short time at Nawampanda Bugiri before nightfall. At conducted a seminar at the first teaching session, which deliverance from witchcraft. At preaching in the Senior



spent traveling to three were baptized with the Holy water baptisms in the midst of were only permitted to spend village so we could return to Namairgo village the team church. Wilberforce did the resulted in 8 salvations and 1 the same time, I was Secondary School (15-18 year

olds) and 40 received salvation. David also ministered to leaders and I followed with a 2-hour teaching on the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. Kanito Tomas reported that so many received the Holy Spirit that they could not count, but we estimated 15-20 and 2 more were delivered from demons. Another seminar was held at the Bugiri Church with over 50 present. David began with a message on “The Hand of the Lord.” Wilberforce followed with “The Power in Our Confession” and I closed with “The Power of Intercession.” The AECM Team was dispersed to different churches on Sunday morning and there were 22 saved and 4 delivered from demons. Wilberforce continued the teaching ministry at the seminar while David and I ministered in the local prison where 58 men committed their lives to Christ.

Miracle Revival Evangelistic Fellowship for all Nations, Mt. Elgon (Kenya) – This is a network of 40 churches overseen by Amos Ouma Juma who met the team at the border city of Busia. David Matovu returned to Kampala as instructed to organize Ugandan leaders for the trip to Nakuru. Wilberforce, Joseph, and I proceeded to Chewagoi Center in the mountainous region of Mt. Elgon. 35 people were saved at the revival service on the first night. The next day we traveled to Sambonjo Center to help plant a church which required a 3-mile uphill walk to reach. Although the region is a stronghold of ancestral worship, 28 adults were saved at the meeting and a man was led by the Holy Spirit to donate a large plot of land for the new church. A final revival service was held at Chewagoi Center and 20 more received Christ. AECM partners Peter Nyongesa and Julius Ashiono Muteshi also joined us in the mountains. It was cold at night, but we survived. During our times of fellowship, we first learned of the “tree people”, a tribe of a few hundred who live in the trees. Although I could see with my eyes the region where they lived, it would take a 4-day walk to reach them and this would not be possible on this journey.

AECM Leadership Training Conference, Nakuru – Leaders from five nations began arriving until the number grew to 205. Day One began with an in-depth teaching on the Great Commission. Bishop Julius Wafula followed with a message on “Receiving your Blessing.” A presentation on the “Vision of Multiplication” highlighted the afternoon session. The closing session on “Knowing and Understanding your Calling” by Bishop Sillanga of Tanzania was powerful. Day Two began with the news that Alan Langstaff and Chungthang Thiek would indeed be arriving for the final day of the Conference. Morning sessions were on “Network Evangelism” and the “AECM International Harvest Vision.” Afternoon segments included presentations from Musoni Wilberforce of Rwanda (a survivor of the genocide) and Hussein Nguwo of Malawi. Bishop Kavuvah of Kenya ended the day with a message on “Hindrances to God’s Blessings.” The final morning of the Conference, Alan brought a message on “Ten Keys to Being a Winner.” Chungthang preached a powerful message on the marks of a leader. Alan closed the Conference and we prayed four things over all the leaders: (1) the Spirit of a winner (2) the missionary Spirit of the Great Commission (3) a fresh anointing (4) the Jabez prayer. The Holy Spirit moved with great compassion and power giving them a very fresh anointing. Many declared this to be the greatest conference they have ever attended.

Kenya Evangelist Church, Nakuru – This is the home base for the ministry of Bishop Francis Macharia who is the official AECM Int’l Representative for East Africa. The network has more than 160 churches in three nations. The AECM Int’l Ministry Team was sent to different churches for ministry on Sunday following the Conference. This resulted in 26 receiving Christ or returning to the Lord. In addition, many were baptized with the Holy Spirit at the church in Bahati. Alan ended the AECM mission preaching at a growing church on a coffee plantation outside of Nakuru. There were 7 more saved to the glory of God.

Lessons Learned

- Teamwork leads to a much higher impact for the kingdom of God and tends to prevent individuals from thinking more highly of themselves than they ought. The quality of the teamwork on the AECM East Africa Mission was excellent and in my opinion was the most apparent factor contributing to the mission's overall success. I can conclude with confidence that quality teamwork = multiplication of impact.
- East African leaders are blessed for the most part with a strong preaching anointing, but their heart's cry and need is for teaching. Preaching calls people forth for salvation, healing, deliverance, etc. whereas teaching lays down Biblical principles to live by.
- There is for the most part a notable absence of senior leaders in East Africa. Few have the proven maturity and integrity of Bishop Francis Macharia, the AECM Int'l Field Representative for the region. Uganda, in particular, has few leaders over the age of thirty. The AECM needs strong and proven leaders in every nation of the world.
- The "provision vision" (where seeking/coveting financial support supplants God's calling and vision) is still dominating many leaders and churches of East Africa. The seeking of financial sponsors remains the top priority for many. Although leaders enthusiastically welcomed the AECM Harvest Vision and the partnership principles, making the move to embracing (living by) those principles will take time. A "giving anointing" needs to emerge soon. In addition, all leaders must handle finances with integrity and in accordance with Biblical principles.
- Cross-cultural awareness and adaptation of an AECM Int'l Representative Team will remain a challenge on every mission. Sometimes cultural differences do require careful attention and understanding, but deploying a multicultural ministry team has proven to be a unique and very valuable strategy in relation to the AECM Int'l Harvest Vision.

Summary of Results

383 Salvations (figure does not include many children who also came forward to receive Christ)
17 Delivered from demon possession
11 Miraculous physical healings
50+ baptized with the Holy Spirit
2 churches planted that are now full of new converts despite Muslim & animistic strongholds
205 Eph. 4:11 leaders from five nations attended the AECM Leadership Conference
2 Cross-cultural AECM Int'l Ministry Teams coordinated to impact the region for Christ
Contacts with 16 of 21 AECM partner networks in East and Central Africa; significant ministry time with 6

Conclusion

AECM East Africa Mission 2001 began the process of solidifying a very potent networking partnership in the region. One leader described the prior condition as one in which everyone was concerned only with what was his "own," but now the Holy Spirit is bringing us together for the end time harvest. Although team-working principles must activate in the daily operations of each ministry in relationship to other networks, the content and timing of this AECM mission, accomplished much to advance the cause of networking partnerships for world evangelism and to cast a vision beyond regional borders to eventually penetrate North Africa. East Africa could become an AECM working model for network evangelism around the world.



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