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High Mill GCN After Action Report for East Africa

January 20 - February 13, 2004

Overview

East, Central, and West Africa are all critical to God's plan for reaching the entire continent of Africa and beyond. For this reason, the East Africa operation was intense and multi-faceted. It involved as many as four nations (Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, and DRC) and many key leaders. At one point there were four teams at different locations conducting specific operations at the same time. Three very distinct words were revealed by the Lord prior to and during the operation in East Africa. The Lord revealed in prayer on November 18, 2003, "I am building a wall of fire across Africa." This was understood as God's response to Islam's claim that they will possess Africa. On January 28, 2004, the Lord spoke again, this time on African soil, saying, "teach my people about apostles and release the apostolic fire for the end time harvest." Finally, on January 29, the Lord said, "I will move the earth that you walk on." This was primarily referring to a spiritual moving. God was saying that everywhere the team went in His name, a spiritual moving would begin. These words dominated each phase of the operation, which began in the Turkana region of Kenya along the Sudanese border and ended in Kigali, Rwanda.

Highlights

JAN 22-26 (Turkana Mission): The team landed on an airstrip in Lokichokio. This airstrip was built to deliver emergency food and supplies into Sudan and Ethiopia. We continued 215 kilometers across very hot and barren land to Lodwar. This village-type city of 60,000 is a final staging area before going into the interior region. A number of mission agencies use this simple grass-roofed lodge built by Turkana women as their primary base of operation. We engaged intense prayer over the Turkana region using Psalm 29. Declarations were made in accordance with Bishop Peter Murunga's vision of a spiritual oasis. The team traveled about 70 kilometers through the desert without roads to reach the village of Akwar. We immediately went from hut to hut sharing the gospel with tribal families and speaking prophetically concerning the coming spiritual oasis and streams in the desert. The environment and living conditions were very primitive. Most of the people survive on a small nut-looking fruit from a tree that resembles a palm tree. It is called a mkoma fruit and it has absolutely no nutritional value. Two widows shared that their husbands had died of starvation. Despite these conditions most welcomed and embraced the gospel of Jesus Christ and agreed to depart from ancestral worship. It was surprising to find a small sect practicing a combination of Mariology and witchcraft. After a brief dispute with them over our location for showing the Jesus Film, we moved our vehicle and equipment to a new location. Around 300 came to view the Jesus Film. It was fascinating to see this crowd in the middle of the barren desert applaud in praise at every key event in the life of Jesus Christ. Following a brief message entitled, "No Other Name," all the people prayed to receive Christ as Savior and Lord. They danced and praised until midnight. The people were also instructed to return the next

morning for water baptism. The team slept upon grass mats in the sand until morning. We awakened to something very amazing to this desert region. The people gathered for water baptism under overcast skies. We baptized about 100 people at Lake Turkana in a complete downpour. This rain continued for seven hours and was the heaviest since 1992. The newly baptized sang and danced on the shoreline in this rain singing, "Salvation is a free gift and no one can buy it!" Others were heard saying that now they know that God is God because He has sent this rain. A new church was planted by the hand of the Lord on that day. Now, our eyes beheld literal streams filling the desert region and the Turkana, with grateful hearts, had to skillfully lead our vehicle for hours so we could safely return to Lodwar. The next morning we ventured another 60 kilometers to the village of Nairos, where the first church had been planted. The people kept coming as the service began under a simple wooden structure. The worship and dancing was very powerful. Although most had received salvation on earlier visits, three more came to Christ. In addition, there was a great openness among the people to the Holy Spirit. Many were baptized in the Holy Spirit. A young man, named Peter Elei, remained at Nairos to pastor both churches in accordance with the calling and plan of God. He will also teach in the new preschool opening in Nairos. Philip, an evangelist residing in Lodwar, will walk the 60-70 kilometers by foot each month to resupply the new pastor with food and other necessities.

JAN 27-FEB 1 (Bungoma Leader's Conference & Ministry): We arrived in the city of Bungoma, Kenya, near the Uganda border, after traveling all day through rough terrain and treacherous roads. It seemed like we were in a different world now; however, the Lord had engraved the Turkana people of Nairos and Akwar upon our hearts forever. In addition, the young pastor, Peter Elei, was continually in our thoughts and prayers. As we prepared for the leader's conference to be held at the Harvest Miracle Center, we prayed and reflected upon what we had learned. These words came forth in prayer and were confirmed by Bishop Peter and Hannah Murunga as a "word from the Father." *"Good management does not equal apostolic calling. Many western organizations, although trying to help, are now desiring to manage and be the decision-makers over true apostolic leaders in the nations. The danger is when the financial help is used as a means to exercise apostolic authority over a leader and ministry. I believe the Holy Spirit is strongly warning against this pattern because it will distract from God's plan and revealed strategies for the last days. The Spirit has called us to be operational rather than organizational. This is the clear and indisputable 'Acts pattern'."* The Conference began with prophetic words from Isaiah 6:8. We began teaching the leaders about apostles and the apostolic fire in obedience to the Lord at the afternoon session. The teams from Nakuru did not arrive until mid-afternoon due to very poor road conditions. Although we noticed that there was something not quite right in the atmosphere, we did not fully understand the nature of the spiritual battle until the evening when Bishop Francis Macharia spoke on unity from Genesis 11. Part of this message spoke of the unity in the family. The Lord clearly revealed that there were leaders whose marriages were in disarray. Day two of the Conference began with Pastor Hannah Murunga praying for the release of the hosts of heaven. Bishop Peter Murunga followed with the first message of the day. He shared how the Lord had called Hannah and him to minister to the Turkana people beginning with dreams and visions in 1972. Although it wasn't until 1999 that they began their ministry in Turkana, Peter used his testimony to encourage united prayers between husbands and wives. He also revealed the four primary weapons used to attack leaders: immorality, pride, money, and compromise. He also saw a vision at the Conference of God's end time warriors, his end time army, going forth in all directions. Pastor Mary Kay taught on the treasures of the kingdom in the afternoon and Michael preached on the Holy Spirit and Apostolic Fire in the evening. Three teams from at least three or more churches ministered the release of apostolic fire upon all the leaders. There was a very strong move of God as the worship team skillfully moved with the Spirit. This was the breakthrough the conference needed, but the Lord had one more thing. A young pastor named Patrick from Nakuru came saying, "You are to cancel Satan's assignment." We did this in prayer binding and breaking the devil's plan off of all the leaders and their families. We also instructed every leader by the Lord's command to go and first minister to their families before they continue any church work. The next day teams were sent in prayer to their Godly assignments. Team 1 remained in Bungoma to minister in local churches the next day before entering Uganda. Team 2A proceeded to Nakuru for the scheduled conference for women and Team 2B departed for Lugazi, Uganda, and the jungle village of Kinoni. In addition, the Holy Spirit confirmed in our hearts that Bishop Peter Murunga was to return to Turkana and that his son, James, was to join the team for the Uganda ministry.

FEB 1-6 (Uganda Mission): Team 2B was escorted to Lugazi to be with Bishop Chris Kalissa of the Hands of Grace Outreach Center. Highlights included a visit to the jungle village of Kinoni where the poorest of the poor live. This was the village in which the work began in 1993. In addition, the team visited a village school of 600 children. The team's exposure to jungle village life was transforming and served to broaden the vision of how God may want to use them in the future. One team member put it in these words, "I believe the Lord REALLY stretched and strengthened my faith by what I saw, the people I touched, and the stories I heard of God's faithfulness to His servants." Team 1 began their ministry in Uganda at Bugiri with Bishop Kanito Tomas, who oversees many churches. Upon our arrival we walked in the evening service greeted with drums of praise. The next morning we began the teaching ministry with around 40 leaders, which quickly grew to over 70. We spent the next two days giving in depth teaching on the operation of apostles and prophets and answering questions from the leaders. In addition, our two ministry students, Joshua and Noah, shared about their calling into the ministry. The first day many received the Holy Spirit and could be heard speaking in tongues. There were also around seven people who displayed demonic manifestations as demons began to cry out. The team immediately began deliverance ministry and they were set free to the glory of God. The second day of the seminar concluded with the leaders receiving apostolic anointing and spiritual fire for the last days. That evening we visited Bishop Kanito's home. It was a simple mud and wood structure. They had to vacate their one room apartment with their eight children due to Muslim persecution. Even though Muslims want to control Uganda and all Africa, everyone agreed that Muslim power was weakening and that born again Christians were gaining the upper hand. Bishop Kanito is on the frontlines of the battle. The Holy Spirit had

revealed that Kanito was to join the team for the rest of our journey. The next day the team proceeded to Kamuli to be with Bishop Moses Buyinza. Here we gave a 1-hour teaching on apostles followed by a time for questions. We visited two of his churches in the jungle while in route to Kayunga to join Bishop Charles Rwandamura. We arrived at the Apostles World Evangelism Mission Church of Kayunga with only 30 minutes to be in the service. We were told this network of churches was the second largest in Uganda with around 300 churches, mostly in the rural areas. The church appeared to us to be stronger in tradition than in the Holy Spirit. We only partially addressed this in the message and repented of this the next morning. Although the team of Apostles World Evangelism Mission of Uganda took very good care of us, we had to slightly restrain the welcome as it tended to lift us up beyond what was appropriate. They insisted on the next day we visit two churches that ended up being 50 kilometers into the interior. This caused us to arrive later than expected at Gayaza to begin a 2-day crusade with Bishop Joel Kakembo. Nevertheless, we arrived just in time to share our testimonies and preach. Ten were saved and the healing lines were very large. Several were set free from demons. The next evening was met with a great spiritual battle, but it was well worth it as two more received salvation. Early in the morning the team boarded a bus for Rwanda.

JAN 31-FEB 5 (Nakuru Women's Conference & Ministry): Pastor Mary Kay teamed with Pastor Hannah Macharia to hold a very special conference for women at the Good News Miracle Center in Nakuru. The 3-day conference brought many women together from various churches and villages in the area. The women filled the church with a high level of prayer, praise and worship. The key components of this conference were love, forgiveness, encouragement and Spirit-filled living. After the conference on forgiveness, one woman confessed she had finally been set free and released to truly forgive the husband who had frequently mistreated and abused her. This brought forth many more testimonies of the Spirit setting many women free. The breakout sessions for married women, singles, and widows raised their faith to a whole new level. The women mutually encouraged one another to steadfastly pray,, fast, and trust that the Lord would protect and daily provide for them. Many women received the baptism of the Holy Spirit and spoke in tongues at the height of the conference. As a result, they were now refreshed, restored, and renewed to once again return to their homes and villages to spread the love of Jesus and announce the good news that Jesus saves.

FEB 7-11 (Rwanda/DRC Ministry): We arrived in Kigali after a reasonably comfortable bus ride of 8-9 hours. Bishops Musoni Wilberforce and Charles Rwandamura were waiting for us. We traveled the next morning through the mountains to the city of Gisenyi on the border with the Democratic Republic of Congo, formerly Zaire. Here we preached to over 100 people, including at least 25 leaders. Bishop Kanito concluded the team preaching with an anointed message on the power of the Holy Spirit from Joel 2. We prayed for about ten to receive the Holy Spirit and at least two of them did. We suspected that the people have received little teaching on the Holy Spirit. Later, we crossed the border into the DRC and the city of Goma. Evidence was everywhere of the volcanic eruption that had destroyed 80% of the city in 2001. We stayed in the home of Bishop Joel Muhindo and attended the prayer meeting and service at his church the following morning. The prayer force grew to about 70 people and by the daily service time there were more than 200 in attendance. We gave welcomes to the people and Joel proceeded to preach from Matthew 15:1-9 about what's in your heart. The call of God to impact the city was upon this church. It was well organized with a very accomplished praise team; however, it was duplicating the American television ministries, which has a proven tendency to lift up men beyond the acceptable level of the Scriptures. We went to another church in the afternoon where Kanito, Michael, and Musoni all preached on the Holy Spirit. We again concluded that the Independent Church of God in Rwanda/DRC desperately needs more teaching on the Holy Spirit. The team departed DRC and returned to Kigali by nightfall where we greeted the church there and blew the *shofar* in preparation for the next two evenings of open air meetings with Bishop Charles and Magret Rwandamura. The people gathered for these meetings were very open to the Holy Spirit. First, Josh and Noah, would open with a salvation message, then Michael would preach on the Holy Spirit, and Kanito would preach the concluding message. There were ten salvations on the first night and two on the second. In addition many received the Holy Spirit and magnified God with new tongues. In addition, all the leaders were prayed over and anointed with fresh oil. We bore witness that God has chosen this church to take the city for Jesus.

Lessons Learned

- God is again bringing apostles and prophets together for His purposes.
- The apostolic movement is increasing and is being fully activated by the Holy Spirit.
- God desires to provide us with new wineskins for Leadership Conferences.
- The "young lion" model for training emerging Ephesians 4:11 leaders is essential to the future effectiveness of the church around the world.
- The best results come when teamwork and team building are in active operation.
- It is important to understand the relationship between preaching and teaching and to recognize the best context for each.
- The emerging Western role of junior partnership affirms the calling and more fully encourages the release of the gifts through the Apostolic Training Team for the benefit of all.
- Patience and endurance is not so much being devoted to a cause, but to God Himself.

Conclusion

This report was intentionally delayed until we received word from our partners regarding the impact of the overall operation. Subsequent reports from the Turkana region reveal that the Lord has accelerated the growth of both churches. Young Peter Elei is doing well and the new school opened with 150 children between the ages of 3 and 10. Although they have little to nothing to eat, they arrive early in the morning to learn to read. Bishop Peter Murunga writes, "They come to school when they haven't eaten anything. Some are naked and they walk several kilometers. Their only meal may have been a *mkoma* fruit, perhaps a glass of milk or once in a while dried boiled corn. They have little strength, less motivation and low mental alertness. This, however, does not stop their zeal to come to school as early as 7:00 AM in the morning." In addition, the ministry in Bugiri, Uganda, has given birth to a future church planting operation in southern Sudan. Bishop Joel Kakembo also writes regarding the 2-day soul winning crusade in Gayaza, "We had a very good time with this missionary team while in my simple home humbled themselves to reach all classes of people with the gospel. Since they visited us our church has greatly changed as many people are coming to church every Sunday as a result of the crusade we had." Again and again we praise the Lord for the thousands of trained intercessors from the nations who engaged in fervent prayer throughout the operation.



Many received Christ as the team went from hut to hut in Akwar village.



100 souls received Christ and were baptized in Lake Turkana as rainfall fell from the sky.



The Apostolic Training Team in Uganda came from three nations.



The new church and preschool at Nairo village.



Turkana children have little to eat and many needs.

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