

## East Africa Report

July 24 – August 11, 2010

### Overview

East Africa continues to be a hotbed for apostolic development. The operation began in familiar territory along the Ugandan border at Bungoma, Kenya, and concluded with a very fruitful ministry time in Dodoma, Tanzania. Although there are concerns with the ongoing political and religious climate of Kenya, apostolic leaders continue to increase in effectiveness at their respective levels of operation. Churches throughout Kenya mobilized to oppose a referendum for a new national constitution that would open the door to aspects of Muslim *Sharia* law and abortion. Church leaders were disappointed when the referendum passed on August 4, but had been encouraged at the Apostolic Summit to press on with the work of God's kingdom regardless of the outcome. The 5-Fold Global Team included Samuel Isong (Nigeria), James Murunga (Kenya), George Ogele (Benin), Chad Honaker (USA), and Michael Gross (USA). The team immediately focused on the spiritual environment with the revelation that the Mount Elgon region was a spiritual headquarters for the enemy. Although the political action concerning the referendum was on the minds of leaders, the fact that two teams came to the Summit from Mount Elgon, including an executive chief, indicated to us that God chose to begin His spiritual operation with Mount Elgon. The team focused our prayers and ministry on this spiritual revelation during the Summit.

Tanzania appeared as a separate operation; however, our time there revealed a divine connection with God's spiritual operation in East Africa and beyond. Although Tanzania is at the back door of East Africa, it's also in the midst of the raging battle with the advancing religious ideology of Islam. This was our first trip to this nation. Our beloved 5-Fold Global partners, Gerald and Aisa Ole-Nguyaine, had recently arrived in Dodoma to oversee an Assembly of God Church called the International Christian Center (ICC). The 5-Fold Global team effectively ministered to around 200 people each evening, in homes, in villages, and at Sunday services. Daily the team also took at least one meal in various homes, which again confirmed the effectiveness of Jesus' strategy of house to house ministry.

### Highlights

28 July - *Strategizing and enabling the church for effective and transformational ministry* was the theme for the Apostolic Summit. James Murunga opened the Summit with prophetic words "Speak to the mountains, the principalities and they will be moved!" He continued from 2 Chron. 20:17-24 – "We are moving forward in the name of Jesus. Position yourself in order to have the capacity to confront the enemy. We are tempted to be afraid and turn back. Do not be afraid. The position of fear will not take you forward. Change position! God is saying change your position. The battle is in the Lord's hand. God is in charge! When you begin to change position there are specific revelations and strategies. God is going to move us into our spiritual tomorrow. Our today has been frustrated, shut down; your tomorrow is coming to go up against your enemies. Authority as a leader is going to be restored. We don't need revival, but the Reviver! Verse 24 is the place of the watchtower (Strategic prayer gathering). The Lord is going to deal with the things plaguing the church. There will be a new level of victory." Brother Michael followed with a message on

Apostolic Transformation entitled *The Tabernacle of God* from Acts 15:15-17. First, Micah 1:3 was spoken over the Mount Elgon teams, who were the first to arrive at the Summit. It was revealed upon arrival that this place was the spiritual headquarters for the enemy with reports of blood sacrifices and all other types of witchcraft. Even those seeking election go there for rituals and they are elected. "Where will God begin? Surely it will be in the largest church in Bungoma? But God has chosen to begin at Mount Elgon!" We prayed for the teams and then continued with the message exhorting leaders to change their focus on building physical buildings made with human hands to building the spiritual house. Samuel Isong continued with a teaching on transformational leadership. "Transformational means bringing or making a change in the right direction. Transactional says I will do this if you do this for me. What am I going to get out of it? The mindset is what I will get; the blessing. Transformational leadership is commitment to achieving the vision of the movement of change." He presented the requirements for transformational leaders and the guiding factors to deliver transformational leadership. Leaders were challenged: "Do you have a pattern for your ministry? Did you visit the mountain? I hope it's not a copyright, but original. Go back to the way you began to work with Me! Change the structure of the way things are. Restructuring must be done. You must be sensitive to the Holy Spirit." The final session of the day was presented by Rick Eudy, a leader unknown to the 5-Fold Global team. His topic was biblical prosperity and he began by stating that the two biggest transformational things needed are to believe we are sons of God (not just slaves) and to be set free from poverty. "What God is saying is always transformational; it begins on the inside. 3 John 2: prosper as your soul prospers. Some of you are being intimidated. I agree with everything being said, but it will sound like I am saying something different. As we grow in spiritual riches we gain the capacity to receive wealth without corruption." Although there was an emphasis on relationship with Christ, the American version of prosperity teaching is problematic. There was a concern among the team that the focus of the Summit was shifting to the acquisition of wealth. The team took detailed notes and weighed in the Spirit all that was being said.

29 July – The 2<sup>nd</sup> day of the Summit began with a teaching from Brother Michael on leadership empowerment and apostolic authority. "Jesus Christ has all authority (Matthew 28:18). A leader only has what Jesus delegates to him and will increase it as He wills." Leaders were challenged to a new understanding of spiritual authority without titles (Luke 22:24-30) and to recognize the sphere or boundaries of exercising the authority delegated to them as servant leaders (II Cor. 10:7-18). George Ogele followed with a vital message on advancing the kingdom through power. "We must cooperate with the Spirit of God. He's the one who has the key to the questions/problems in the church. Those who labor in their own strength labor in vain (Zech 4:8). The Spirit of God cannot operate without the word of God (Gen. 1:1-3). In Luke 5:17, Jesus is having an in-house crusade. The Holy Spirit is always around when the real stuff is happening; not when false teaching is going forth. All power belongs to God. Power is not knowledge, but the ability to get the solution when there is apparently none. If you preach the gospel and the power is not manifested, something is wrong! You are supposed to demonstrate the power. There is no evidence until the unction is on you. You need the Spirit. The Spirit is the carrier of the power! Power is what makes the difference! You can't do this work without the power of the Spirit!" Chad Honaker completed the sessions for the 5-Fold Global Team with a teaching on apostolic preaching. "Apostolic preaching in Acts 2:22 turned Jerusalem upside down. The gospel is confrontational! The false prophets always preach about smooth

things. We cannot fail if we are filled with the Holy Spirit and preach the word. If you are bored with apostolic preaching, you are backslidden! Apostolic preaching speaks of the death, burial, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Apostolic preaching cuts to the heart! Pharisees don't like the message of repentance. Pharisees love titles, chief seats... Jesus said they are blind, but forgave the repentant man beating his chest. God, raise up an army in the last day that will preach apostolically; that will impress on us the lateness of the hour; the condition of their hearts, not preach to money or fame, but preach the gospel! I have a people says the Lord who will not compromise." The day concluded with a presentation by FAULU, a "Christian" bank of Kenya desiring to assist ministers. A Pastor Zachary gave a lengthy message on acquiring wealth that was a replication of the American gospel of prosperity. "God's will is that man is to be wealthy. Poverty hinders the preaching of the gospel. You need money to preach the gospel. The more money you have the better Bible you can buy. Money answers all things (Proverbs). You can be a better man of God when you have money. I want to be wealthy; wealthier than anyone!" (A woman representative) "We will not stand on the platform of poverty. We stand on the platform of wealth." (The Bank President) "I stand before you as a millionaire. The majority of our customers in the coastal region are Muslims. Muslims worship and pray with us. (Zachary again) "The bank is based on Jeremiah 29:11, giving Kenyans hope in the future. Money is not money until it is withdrawn from the bank." The 5-Fold Global team expressed our concerns with the prosperity teachings with our host, James Murunga and Rick Eudy over the evening meal.

30-31 July – Samuel Isong began the final day of the Apostolic Summit with a teaching on understanding and dealing with spiritual gates. "The kingdom of darkness is against the Church. Psalms 24:1-10 – Verses 1-6 speak of good things and verses 7-10 there is a change (the gates). In 1-6 we are in position to enjoy the creation; dominion over all, but not over fellow man. In verse 7 mighty gates are standing with a gate keeper saying, "Go back! Stop here!" Breaking down gates: Matt. 16:18 – Jesus understood there were spiritual gates standing against the church. Isaiah 26:2 – Open up that a righteous nation may enter in! The authority of Jesus – We are delegates of the King. (Passport example) I have a spiritual passport and in the authority of Christ every gate shall open up. When people oppress you, don't look at the people. The gate is the problem. We must understand these gates. Find out where the gates are. We betray Christ if we don't." Chad Honaker brought the 2<sup>nd</sup> message of the day on bearing fruit for God. "If you serve, you will get pruned. He's getting the chaff out of our lives. Don't be discouraged by this! We glory in tribulation. Fruitless ministers are not abiding in the vine. Daniel 11:32 – Those who believe will be strong and do great exploits. Get alone with God until you're not alone anymore!" Michael followed with a teaching on strategies/patterns of apostolic ministry highlighting the mission instructions of Jesus and the strategy of house churches. George Ogele concluded the final message of the Summit with a teaching on the only man that will not succeed in ministry. "Failure is a choice. 3 John 2 – prosperity is fulfilling your assignment. Prosperity means fulfilling "DIVINE PURPOSES." Secondly, God has done everything He is supposed to do for everyone He calls into ministry, but despite all this, some will not succeed: Man that is fearful (2 Tim. 1:7), Arrogant man (Prov. 6:17; 16:18), Impatient man, Lazy man (Prov. 10:4-5), An unfaithful person (Luke 16:10-12), Rebellious person (Num. 14:20), Expert in making excuses." The following day the team met and prayed with leaders and enjoyed a day of prayer, study, and rest.

1-2 Aug – George Ogele preached in two services at Grace Christian Fellowship (GCF) while Michael, Samuel, and Chad preached at three separate village churches in the area. There was a growing consensus that the Holy Spirit was speaking to us regarding God’s continued priority to reach farther into the villages. The team caught the evening bus for the overnight journey to Nairobi. Gerald Ole-Nguyaine met us in Arusha, Tanzania, and we traveled by vehicle on rough roads for over six hours, arriving in Dodoma shortly after dark.

3-4 Aug – The International Christian Center was filled each evening to capacity. Chad kicked off the ministry with a plowing message on Christ, the sin-bearer. There was a strong move of repentance in the hearts of the people and at least one was delivered from demons. The next evening George Ogele preached a message entitled, *They chose to die*. There was a powerful and genuine breaking in the people with many weeping before God.

5-6 Aug – The team proceeded to church branches in the villages of Makole, Ihumwa, and Iyumbu. Samuel preached on the sight and vision of victory; Chad preached on understanding our position in Christ, and George on the power of the Holy Spirit. The saints of Makole were very open to God’s move and received the message with strong repentance and joy in the Holy Spirit. There was a difficult spiritual environment with some spiritual resistance in the last two villages revealing the degree of the spiritual needs in the villages. Michael preached a message at ICC from Matthew 21:10, *The City was Moved*, that resulted in many receiving the Holy Spirit, including a young girl in the household of Gerald and Aisa. The people were challenged to enter fully into the river of God’s Spirit.

7 Aug – Michael and Samuel presented teachings to around 30 leaders at the ICC Leadership Seminar. Michael presented a teaching on the operation of the 5-fold ministry in the 21<sup>st</sup> century and Samuel on the transformational movement of God. In between was a brief time for questions, which was consumed on an irrelevant issue over what type of oil to use when anointing the sick in prayer. The Holy Spirit used the team to change this religious mindset. George preached the evening service with a message from II Samuel 3:31-34, *Don’t Die Like a Fool!* He challenged believers not to reason with the devil, but fight him! This resulted in an extended time of warfare that moved mountains of religiosity.

8 Aug – There was standing room only at both Sunday services at ICC. Samuel preached the first service on *You are the Salt of the Earth*. Chad taught on the importance of the word of God in your life in between services and Michael preached on spiritual fire at the second service. The team prayed for church leaders and the chief elder of the church was moved to public repentance regarding bitterness in his heart.

9-11 Aug – The 5-Fold Global Team began its long journey back to Nairobi for our return flights. We were sustained by a few offerings received from village churches in Kenya. Michael and Chad discovered that Lagos, Nigeria, required a transit visa from American passport holders only. It was a four hour process that consumed all resources, but we all made the flight and arrived safely in our respective nations.

## Lessons Learned

- 5-Fold Teams that engage together in intense prayer will hear from the Holy Spirit and function at a high level of operation.
- Political action is not the same as a clear prophetic voice from the church to a nation.
- Leaders who are willing to fellowship with the sufferings of Christ build stronger character and relationships with God and each other.
- The American version of Biblical prosperity must be weighed in the Spirit and its proponents need to be more aggressively challenged to explain their positions.
- A healthy balance of resources needs to reach villages rather than be consumed by conferences in the larger church settings.
- The conventional structure and pattern of city churches cannot be reproduced in the villages.

## Concluding Remarks

The 5-Fold Ministry Team functioned at the highest level of any previous operation. Although the subject of each teaching was not shared beforehand, there was a remarkable flow created by the Holy Spirit. This led to a remarkable unity and consistency in the ministry of the word. James Murunga indicates: *The lives and ministries of the various leaders were impacted and ushered to a new level in faith and in the Lord. The region has opened up to apostolic values. Different ones are calling asking to arrange equipping operations in their localities. I just concluded a first one this last Saturday where I shared on repositioning the church for accelerated progress in ministry. We praise the Lord. Another apostolic leader has called for us to plan a Leadership Conference in the Teso region which is close to the Ugandan boarder. We are planning to do an operation there next month God willing. Its awesome.* Raphael Ongango of Uganda wrote, "Your apostolic messages have changed our ministry in Uganda. When I came back I called 40 church leaders for leadership training in your teachings." In addition, Gerald Ole-Nguayne confirmed there was a "change in the spiritual climate of the church" in Tanzania. He adds, "We continue to receive testimonies of how the people were blessed by your ministry here in Dodoma, Tanzania. I am being asked to have you all come back. The girl who was delivered from demonic possession and filled with the Holy Spirit the following day continues to come to church; praise God!" There is much work to do in East Africa, particularly with those apostolic leaders focussed on the villages. They need discipleship materials for the new converts, the International School of Ministry curriculumm to train young leaders(\$900 for 2 year curriculum), and motorcycles (\$800-\$950 each including necessary documents) to reach further into the interior. The 5-Fold Global Team believes resourcing these village leaders remains a top priority with God and that our obedience to this priority will bring spiritual transformation to the interior regions.