

HNI Nigeria Mission Report

December 2-19, 2002

Overview

The world guide gives this warning regarding Nigeria: *Lawlessness, widespread corruption and the lack of military control in Nigeria have allowed an almost unfettered rush of score-settling between tribes, religious groups and even rival cities. There's a real risk the nation will burst into widespread chaos and violence at any time.* All these things were visible from state to state as military, police, and vigilante groups all frequently stopped vehicles for no other reason than to extort money for passage. Combined with the high humidity, poor roads and communication systems, Nigeria presents in the natural a real challenge for both visitors and citizens alike. There continued to be a strong spiritual battle for visas and to get our five nation apostolic team to Nigeria. Unfortunately, the paperwork delays prevented the Ukraine team from coming, but they were daily so much a part of the mission and every victory which occurred for the glory of Christ. In addition, Sampson Dorkunor (Ghana) was having trouble getting room on the flight from Tema. This delayed his arrival for three days. Out of these trials, the Lord raised up an onsite 7-member apostolic team from four nations: Linus & Ini Ayoosu (Nigeria), Samuel Isong (Nigeria), Daniel Sam (Nigeria), Sampson Dorkunor (Ghana), George Ogele (Republic of Benin), and Michael Gross (USA). The team stayed, prayed, and traveled together ministering and conducting seminars on apostolic ministry in seven regions: Otukpo, Katsina-Ala, Calabar, Uyo, Port Harcourt, Aba, and Nibo Village of Anambra. The team reached higher levels of anointing at each place with prophetic actions that bound up the spirit of lawlessness over the nation and released the redemptive plan of God over Nigeria and West Africa. A common pattern upon arriving at each new place was first the struggle to get there given the travel conditions. Secondly, the opening service at each place would involve strong spiritual warfare followed by the Lord's breakthrough on the next day. An anointing service where the oil flowed freely ended our ministry at each place.

Highlights

Otukpo City (Dec. 4-5) - Dr. Linus and I spent all day traveling from Lagos to Otukpo. Upon our arrival at 7PM we discovered a number of local pastors had waited for us until 4PM. For this reason we scheduled a morning seminar for them on the next day at Proclaim Liberty Church. The seminar was on *The Church at War: A Message for Young Lieutenants*. Over 15 leaders attended with an additional 15-20 church members. We all dedicated the addition on the church building following the seminar.

Katsina-Ala (Dec. 5-8) - The first meeting on Thursday evening involved much spiritual battle,

not so much with the over 30 gathered, but in the atmosphere. Local ministers were utilized to pray for the healing of eight young men, but something very evident was blocking the advance of the Kingdom of God. The next morning teaching scheduled to start at 9AM actually began at 10:30AM. We jokingly referred to this as *Nigerian time*. Twelve leaders received teaching on the *Scope/Depth of the Great Commission*. The team visited the Chairman of the Council of Chiefs who gave us authority to preach Jesus Christ throughout the land. Over 80 people gathered at the evening meeting where Samuel Isong began with prophetic action and release of the authority of Jesus over the city and land. The warfare was intense with the blowing of the *shofar*. You could feel chains of darkness being broken and heavens gates opening wide over the land. The preaching was also explosive from Acts 9:32-35. There were 7 salvations from a tribe receiving translation. Healing teams were assembled and as oil flowed freely many were healed. This was a tremendous breakthrough time which birthed the apostolic team and ministry to follow. On Saturday, the *HNI Vision & Strategy for World Evangelism Through Networking Partnerships* was shared at the convocation where 14 leaders received various ministerial degrees. In addition, HNI Nigeria was inaugurated in at least 7 states. The fruit of the "fathering ministry" of Dr. Linus Ayoosu was very apparent and affirmed throughout the day. Also, most of the leaders present gave 5,000 to 20,000 Naira (136 = \$1.00) for further development of the Open Door School of Theology. This level of giving was typical at each place and was most impressive given the poverty that exists. George Ogele from the Republic of Benin was in attendance and we soon discovered that Jesus had also sent him to be a member of the apostolic team for the mission. In addition, Sampson Dorkunor arrived and preached in the evening to over 50 on Col. 1:27, *The Mystery of Christ in you, the Hope of Glory*. Sampson's testimony of being delivered from demons at 17 years of age was powerful and 7 people were saved. On Sunday morning George Ogele preached to over 40 people. He spoke of righteousness, peace, & joy in the Holy Spirit and 6 more received salvation. In the afternoon, the team visited the land given to Open Door School of Theology to pour oil over the land and blow the *shofar*. This prophetic action brought forth the word for Dr. Linus, *As my servant (Linus) has been faithful to build people rather than buildings, I (The Lord) will also give him the buildings*. Later, as rival political parties literally fought outside my room, I marveled how Jesus had assembled a 4-nation team at Katsina-Ala in Benue State: Nigeria, Benin, Ghana, USA. Ini Ayoosu, who oversees a school of over 400 children and is gifted in song, became the 7th member of the team on the following day.

Calabar (Dec. 9-10) - It took 7 hours to get to the port city of Calabar in Cross River State. The team arrived just in time for the meeting. The traditional introductions of all the leaders in attendance took much time. One prophet spoke a word that in four months revival would come to Demas Abraham's church, but then he proceeded to tell the 40-50 people at Overcomer's Bible Church to seek promotion and immediately left the meeting. The message was on how Jesus died and the Roman Centurion who believed (Mark 15). We must go low (humble ourselves) to get high; to serve in order to lead. With these and other words the team was able to thwart the earlier message of self promotion. The service concluded with at least 5 being baptized with the Holy Spirit. On Tuesday Sampson began teaching at 11AM on *Taking Possession of the Land*. The evening session involved a 2-hour teaching session on the

Apostolic Movement, its operation and instructions. Around 50 were present including at least 18 leaders. They reported this as a real breakthrough session. The entire team met for prayer before retiring. The team was now working together to better plan and carry out a conference schedule at each place that would more fully facilitate and utilize the team while releasing the teaching ministry.

Uyo (Dec. 11-12) - More than 60 were present at the Tent of Testimony Church. Many leaders were present for the opening message on *Servant Leadership* from I Peter 5:1-11. The team had agreed on a new schedule and were more than excited with the results. Also, they noticed a higher level of anointing as team ministry operated. At least 10 were filled with the Holy Spirit. Also, Dr. Linus appointed a new man, an apostolic leader and Senior Pastor of Tent of Testimony Church, Dr. Ime Edet Uyire, to oversee the HNI partnership in the state. The team prayed for him and all the HNI partners in the region. The development of the networking partnerships is amazing! The apostolic team had a tremendous prayer session at 5AM the next morning praying for fresh anointing and successfully warring against the queen of the river (Isaiah 27:1-6; Nahum 3). We took special notice that we were a 7-member team. Over 30 leaders gathered during the day for teaching on the *Apostolic Operation and Teamwork*. In addition, Sampson shared on Ecclesiastes 4:9-12, *Two is Better Than One*, George shared on Genesis 11, *When United Nothing is Impossible*. Samuel concluded the seminar with a message from II Kings 2, *The Price of Greatness*. The evening session involved an anointing service with over 70 attending. The team poured fresh oil over all leaders and many were touched at a new level.

Port Harcourt (Dec. 13-15) - The team proceeded to Bible Centered Life Church in River State, the ministry of Dr. Samuel Isong. We saw during our early morning prayer the river of God flowing from north to south. Pride in the natural resources like oil was broken and there was a vision of religious opposition as the team was moving to higher levels of the anointing. Around 80-100 assembled at the evening meeting as the team led a united prophetic prayer and action against the queen of the river. Everyone engaged as Linus poured oil on the floor and behind the pulpit and the trumpet sounded over the body. Although the team was growing physically tired, these prophetic acts and the message on *The River that Makes Glad* were heralded as a breakthrough. The team prayed to release the river of God upon the people and region. The next day over 30 leaders came for the teaching on the apostolic and teamwork. George and Daniel Sam continued teaching while the rest of the team visited the traditional chief. This chief was like Josiah & Hezekiah as he had outlawed "voodoo" holidays in his domain. He was being persecuted for this which was a real testimony of his genuineness. A Q&A session was held at the end of the seminar and was very fruitful with many questions on the 5-fold ministry. There were some issues regarding church doctrines on women's ministry and dress, etc. The evening message on *Freedom in Christ* resulted in 34 salvations, including 28 children. In addition, two women were set free from witchcraft. The team met with HNI Nigeria partners and proposed partners after the service.

Aba (Dec. 15) - This was an unexpected opportunity for the team as we entered an Assembly

of God Church of 3,000-4,000 members and was invited by the senior pastor, Israel Ngele, to give the morning message. The leaders and people described the preaching as "hot" or "on fire." The team returned to the evening service at Port Harcourt where Samuel preached a powerful message on the *Return of the Ark of the Covenant*.

Nibo Village (Dec. 16-17) - We departed River State for Anambra State arriving late in the afternoon. We visited the traditional chief of the region who welcomed us with a strange scepter while confessing Jesus Christ. The team proceeded to a rented hall in the village where 60-80 people were gathered. At this time the team had been up for 14 hours. Many were prayed for, but there was evidence of strongholds. The next morning at 5AM the team prayed and together rebuked the traditional welcome symbol. There was an immediate release and the seminar attended by over 30 leaders was a great success. It was followed by the laying of the foundation in the new church headquarters for Victorious Christian Life Ministries, the ministry of Albert Chukwuzor. All those gathered for this event planted financial seed into the work. The evening service was a powerful one with a message on *Gideon: The Mighty Warrior*. There were 5 salvations and we completed the mission in the strength of the Lord.

Lessons Learned

- Genuine humility, servant leadership, unity, and teamwork in apostolic ministry leads to a much higher level of anointing than can ever be achieved by individual leaders. The fruit it produces remains and multiplies.
- There will always be the unexpected on any apostolic journey, however, we must allow Jesus to daily command the operation. It is the task of the team to receive the direction of the Holy Spirit and to come into rhythm with what we see the Holy Spirit doing.
- There will be those times when the Holy Spirit will stop us from going to a certain nation or region (See Acts 16:6-7) and other times when Satan somehow will prevent us (See 1 Thess. 2:18; Rom. 1:13). Visa situations will occur in future int'l travel. We may be unable to trust written visa requirements listed for some nations. An organization specializing in visa applications is recommended wherever available.
- Christian education and communication are necessary in every nation to enhance networking partnerships and to breakdown traditional patterns hindering the Gospel.
- Women must be continually released into full ministry in the church around the world. The end time harvest cannot be realized if religion and religious people continue to limit the ministry of over 50% of the church.
- A basic, uncomplicated apostolic structure that is fluid and unleashes the fullness of the 5-fold ministry in the church is needed in every nation to facilitate the end time move of God throughout the world.
- The Holy Spirit is restoring and developing apostolic ministry in many regions of the world. Although each region has its unique distinctiveness, there is a common pattern.
- The effects of Western money upon world missions in developing nations needs to be seriously reviewed. The Spirit is calling for true partnership in giving and receiving. Leaders in developing nations have more giving power than what they have been

conditioned to believe. Western leaders must relinquish past levels of control over third world leaders and third world leaders must overcome the desire to build mega individual ministries isolated from the networking partnerships within their respective regions.

Conclusion

Nigeria is a key nation in God's strategy for the last days. The primary leaders established by the Holy Spirit on this apostolic journey were humble servants, mature, and trustworthy in all matters. All agreed that this was God's perfect timing for us to be together in Nigeria. This had also been confirmed in Katsina-Ala when a young pastor named, Joshua Emmanuel, shared a dream he had on November 29 at 2:15AM. In his own words, *he saw a tall man in an open field. The ground was large and had beautiful yellowish and white flowers planted in rows. Then the man started digging into the ground and a spring of water started coming out of those wells. He encouraged me to dig the same well and when I did just as he instructed me water started coming out also. He was very excited about that and he held my hand to walk across the field. The atmosphere was filled with the glory of God.* The apostolic team was used by the Lord to dig those new wells and we witnessed the flow of fresh water to the glory of God. We are praying for a joint operation to West Africa in 2004 involving Ghana, Togo, Benin Republic and Mali.