



Spirit of Grace

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Teacher / Evangelist

Herald

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Mission: Kitale

Our meetings in Kitale, Kenya in November were greatly blessed. We arrived in Kitale later than I normally prefer, on the very day that the crusade evening meetings were to begin. As always it was a joy to see our Kenya team, who had been diligently preparing for months for this outreach. They quickly told me there was a problem, however. Though it was not the rainy season, it had been raining almost non-stop for the last month, and they had nearly called us to suggest that we cancel the meetings. Sure enough that day dark clouds loomed overhead, mocking us and threatening to undo all our careful preparations for ministry. As we prayed and trusted God that week, our first miracle was that the rains were unable to stop even one of our planned activities. Sometimes it rained before the meetings; sometimes after. But we were able to conduct every outdoor evangelistic meeting without hindrance of rain.

Our team had chosen the crusade location well. It was in the heart of a highly populated area, and we saw crowds in the thousands attending nightly. By day I ministered to the pastors and church leaders training them in the theme of "Effective Ministry in the Last Days." I taught them about the importance of submitting to God's preparatory plan for our lives and ministries, the absolute necessity of making Jesus central in our preaching and teaching, and depending upon our great Partner in ministry, the Holy Spirit.



Above: On the platform shortly before the ministry time



Above: How shall they hear without a preacher?

Contd. on back

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We brought with us mp3 players and books to establish a School of Ministry in Kitale. Our African brothers and sisters are starving for teaching, and the hundreds of audio teachings they will listen to on their mp3 players, and the classic Christians books they will be able to read will go a long way in equipping them to fulfill God's calling on their lives.

My wife, Benedicta, accompanied me and was a great hit with the Kenyan believers. This trip reminded me of when President John Kennedy took his wife Jacqueline with him to Paris. She was so popular with the French that Kennedy quipped, "I am the man who accompanied Jacqueline Kennedy to Paris." Benedicta found much favor with the Kenyans as she taught a conference session, preached one night at the crusade, and ministered in a seminar for the ladies. When the men heard she would be doing this for the ladies, they begged the host pastor to intercede for them and persuade her to allow men to attend the conference as well. She gave permission, but this didn't cause her to blunt her message, as she gave ample testimony from the Scriptures that women are not second class citizens in the kingdom of God.

There was an anointing for evangelism that seemed to prevail over the region as we lifted up Jesus in the outdoor meetings night after night. The local coordinator reported of people coming up to him during the day either wanting to get saved, or else telling him how they had been born again. We saw hundreds coming forward to give their lives to Christ every night.

Our Lord was faithful to sprinkle His healing gifts throughout the ministry. The most dramatic healing was of a boy who had such a serious problem in his leg that he could not stand without crutches. After Jesus touched him this boy was able not only to stand without his crutches, but even walked around the stage, demonstrating to one and all that Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever.



Benedicta preaching Christ at the crusade



Boy standing at left, after the touch of Jesus



The upraised arms of surrender to Jesus



"And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations..."