



STREAMS IN THE DESERT BAPTISM IN LODWAR



CELEBRATING NEW LIFE ACROSS KENYA NEW YEAR'S BAPTISM



BACK TO KENYA FEBRUARY 6 THIS WILL BE MY VIEW

PREACH



A clarion call to the Great Commission.

I am a preacher.

It is what I do. It is who I am.

I am not a speaker. Not a communicator. I am a preacher.

The past few months have been spent preaching in our partnering U.S. churches. The last few months have taken me across the U.S. preaching in many of our partnering churches. These are the churches who help carry the load of financial support and intercessory prayer for this ministry on their shoulders. The favor of God is expressed towards this ministry and me *often through* these partnering churches and their members.

There has been a *new freshness* in the U.S. preaching assignments. The Word is more alive to me these days. I find myself counting the days and hours until the next opportunity to preach the unsearchable riches of Christ. And when I stand to preach, there is a **clarity** and **boldness** that is fresh and oh, so welcome. Boldness is not common in today's easily "triggered," compliant culture. That is nothing new for a preacher. The great prince of preachers, Charles H. Spurgeon said, *"Bold-hearted men are always called mean-spirited by cowards."*

Nevertheless, at every assignment I found hunger for the preached Word of God. I found a thirst for the grace message of the Gospel. I saw and heard the move of the Spirit of God and the response of His people. New life came. Longtime believers were revived, encouraged, and restored. Spiritual gifts were "fanned into flame" once again. **Boldness was welcome.**

It has been a good season of preaching.

Now, my heart and mind turn to **the upcoming Kenya trip February 6.** I will visit four of our regions in Kenya on this trip. We will host five pastors/leadership conferences during this trip. Our overseers are expecting well over 1,500 pastors and leaders to attend these training conferences. **This is the marrow of our ministry.** The "lifeblood of our calling and purpose."

If you follow my communications, you know that God has opened the evangelistic harvest doors to us in East Africa in numerical proportions we once only dreamed of. We finished 2019 seeing over 3,300 new believers profess Christ in baptism. Already in January we are on pace to surpass that harvest number in 2020.

New churches and preaching stations are being called for all over East Africa. *In order to plant those new churches and preaching stations God must call new leaders and pastors.* And, we must stay busy at our calling of training, equipping, and discipling those new pastors and leaders.

YOUR PRAYERS = OUR FUEL. (Sign up for Kenya journals).

Finishing Touches







Putting final touches on the new School in Mathare and the new dorm at Mt. Elgon. We will dedicate both new facilities on the upcoming February trip.

Above, the septic work is being done at Mt. Elgon. The only flushing toilets within miles!

What do you do when \$4,000 of monthly support disappears in three months?

That is exactly what happened to us in the last quarter of 2019. One long-time supporter suffered a business failure. Another sold his very successful medical practice, and the new owner decided not to continue the monthly financial support. Then one of our longest partnering churches began to deal with financial reversals. Their long time (and very significant) financial support was suddenly not available to them or to us.

The problem with our ministry support structure is this: Once we open a feeding station, orphange,



BAPTISMS IN THE DESERT ARE PRECIOUS

widows' home or plant a new church, and bring a pastor or leader on board to staff that new work we never go backward. We "co-sign" for that new project and the support it will require. In other words, the gates to our feeding stations and orphanages only swing one way....in. We never turn an orphan back out into the streets due to lost support. We never stop feeding street children who have become dependent on their daily nutrition from our ministry (They don't always understand God is their provider and supportersometimes they think it is us.) We never withdraw support from a new pastor or preaching station evangelist.

So, that means, if the supply has dried up

from one source, it is my job to find the *new source* God intends to use to meet our needs and fund His work. Sitting in this chair is *never* boring.

I have seen God move so many times in so many ways to fund so much more than I ever dreamed we were capable of, that I don't tend to stress and panic as easily as I once did. *But replacing \$4,000 per month is a tall order!* For me. Evidently, **for God**....*not so much*.

In the last month, all from unsolicited sources, <u>all that was lost has been restored.</u> It is a **great story.** A **"God story"** that I'd love to tell you over a cup of coffee. Unfortunately, my word count is limited today. But this would be a great place for you to lay this little publication down, smile, lift your hands to heaven and just tell God how amazing, loving, kind, generous, and attentive to the needs of His children He truly is.

In all ministry endeavors, funding sources change. They come unexpectedly. And, they often, disappear just as unexpectedly. *The sources change. The SOURCE....never does.*

You often hear me say, "*God's got plenty*." I say it, because *He does*. My job is simply to find which accounts He has deposited His resources into to fund His work. And then, *I join Him in His work*, *tapping the resources He has already supplied in advance*. Nerve-racking or faith-building. We (you and me) *Choose*. What a great adventure God has invited us to join Him in!

Kenya Wish List

I just finished the final adjustments to the budget for my upcoming February 6-24 East Africa Trip.

On this trip we will host five leadership/pastor training conferences. We expect attendance to be 1,500+. We must assist with travel expenses, rent hotel rooms for some, acquire meeting space to accommodate the crowds, and feed them lunch during the training times.

In addition to the training conferences, we will be dedicating the new school in the Mathare slum. The dedication of "**The Miracle in Mathare**" requires a feast and celebration. So, that is what we shall do! At the Mt. Elgon Training and Conference Center we will dedicate the new dormitory. Another feast and celebration combined with an area-wide pastors' conference.

Kenya Trip— final budget for this trip is— **\$16,785.** (A little by several or all by one, no matter—God gets all glory either way).

\$10,000 one time gift— to furnish the new dormitory at Mt. Elgon. The original need was for nearly \$25,000. \$10,000 is all that remains of this need.

\$3,500 one time gift—remodel kitchen at Light Academy/feeding station in Kakamega.

\$7,500—new desks, chairs, tables and blackboards for the new classrooms in Mathare.

\$10,000—startup cost for new pastor training center in Western Kenya (Tanzania border). Pastor Christiano is a magnet for young pastors. He is raising them up so fast that it is obvious God is at work in this young pastor. We want to join God in His work with Christiano. We are renting a house, bringing in the sharpest six pastoral candidates Christiano has and putting them in a four-year mentorship program. *If church planting is your passion, this is the ministry investment for you!*

\$6,000-\$8,000—dental work for Mike. My baby teeth have finally given up the ghost after only 65 1/2 years! They must come out and new teeth have to be built and installed. *We have great medical insurance but no dental care included*. (NOTE: pray that one very loose tooth holds out until my return from Kenya. I really don't want to do dental work in Africa!).

New Monthly partners to replace lost monthly support (orphans, pastors, etc.) We need some to fill in the gaps of lost monthly support.