

Light  
MINISTRIES INC.



EYES ON AFRICA  
EARLY FALL RETURN.



PRAY  
THAT TRAVEL  
REOPENS



WE MUST GO  
WHILE IT IS CALLED  
"TODAY."

## SHAME ON YOU!



### The language of the...*liar*.

Weak religious people are easy prey for the accuser.

If our worth is based on anything but our new birth, we spend our lives either defending our indefensible sin, or cowering in the paralyzing fear that our action (or inaction) will bring a new bombardment of accusations and shame.

The religious world of "professional" Christianity is a petri dish for shame.

Be careful what voice you lend the ear of your heart to. The accuser is on the prowl.

I have been a “professional” Christian for almost 40 years now. By that I mean my life and my livelihood have been rooted in the church. My position as a preacher places me on what I believe to be the most precarious and dangerous geographical location in all of the world...***the platform.***

In my early years of ministry, I was sought by churches wanting to increase their evangelistic harvest and church attendance numbers. Coming from a professional sales background, I soon found my training in “closing the sale” worked just as well from the pulpit as it did from the sales desk.

Shame and fear are powerful tools. When used by those with skills of persuasion, over time, a mastery of manipulation becomes the greatest weapon in a “shame-based” minister’s arsenal.

I was able to *move* large crowds of hearers from their seats to the altar.

I was able to recruit ministry leaders by playing on the natural emotional heartstrings of “*if we love Jesus and believe we are one generation away from ruin in the church, how could we not freely give our time, talent, and treasure?!*”

I was able to convince people, poor and wealthy, that not only was it our Biblical duty to give of our wealth, but it was the singular greatest external evidence of our love for God and His Kingdom. *I became so proficient at the financial manipulation of crowds that crusade evangelists would fly me into their meetings **just to give the appeal for the offering.***

**I was effective...because I believed what I was saying.**

It was not evil coercion, but deep spiritual conviction, that motivated and empowered me on the platform.

I believed the ends justified the means.

I believed any tool was fair game if used to reach one lost soul or raise one more dollar for the cause of Christ and the advancement of His Kingdom.

I traded Christ’s calling for fleshly coercion and manipulation.

I prostituted the gifts of the Spirit to reach goals God never set for me or my ministry.

I was convinced I was being a good steward of God’s gifts. Convinced that the great numerical advancement of the Kingdom of God was evidence for my “justified” manipulations.

## ***Not missing a beat!***



The street children at our 6 feeding stations in East Africa continue to receive 2 hot meals each day.

God’s favor and your generosity have made these feeding stations the talk of the town!

**Making God famous.**

**I was wrong!**

The revelation of the grace of God changed the focus, the foundation, the message, and the administration of my ministry.

I asked the Holy Spirit to make me *acutely* aware of my tendency to fall back into proven ministry tricks and techniques I had learned to trust for **results**.

I realized that every “*convert*” I had manipulated into raising a hand, walking an aisle, or filling out a card was not a trophy of grace, but yet another notch in my “gunbelt” of religious performance. God changed my appetites. The bread of

performance and manipulation became bitter to my taste and soured my stomach. Those changes and my discernment of the shame-based lies of the enemy have become the “star” that keep me and this ministry pointed to “true North”—to Christ and His Gospel of grace.

These past weeks have been horrifying for me to watch.

As disturbing as the reports of sickness and death from the corona virus were, so was the lack of discernment in God’s people and their leaders to see, feel, taste, touch and smell the shame-based manipulation of Satan. I have watched the “army of God” become the pacifists of public opinion. I have seen leaders prop up social ministry platforms as anemic substitutes for the preaching of the Gospel.

And I have seen God’s people shamed into submission to a culture requiring a lifestyle of performance-based obedience no one can live up to.

**The enemy uses our past to immobilize us in our present.**

God *forgives* our **past** to *propel* us into His (and our) **future**.

So many have spent so much time looking in the rear view mirror it is no wonder that we go from one emotional/spiritual “crash” to the next!

**It is not your worth but your birth (the new one) that makes you a son and daughter of God!**

*It is not your performance that makes God smile. There is nothing you can do to make God love you more. There is nothing you can do to make God love you less! He simply loves you!!*

If you are forgiven...

If you have been freed from your past...

If you are adopted, an heir with Christ, a son/daughter of God...

**Then what could man (culture) say to possibly put you back on the treadmill of performance?**



**Repent!** Of *your* sin. You have no power to repent for others. **By Grace alone!**

## **Kenya Wish List**

*God continues to amaze us with His favor and provision. The last few weeks have seen substantial gifts arrive just in time to balance our deficits and cover our losses to the rampant Kenyan inflation we fight daily.*

*Now, we are in “restart” mode. In a couple of weeks we will resume classes at the Mt. Elgon training center. These days of shut down have reinforced how crucial it is to train*

*reproducing disciple-making leaders. Small groups and house churches have been the constant conduit that the life of the Gospel has flowed through while our church buildings have been locked down by the government.*

*With our next training class arrives 40 Ugandan pastors, church planters and evangelists. Our first “international” class. These men have no resources to pay even the meager tuition we ask to offset the costs for books and materials. Much less, the costs of housing and food that comes with the blessing of the new dormitory. ***I need partners to provide \$250 per trainee for these 40 Ugandan leaders.*** If you are looking for a “ground floor” ministry investment, this is one that will take the Gospel to new towns and villages in east Africa.*

- \$5,000** Finish furnishing the dormitory at Mt. Elgon in preparation for resumption of training classes. (*Was \$10,000. God provided 1/2*).
- \$8,000** Rocking chairs/outdoor furniture for veranda/study area at Mt. Elgon training center.
- \$1,000** Monthly budget for new training center in Kenyanyana (training center for bush pastors/church planters led by Pastor Christiano).
- \$100,000** Final phase of construction of new kitchen/dining hall at the Mt. Elgon Training Center. We will never be able to negotiate better prices on goods and services than now during this pandemic.

**“...you should always pray and never give up.”—Jesus, Luke 18:1**