



Dorothea News

- No. 3/2013 -

Newsletter of the **Dorothea Mission** - an evangelical faith mission
Operating in: South Africa, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Malawi and Mozambique
(A non-profit organization Reg. No. 039-294-NPO)

So send I you

On Saturday 14 September some friends and intercessors joined us to commemorate the 71st birthday of the Dorothea Mission. The Mission's Director, Jacques Malan, led the proceedings and began with the following thoughts:

"On this occasion I think of the words that Jesus said after His resurrection, as found in John 20:21: '*Peace be with you. As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.*' Those are important words. Jesus was speaking of His Father who had sent Him. He himself was a missionary. His Father had sent Him to carry out an immense task. He had

to live a holy life on earth, train His disciples, sacrifice His life for others on a cross and rise from the dead.

Jesus said, '*As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.*' This second phase has been continuing for a long time. He hasn't stopped us yet; He hasn't returned; He wants us to continue! The Lord is still sending out His people to do His work. He can even use this gathering or the prayers that will go up as a result of this occasion, to send someone."



As usual, reports on the work in several fields were given, of which some can be found in this newsletter. Some workers and the students ministered to the audience with a challenging song:

*Oh you children of the Lord, see how far the night is spent.
Listen to the trumpet sound...for His coming draweth nigh.
Stand you therefore fast in faith;
With the armour of God, while you watch and pray always....
O you bride of Christ, the Groom, are you right for His return...
Occupy until I come....Bring them in from far and wide....*

The guest speaker was Rev. Leigh Robinson from *Rosebank Union Church*. His message was from 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 and can be summarised as follows:

Paul wrote this letter to this congregation after receiving a very positive report about their spiritual condition from Timothy. This section highlights the power of the gospel. The following are the main points:

1. **The gospel came to them:** through people, through words, through power, with assurance (verse 5) and by the example of Paul and others (verse 6). The Holy Spirit works in hearts and this is where the intercessors play a very important role. It happens in answer to their prayers.
2. **The gospel was welcomed by them** (verses 6 and 9-10). The Thessalonians had turned from their idols to the living God to serve Him while they awaited the coming of Christ. We cannot do that in people's lives. But God can, through the power of the gospel! That is also the proof that they truly received the gospel.
3. **The gospel changed them** (verses 2 and 3). Paul heard about their faith, love and hope and that, too, was proof.
4. **The gospel was proclaimed by them** (verses 8-9). God could now also use them to spread the gospel. This has been the task of the Dorothea Mission since 1942 and we are all, in one way or another, part of that. May the Lord keep us faithful.



We thank God for His blessing on this occasion and for each of our friends that were present. We know that they also represented those who live far away and who for practical reasons were unable to attend. We would, humanly speaking, be unable to get very far in our service to the Lord without our dear friends. We thank the Lord for them.

The days of prayer and teaching that were held at our mission station, *Dorothea*, after the birthday, were blessed indeed too. We were sorry that

there were not more visitors to share the precious messages that Rev. Robinson brought us.

For those of us who were there, it was a blessing, challenge and encouragement. Five of the messages dealt with various incidents from the Gospel of John and two about preaching the Gospel. The messages are available on CD at a cost R14 each (excluding postage). You are welcome to contact our office in this regard.

From the heart

God works in mysterious ways. At one time Jesus described this working as wind blowing: "The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit" (John 3:8). At another time He described it as seed germinating and growing: "The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground... and the seed should sprout and grow, he himself does not know how" (Mark 4:26-27). We just don't know what the outcome will be when we share God's word with people. After doing our part, all we can do is to wait and see.

As we did street-work on a Sunday afternoon in Boshof, two of us met up with four men, John, Petrus, Lawrence and Elwyn. After speaking a little, I read from the Bible and did some explaining and applying of the portion read. John was restless and kept asking that we should just pray for them and move on. Lawrence was more encouraging in his responses. Petrus was argumentative and kept asking questions, but didn't listen to the answers. Elwyn was quiet, showing little response. How was God going to work in the hearts of these four men? We had no idea.

The next day while I was waiting for a bus, which was about 90 minutes late, Elwyn happened to come along. He said that my words of the previous day had meant a lot to him and had got him thinking. He shared with me some of his spiritual needs and I was able to advise him and pray for him. Maybe he is the one in whose heart God will do a great work.

At other times we worked hard and saw no results. However, on one occasion we shared God's word and testified... and then couldn't cope with the overwhelming response of young people asking for personal help in committing their lives to Christ. The results aren't in our hands. They are in God's hands and He will work in His own mysterious way. I don't know about you, but I am eager to find out more about how things have turned out... one day in heaven.

But there is nothing mysterious about our part. It is to pray, to sow the seed and to pray some more, leaving the results to Him, whether they be modest or great. That remains our special privilege.

Yours sincerely

Jacques

Jacques Malan

Men gather around the Word.

A men's camp was held at our campsite at *Dorothea* from 8 to 10 August. We are thankful for everyone that was able to attend. One of the workers testified as follows: "The men's camp was a highlight. There was a receptive atmosphere throughout the camp. There were new believers as well as mature Christians and it worked very well, especially in the discussion groups and the informal conversations about the Christian life. One of the men knew very little about the Bible and Christianity and learnt a lot. Another older and more mature Christian testified that he had been challenged and had made a new commitment to be a true Christian husband and father at home."

We thank the Lord for His blessing and for the privilege of holding this first camp at our campsite since it was upgraded. Any Christian group wanting to use these facilities is welcome to contact our office.



Why does God allow it?

Hospital ministry: It is a privilege for me to work at the *Steve Biko Academic Hospital* in Pretoria. Each of us that has a calling has the desire to "be about My [our] Father's business" (Luke 2:49). Many of the people that we minister to are referred to us by the staff. I minister in the intensive care unit, the general wards, the trauma section and sometimes also at the clinic for out-patients.

Recently there was a 28 year-old man who had cancer in his face. He had had a previous operation and was back in hospital because the cancer had returned and he had to receive further treatment. He was despondent, in severe pain and unsaved. He had wrestled with God. I visited him and he called me the "Bible lady". At first he asked me not to speak to him about the Lord and not to pray for him. I continued to visit him and he asked questions such as: "Where is God?" and "Why does God allow this?" The day came when he said to me: "You wanted to explain the gospel to me. Can you please do it now?" He came to the point where he received the Lord Jesus as his Saviour. The Lord also worked in his family situation. He was estranged from them, but they made contact soon afterwards.

Sometimes we sow and sometimes we reap, but our desire is that at all times God's name is glorified.

New teaching during fast.

Malawi: At one village, where Islam is quite strong, we held an outreach during Ramadan, the month when they fast. It was rather difficult as they also had many activities. Yet some of the women came to our services in their special clothing. One of them told us that previously she had only received teaching in a language that she didn't understand, but that she understood our messages very well and it meant a lot to her.

During the outreach at Baluti quite a few drunkards and non-church-goers came to the meetings. Five people gave their lives to the Lord and in this way came out of the darkness into the light.

Leaders of sect receive Christian teaching.

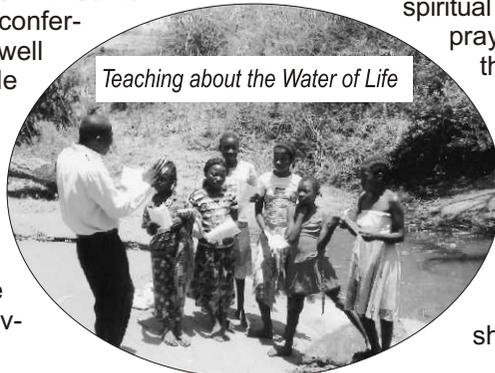
Although we never purposely work together with leaders of sects or false religions, we sometimes get unexpected invitations. One of our team members in Tete (Mozambique) was invited to present teaching at a conference for leaders of a well known sect, in August. He used this opportunity to focus on the message of salvation through Jesus Christ. Six of these people came forward to put things right with the Lord and to receive the Lord Jesus as their Saviour.

The doors are still open.

Economically things are rather difficult in Zimbabwe. The infrastructure is not good, crime is on the increase and many people have left the country, leaving behind wives and/or children. Yet the doors for the spreading of the gospel are still wide open.

Our team was invited to give messages at a national Men's Conference. The subjects included: *Nehemiah, What is a true man, What Christ has done for us and What God is still doing in the lives of Christians.* We also looked at *Forgiveness and Compassion.* Many questions were asked and some of the pastors helped to give answers. One man came to us afterwards and said that if he had known this teaching earlier in life, his marriage would have been better. The whole group was encouraged and we have been invited to next year's conference.

Although we cannot hold services freely as we first have to get permission from the local authorities, we can proclaim the gospel in villages, towns and rural areas. The attendance varies from place to place, but there is a definite spiritual hunger. Please pray with us that the doors will remain open and that more young people will seek the Lord and not just pursue modern methods of worship.



We see them grow.

The Dorothea Mission has a Bible College where people are trained as evangelists. Although it is not a pastoral training, some of our previous students are leading congregations in certain denominations.

Our complete course is for three years. We know that it is sometimes difficult for people to leave their families for three years, so it is possible to come for just one year to receive basic training.



We thank the Lord for our students. It brings us great joy to see how they grow in their faith and the way they interpret and preach the Scriptures - not just from the pulpit, but anywhere where the Lord gives an opening. They are positive about the lectures they receive and their testimonies as to how the Lord is working in their lives are precious to us.

The students are equipped theologically as well as practically. On weekends we reach out at a local hospital and a residential area. Twice a year

we hold a two-week outreach when the staff and students join together to reach people with the message of salvation through Christ.

At the Bible College we know that there are people praying for us. Thank you very much for that. Please continue to do so and, together with us, trust God that there will be more workers to bring in His harvest.



I heard the message at my home.

In Zambia our team's work mainly involves ministry to children and young people. They hold a number of Bible clubs for children on a weekly basis and in this way the Word is offered regularly to the same groups of children. Since March they have had the opportunity to present a short message at a certain school, twice a week. After a while, one of the girls from that school, Queen, turned up at one of the Bible clubs. After she had attended a few times she got saved. So the Lord used the opening at the school to save this girl's soul.

In August the team held an outreach at Kampekete and testified as follows: "We experienced the Lord's blessing on the work. During one of the meetings Rebekka heard the message at her house through the loudspeaker system. When we invited people who wanted further spiritual help to come forward, she ran to us for help to put her life right with the Lord. It was a privilege for us to help her to find peace."

The State President hears the Gospel.

Chokwe (Mozambique): At one place where we were working, two young men came to the service. They were under the influence of alcohol and were actually disturbing the ministry by the noise they were making. At the end of the service they indicated that they needed spiritual help. The next morning they were there again - but this time they were sober and they gave their lives to the Lord. They were part of a secular music group, but now they only sing for the Lord in churches and similar meetings.

In the previous edition of the *Dorothea News* it was mentioned that the severe floods that had occurred in the Chokwe area when thousands of people were displaced, had actually opened the doors for the gospel. Government officials became more aware of our work and we were often asked to lead times of Bible reading and prayer. Many people were reached at that time. People experienced heavy losses, but we rejoice that now there are more people on the way to Heaven.

More recently there was a large government meeting in the Gaza province at which the president spoke. One of our team members was approached by the government official concerned with the request to give a message from the Bible before the president spoke. There were thousands of people gathered together, including many important government officials. After the sermon the president stood up and thanked our evangelist, saying: "Thank you very much. Please continue with this work, not just in this area but in the whole of Mozambique."



Mozambique - often large audiences

It is unbelievable that the end of 2013 is just around the corner. We wish all our friends and intercessors a blessed Christmas and a blessed 2014. Thank you that you stood with us this year in the Lord's service. May your focus continue to be on our Returning Lord and King and may you experience His peace and mercy day by day.

***"With which the Dayspring from on high has visited us;
to give light to those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace" (Luke 1:78-79).***



I said to the man who stood at the Gate of the Year,
"Give me a light, that I may tread safely into the unknown".
And he replied: "Go out into the darkness
And put your hand into the hand of God.
That shall be to you better than light
And safer than a known way."

Prayer Requests

During the birthday meeting a prayer was offered for special needs in the Dorothea Mission. We gladly give the contents here as prayer requests:

- ◆ Thank the Lord for **every opportunity** that our teams had this year to spread the Word of God.
- ◆ Pray that the Lord will send **more students** to be trained at our Bible College.
- ◆ Pray for **more workers** so that we can do more for the Lord - in the field, but also those that have administrative and other needed skills.
- ◆ Pray for **revival in the Dorothea Mission** that the Lord would not just add numbers, but that He would also renew the inner strength.
- ◆ Pray that the Lord will go before us in the **activities during the year ahead** and bring souls into His kingdom.

Please also pray for:

1. **Those that have come to salvation** through our work during the past year.
 - ◆ That they will stand firm in their new found faith. Especially those that have come from other religions and false doctrines and have to endure strong opposition.
 - ◆ That especially those who are leaders in their churches or areas will have the courage to openly take a stand for the Lord.
2. That all our workers and students will be refreshed during their **well-earned holiday** at the end of the year and for everyone's safety during that time.
3. **Tennyson Nyirongo** (Zambia) and **Anneliese Kropp** (Namibia) will retire at the end of 2013. Please pray for them - especially for Anneliese as she has again been diagnosed with cancer.
4. For the **days of prayer** in the various fields from 16 to 18 January with which we will begin our activities for 2014, D.V.

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The Dorothea News is also available by e-mail.

With reference to enquiries we receive from time to time, we herewith supply the bank account details of the Dorothea Mission:

Dorothea Mission, Standard Bank, Van der Walt Street branch, branch code 010145 and account number 011030801.