



Dorothea News

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Newsletter of the **Dorothea Mission** - an evangelical faith mission

Operating in: South Africa, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Malawi and Mozambique

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Oppressed but not depressed.



Top: People listening to the Word eagerly.

Bottom: The Mission house about a week after the flood.



In January this year there were many reports in the news about the floods in Southern Mozambique. Thousands of people were uprooted and had to flee for their lives. They had to live in very poor circumstances for several weeks. Some of our friends made contact with our office to ask how the three evangelists from the Dorothea Mission and their families were coping.

It is with much gratitude to the Lord that we can report that they are safe. Furthermore, the Lord helped them to change this dilemma into an opportunity to spread the gospel!

We share something from our team members' reports:

“As a result of this crisis none of our plans for this period were realised. Together with thousands of others we were in two different refugee camps, one of which

was at Macia. Here we soon realised that people were not only physically broken but also spiritually. We worked together with four other pastors that we know well and were able to hold two services per day - one early in the morning and one in the evening. On request of the government ruler of the area, all the pastors and evangelists came together and organised the spreading of the Word of Hope to people who had no hope. About 180 church leaders from 50 denominations took part. In this

way thousands of people have been reached at a personal level.



Children playing happily together amidst difficult circumstances.

On Sundays we also held services in the main refugee camps. The first Sunday I brought the message and more than 2000 people attended the service. We thank the Lord for the opportunity He has given us to preach the Word *“in season and out of season”* (2 Timothy 4:2). We have discovered that people are more hungry for the Word of God now, than when it is going well with them.

Whenever people gathered to receive clothing or food from relief organisations, the request was made that we should first share a message from the Bible and pray. We gladly used such opportunities and in this way many heard the gospel.

In between, we are now busy with clearing up operations at the Mission's property. Furthermore we would like to reach the people on the other side of the Limpopo River, but have not been able to do so up to now. We hope that that will soon be possible.”

The team's programme was actually very full during this time and several people have given their lives to the Lord.

We give the Lord all the glory that He is able to use His children to be lights in the darkness in the difficult circumstances after this disaster.

Prayer Requests:

1. Pray that the Lord will bless and use the outreaches done in this crisis period in the flood ravaged areas.
2. That people who came to conversion during this time will continue in their faith.
3. That the Lord will give wisdom in connection with the practical clearing up operations and that every need will be met.
4. That life will quickly return to normal and that the infrastructure will be well restored.

From the heart

Recently, during my quiet time, I was reading the first chapter of Job. The words in verse 9 grabbed my attention: "Does Job fear God for nothing?" Although the words came from the mouth of Satan, for whom we have no appreciation at all, they are challenging words which we should consider.

The first challenge lies in the fact that Satan could not accuse Job of any obvious sin. No, he had to resort to inner motives. I wonder whether Satan would find it so hard to find something to accuse us of? Maybe he won't have to look far. Maybe he won't have to wait long for us to fall into one of the nasty temptations which he could send our way. He knows where we are weak.

The second challenge is that Satan openly acknowledged that Job feared God. Although he is a liar, it would have been pointless for him to bring a false accusation before the all-knowing God. This "fear" implies much more than its normal meaning these days. It includes respect, love, obedience and worship, which resulted in him shunning evil and being blameless. I trust that you also fear God as Job did.

The third and greatest challenge is that Satan was proved wrong, as the rest of the book shows. Job did not fear God for earthly reasons like health, wealth and protection, as Satan was insinuating. When all his possessions, his children and even his health were removed and on top of it all he was inflicted with severe suffering... he continued to fear God. He didn't understand what was happening, but he continued to love, trust, obey and worship the Lord.

What did Job fear God for? He feared God, not for what God did for him, but for who God is. It was his relationship with the Lord and his commitment to Him which were his anchor. I trust that you are challenged to treasure and nurture your relationship with the Lord. The Limpopo River in flood might take away someone's home, livelihood, friends and relatives, but it cannot take away your relationship with the heavenly Father. If you are a true brother or sister in the Lord then this is by far your most precious and permanent possession.

By God's grace the Dorothea Mission evangelists continue to receive and take opportunities to proclaim the Gospel and are so helping to bring others into this wonderful relationship. May you find similar opportunities in your own situation.

Jacques Malan

News about our workers

Together with this issue of the *Dorothea News* we are also sending out a new issue of the *Prayer Guide*. Thank you to each one of you that uses this information to pray for us by name. May you also share in God's blessing!



From the Prayer Guide you will see that **Temba and Jeni Tembo** have joined our team in Zimbabwe since we sent out the previous edition of the *Dorothea News*. They are not strangers to us as Temba has performed practical tasks at our mission station in Harare for about 20 years. He has been aware, for some time, that the Lord is calling him to full-time spiritual work and he completed his Bible College training in December 2012.

Samson Chichongue, who was already part of our team in Chokwe, also completed his final Bible College training in December, and has again added his weight to the team.

There are also those that have left our ranks. **Willy and Veronica Grimm** represented the work of Dorothea Mission in Switzerland for more than 20 years. Although it wasn't possible for them to address meetings, they managed the administrative matters with great dedication.

The years marched on and due to their advanced age they found it necessary to retire a few months ago. We thank the Lord that they were able to be part of our Mission and pray that God will richly bless them during this part of their life's journey. It is our prayer that they will experience the truth of Isaiah 46:4, daily: *"Even to your old age and gray hairs I am He, I am He who will sustain you. I have made you and I will carry you; I will sustain you and I will rescue you."*

For the time being our representative in Germany, Waldemar Achenbach, is managing most of the interests of the Dorothea Mission in Switzerland. Will you please pray for him as he takes on this additional work and also that the Lord will send a representative for us in Switzerland, in His time? Thank you very much.

Anita Booys who served in our Namibia team, felt that the Lord has led her to do full-time child evangelism, independently of the Mission, in her area. We pray that the Lord will richly bless her service.



Please note

*that this year the Dorothea Mission birthday
Will be held on **Saturday 14 September, D.V.**
Make a note in your diary, please.
More details will be given in the next newsletter.*

In spite of the distance and the heat

Many people came together in Zomba to hear the Word of God. There were two couples who were on the point of getting divorced. We were able to help them and their marriages are saved. A certain man, Mr. Phiri, travelled 200 km to tell us that he had been converted through our radio broadcasts transmitted by TWR. When it is time for a broadcast a group of people get together to listen and many have been converted as a result of listening to the programmes.

At Chapananga, people from various settlements came to listen to the broadcasts. Even though it was very hot, many people came. Quite a few people brought their witchcraft charms as well as tobacco to be burnt, as proof and a witness that they had completely broken with it. There were a number of people there that were not Christians before the outreach. They could now be introduced to the local congregations as believers.

We held an outreach in a village where Islam is very strong. However, there were three local chiefs who testified that they received the Lord Jesus as their personal Saviour. We thank the Lord for the fruit He gives. (Malawi)



Getting lost led to the right track

During our days of prayer at *Dorothea* in January, Daniel Chungwane from our team in Chokwe, Mozambique told the following moving testimony:

“In the time that we have been here, my wife, Rita, informed me that they had an unexpected visitor. This man was from Pretoria North (less than 20 km from our mission station)! He was looking for a village in the Chokwe district where he wanted to see a specific witchdoctor in connection with family problems. Someone directed him to our house to ask for directions. Rita wasted no time. She contacted a local minister to come and talk to him about his problems. He realised his spiritual need and received Jesus Christ as his Lord and Saviour, there and then.”

This man did not continue with his journey, but returned to South Africa. Daniel was able to contact him and gave him more advice about his Christian life before the team returned to Chokwe.

Tracts and Bible studies are “little misionaries”.

When we visit patients in the hospital, we cannot always have a follow up conversation with them, because they are discharged so soon.

Tracts and booklets are actually like “little misionaries” that go home with them and carry the message.

During a Sunday service at our congregation, I sat next to a man from Angola. He reminded me that I had given him Portuguese Bible studies on a previous occasion and said he was using these among Angolan refugees. He said that these books had opened many church goers' spiritual eyes. They really appreciate the books and he took more with him this time. (*Namibia*)

These Bible studies, *Be a Living Member* in Portuguese, as well as others in different languages, are available from our office.



Church leaders in Mozambique who did the Portugese Bible studies as well.



Encouragements, problems and needs

We experience encouragements during outreaches, but also various problems and needs. The vehicle which we use has the name of the Mission on it. Recently, when we were parked at the hospital, a young man, Tichaona, who walked past it, noticed the name. He and his friend came to us and he began to testify what the work of the Mission had meant to him. When he was in Grade 3, we had regularly visited the school which he attended and had brought the Word to the learners. He had been converted at that time. Today he is a doctor at the eye clinic at the hospital, but he still remembers that the Lord used the Mission to bring him to salvation. We give all the glory to God.

At one place where we were holding services, we discovered that the preacher had two wives. It was a difficult situation, but after we had presented a leadership seminar on the Saturday, he realised that he was not qualified to be a leader in the congregation and he was prepared to resign. It was a step in faith for him, because he lost his job in the process and probably had a large family to support. Please pray for people like that who have to make difficult decisions because of their convictions.

We find that there are many people who cannot find work in Zimbabwe and so they go to South Africa or Botswana. The result is that married couples are not living together and this brings many temptations and problems. Several of our team members have been able to pray with people who experience such problems. We also have come into contact with people who confessed that they are in an extra-marital relationship as a result of this situation. Please pray with us that the Christians especially will stand strong when they are tempted. (*Zimbabwe*)

“Whom shall I send and who will go for Us?”

For many people “to be in full-time service for the Lord” is equivalent to one or more of the following: to become a pastor, to learn another language, to work in distant lands across cultural boundaries, to do evangelism in a closed country, to be exposed to strange illnesses, to eat unknown and possibly unappetising dishes, etc. The list could be even longer.

However, there are many people who have not been trained as pastors and who do not go to far off countries and who are not comfortable with addressing a group of people, but they are able to apply their academic and other capabilities very effectively, long term or short term, in the Lord's service. These people are administrative officials, radio technicians, motor mechanics and the like and are indispensable in missionary organizations.



Whether we do direct evangelism ourselves or whether we play a supportive role by performing practical tasks, the desire that the gospel should go out, is the strongest. We say together with Paul: “For Christ's love compels us...” (2 Cor. 5:14).

So if you are experiencing that the Lord is calling you for a period of full-time service of nine months or longer, and are wondering if your skills can be of use in the Dorothea Mission directly or indirectly for evangelism, you are welcome to contact us. We believe that the accompanying *Prayer Guide* will present a good overview of our fields of involvement. You can also read more on our web page. (See page 8 for details.)



Fear and tension followed by peace

In the hospital, an eighty-year-old mother in the intensive care ward was converted. She was religious, but afraid to die. She admitted that she was uncertain of her personal relationship with the Lord. Her daughter resented her and had recently blamed her for the many problems that she was experiencing. The tension had led to the mother landing in hospital.

This mother realised that she had made many mistakes and wanted to restore the relationship with her daughter. However, her greatest need was to receive the Lord's forgiveness for herself, a sinner. She received the Lord Jesus as her Saviour and her heart was filled with peace. Then she arranged to see and speak to her daughter who had hurt her so much. (*Hospital Ministry*)

Prayer Requests

We gladly share the following prayer requests with you for your intercession please:

1. Pray for the following **outreaches** which are on the programme D.V.:
 - Malawi team at Nsanje: 5 - 14 April
 - Malawi and Tete teams at Chitima: 1 - 12 May
 - Zambia team at Kapiri Mposhi: 1 - 12 May
 - South Africa: Bible College at Sekororo: 17 June to 1 July.
2. Anneliese Kropp from our team in Namibia will be in her country of birth, Germany, from May to July for **furlough and deputation work**, D.V. Pray for good openings to share about the work and the Lord's blessing on them.
3. We are planning a week-long **conference mainly for the wives** of our non-South African evangelists in July, D.V. It will be held at our mission station in Harare, Zimbabwe. The aim of the conference is to build them up spiritually and to encourage them in their service for the Lord. Please pray for:
 - all the logistic preparations regarding passports and the like;
 - that all will be able to attend, also those involved from South Africa;
 - for safe journeys, and
 - most importantly, the Lord's indispensable blessing on the conference.
4. Pray for a good intake of **Bible College students** in July, D.V.
5. Our project to upgrade our **camp site at Dorothea**, so that it can be used by churches or Christian groups for camps and seminars, is progressing very slowly. Pray that the Lord will enable us to succeed in this venture.

*“Knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things,
like silver or gold... but with the precious blood of Christ...
who through Him believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him
glory so that your faith and hope are in God” (1 Peter 1:18-19, 21).*



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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.