Mission Trip 2012 7th to 16 Sept

Magnificent Trip. Thank you for all your support

Introduction

"Welcome to Kigali Rwanda and thank you for flying Kenya Airways" were the words of the pilot as we pulled into Kigali Airport on the 7th of Sept. I waited anxiously for the response of Kemi (my sister) and Winnie (Friend from Church), both accompanied me on this trip. Wow! were both their expression and I was at ease being their first time in Rwanda. For me this is year 12 and have become a veteran. I wanted to know what they thought and felt and their initial expression was pleasing. They both looked pleased, Rwandese hospitality from the airport totally won them over, all the questions and anxieties whilst the trip was being planned were all laid to good rest and they were relaxed. We were met by Ben our host from the Guest house, with such a smile and welcome again they were pleased. The drive to the guest house, some 20min away, was full of the "wow" comments, clean streets, greens everywhere, a bigger wow when we pulled into Good News guest house home for next 9-days. We were welcomed by such pleasant staff, beautiful scenery of the many mountains and a peaceful atmosphere, I also joined in the wow by then!.

We unpacked and roughly planned the week, collected the car, I was driving for the week, ex-changed some money in town and made some few phone calls in preparation for the week. Soon day one rolled with so much activities that day 9 came too quick. The following is a summary of the events that took place this week, please enjoy reading.

Time at Restoration Church

We had 2-days program with Restoration Church. We met with two groups of women. In total about 100. Group 1 were young mothers supported by Compassion charity and Restoration Church. They are not active members of the church. These young mothers found themselves pregnant and struggling with bringing up children, some were married some were not. Kemi and Winnie ministered to this group on day 1, they spoke about role of a mother, bringing up their children, as well as the role of a wife. They had a chance for 1-2-1 counseling for some of them and two of them actually gave their lives to Christ. Bibles were bought for them.

On day 2, with this same group upon the Pastor's request Kemi spoke to them about hygiene and nutrition, Jumoke spoke about the fact that they are special and God loves them and Kemi and Winnie prayed with them.

The second group were made up of leaders in the church mostly women, on day 1, Winnie addressed the group from Titus how older women should be faithful in instructing younger ones. Kemi spoke from Proverbs 31 and Jumoke spoke about leadership skills not managing by emotions. On day 2, Winnie spoke to this group about visions, getting business ideas from God. Jumoke spoke about the same thing but from the position of implementation of the ideas and not to get discouraged even if it does not seem to work first time using Judges 20. Both

Jumoke and Winnie then prayed with the group for ideas and vision and improved leadership skills. Both groups were really pleased, blessed with the program and revelations.

Grace Outreach Church (Kemi's church) sent about 5 boxes of clothes which arrived just before we did, so we had the opportunity to open the boxes and see the clothes distributed to the mothers, it was such a blessing. Jumoke also gave the church

Christian books which was donated by a friend. Really a blessed time to see their faces. We sponsored the group to have some refreshments (about £35).

Kemi was hijacked to train their Ushers for 2hrs on one of the evenings, she was as blessed as they were.

<u>Need:</u> The church was so pleased with the time we spent with them, they want us back next time and would love us to visit other branches



Charities/Ministries to support:

- Solace Ministries UK: Solace representative in UK. Child Sponsorship program in Rwanda, www.solaceministriesuk.com
- Good News Ministries: goodnewsguest-house@yahoo.fr
- Friends Trust International: Child Sponsorship program and projects in Kenya and Nigeria (www.friendstrust.org.uk)
- Elijah-Revolution: Children Sponsorship in Ghana.
- Children's Ark Project: Building Montessori school in Kigali http://www.childrensarkproject.org



The Missionaries arrived in Nairobi airport (Kemi & Winnie)



Jumoke, Winnie, Kemi at Kigali Memorial site



Kemi was hijacked to train their KEMI PREACHING AT RESTORATION



ABOVE YOUNG MOTHERS
PREACHED TO AT RESTORATION
AND IN TEXT BOOKS DONATION
TO THE CHURCH RECEIVED BY
ONE OF THE PASTOR'S WIFE

Time in with Good News Ministries

We had 3 sessions with Good News (GN) Ministries. Session 1 was on Wednesday morning at Yamata province, before we got to the community we stopped by two memorial site. At Yamata memorial site 45,000 people were buried there, this was a difficult place to be because it had the blood stained clothes still laid out and the skeleton of the dead could be seen in a room as they were but we opted for not seeing this room. At the community home, we were met by about 30-40 women who were so

pleased to meet us. Pascaline the leader of the team remembered Jumoke when they were with Solace Ministries (Where Ben who heads GN ministry used to work). Pascaline remembered Jumoke when she came with Ruth and Ruth had preached a message from book of Ruth when Naomi went back to claim her inheritance, apparently this message really touched her that she went back to Yamata where she is now and leads the team so it was a turning point for her she

remembered the date 30th of Jul 2004, awesome. We went with Jeff and Barbara our adopted parents from Canada who were there for a pro-gram on Medical Ministry International (MMI) and they were waiting for their colleagues so they came with us. Two women shared their testimonies for the first time in 18yrs and this was so moving, it had everyone crying including Jeff.

<u>UWIMANA AMONCIATHA:</u> came from a family of 10, 8 were killed by poison before the 1994 genocide, her cousin was killed in her presence, she was taken to Tanzania after the genocide with a group with whom she sort refuge and she was married off to a man with HIV who later died. She is also HIV and has a child although not HIV but disabled and now she is struggling with bringing him up especially school fees etc.

<u>MUKURUBIBI BERTIRDE</u>: gave birth to a child 3-days before the genocide broke out, was raped by an HIV infected man and later realized she is HIV positive and struggling.

The Group like all the other groups supported by Good News Ministries are the forgotten pockets of the genocide survivors they are sharing their stories for the first time probably just coming together as a fellowship. They need to start doing projects to help keep their minds focused, they need school sponsorship for their children, they need homes in some cases and they also need help with paying the Health Insurance fee which is \$10 each a year. This are some of the areas you can help Good News as its starting out and needs your help. Please contact us to support them.



The picture above shows all three of us with Jeff and Barbara from MMI Canada. Picture 2 shows the ladies at Yamata meeting in the home. Below on the left are pictures from Yamata memorial sites of clothes from the victims. Below right shows women praying in circle at Mohanga meeting.

GN-Session 2

Session 2 was with the Gigondo Community in Kigali which is where the Guest House is based so we did not have to travel, the group came to the Guest House, met in a small conference hall which is part of the facilities of the guest house. There were about 75 women present, the message we shared with them were similar from all three of us even though we did not plan it. Winnie shared from Isa 61 Kemi from



Isa 60 and Jumoke from Isa 30. It was a message of hope, turning from the past to the future, focusing on business ideas they used to do and left, they should pick it up again and proceed because God is about to bless them. The ladies were

so encouraged by the message. A couple of them shared their stories with us some for the first time. In particular there was a young lady who shared about how she was group raped, her sister also tortured and raped in front of her. She was taken to Congo forced to marry one of them, has 3-children and finally came back to Rwanda with the children but could not share her story with anyone because of the shame she felt. With the GN fellowship she feels safe to share and is encouraged by the other women.

GN-Session 3

Session 3 was in Mohanga community used to be called Gitarama., this was the last day of our stay we were tired and exhausted did not feel we had much to give, Ben drove the car for an hour and a half, Going to the group we had nothing planned to say. The group just started meeting so they are new with each other. When we got there, they were in a church hall about 20-30 of them. They honestly seemed down in spirit, they could not share their testimony because it was still too fresh, they said



they were hopeful but it sounded like words and they did not really mean it. It was a hard group and we all felt like praying and leaving fast!! God however had another agenda, Ben asked Jumoke to share and she shared from Roms 8 about the love of God and being more than conquers .This message was not planned, Jumoke said she

only received the word when we got there and sat down. Initially it did not seem appropriate but God knew what they needed. Anyway the message went with such power and conviction that by the end of the preaching, these women including us were hugging and dancing and shouting round the hall. It was electric it was as if the Lord came down, (well he did), it was electric, the mood was so changed, wow!, we were all shocked, wondered what happened there. We also shared the rest of the clothes with them and they were the best ones so they are indeed a special group.

<u>Solace Ministries:</u> Winnie and Jumoke visited Solace on Wednesday afternoon to say hello but got pulled in to the women's fellowship meeting and was asked to share 10mins each word of encouragement. We also had a chance to join in some powerful praise dance with the group.

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Other Activities

Pastor Peter's Widow.

Pastor Peter was one of the Pastors from Minevam church, Jumoke usually preaches in, on her trip last summer he was ill and subsequently died. It is a hard time for the widow, she came to meeting in Trumpet church, we prayed with her and broke the spirit of grieve being the second time her husband has died. Once during genocide and now Pastor Peter through sickness. She took us to her house and there she blessed Jumoke

with a testimony that her husband wanted to tell her before he died. It was how during one of her trips she blessed him with money and that was a turning point for him. He always wanted to thank her but never had a chance so she is doing it for him. We also met her sister who got pregnant by accident as she is not married to the man, he married someone else, so, she felt rejected and also has not been to church because her parents are Pastors and now believes she has

let them down. Winnie counseled her and we prayer with her. She felt released and a lot of hope afterwards.

Pastor Peter's widow needs money for children school fees so if anyone can help please contact any of us, this is the main area she is struggling. Other activities:

- Prayed with a friend DK concerning restoration of business and 15mins later he told us that he had a call from Burundi for a business opportunity .What an awesome God we serve.
- We prayed with Joseph who took us to Goma Border he is getting married in November so wanted us to bless him and his home.
- Prayed with a friend who was having different issues with her houses so we went round blessing her different homes . Praise God.
- Prayed with a friend who had a motor bike accident before we go there and was home bound, went to her home to pray with her.

Rwandese know how to draw the anointing from you which is a great thing because you move in ways you don't usually do. We all can testify to this truth they are hungry and crying out for a blessing hence God Moves..

BDC/ICCC:

Jumoke spent most evenings (except Thursday) with BDC/ICCC program which is based on developing entrepreneurs using Christian values but not focusing on it. The program is in its 4th year and Jumoke has been going as a visiting entrepreneur, this time she went to learn how to facilitate the session. She was involved in leading some discussions and hopes to lead next time.



Above shows Winnie preaching at Restoration Church and picture next to this is a woman looking at the clothes from Grace Outreach package deciding which clothes to pick, what a blessing thank you all at Grace Outreach.

Visit to Congo Border

Day 2 plan of our trip was to cross the border of Rwanda/Congo to visit Goma and pray. Recently there has been a lot of unrest between and around the boarder so one of the commission was to pray for this to cease and war in Congo in general. Jumoke drove the car to the boarder about 3hrs away on a winding road up and down the mountains We had a guide, Joseph who accompanied us, thank God for his support and to Pastor Aphrodis for finding him for us. We had a safe trip there and back, Praise God as the road although smooth but difficult terrain up and down mountains; excellent view though. Anyway we were not allowed visa, apparently, the rules have changed because of the unrest we needed to get visa from UK. We then decided we will not be deterred, so we prayed at the border and spoke the Word, walked round and prayed the grounds however this attracted attention especially when we brought out the cam-era, this raised a lot of concerns and we almost got arrested by the border police. They interviewed us, asked us what we were doing etc, but thank God they let us go (phew)! We did not give up, we went to lake Kivu in Rwanda side as it flowed from Rwanda to Congo prayed into the river and released blessings into the water to be carried to Congo. We declared Deu 28 blessing of God over both lands. Finally we had a chance to bless a little boy swimming in the lake gave him some sweets and Winnie prayed with him as his hand was disabled. Hallelujah



<u>Above:</u> Winnie praying away at Gisenyi border before we were questioned.

Until next time thank you so much and God bless. Keep Prayers coming. My email is jogunbekun@yahoo.com.

Kemi and Winnie you were such a blessing so thanks for coming. God Bless.



Picture of Jumoke

and Winnie praying by Lake Kivu . esque view of
Next Picture with Pastor's wife at Mo
hanga women's meeting. Followed by
Kemi and Winnie at Restoration when
clothes were being distributed.

Below is a picture
esque view of
Kigali mountain
on way from
Congo Border







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