

## **Mission to Sierra Leone Blama Village Crusade 5/17/2010**

### **A NEW CHURCH IS BORN**

#### **Tony:**

I will be writing for the team today. They said this village was only 9 miles away from Pujehun, but it took an hour one way, with the only vehicle we could find. It was an old compact Toyota. We had seven pastors (plus the driver), a keyboard, a generator, assorted equipment in this tiny car headed down this dirt "path" to this Muslim village in the woods. Some of the pastors rode bicycle, some walked to be part of what God was going to do. The total population of this village is about 500 men, women and children. I was clearly on display to these people that have ever seen any white people. They had a central community gathering building of slab, poles and roof in the middle of the village. Normally, that is where the goats and sheep hang out. I was told they had to spend some time washing off the poop from the animals before we got there. At first it was mainly all children and some women as the men were still in their prayer meeting (Islamic). We began to sing and dance and this white boys dancing was attracting more people. Then the village chief and elders walked in. After introductions of the village leaders they turned over the service. The service had to begin after dark as the Muslims will not come out before that.

I didn't get words of knowledge like normal, ahead of time. Tonight, as I was speaking to the people, He showed me the people and the conditions that He wanted to heal. There was one of the village elders that walked in with a cane, obviously under great pain and with great difficulty. He sat down in a little child's seat and His eyes were fixed on me as I spoke. I looked at him and knew he was the one to be touched first. He had been suffering for many years and the whole village knew that. After just a few minutes of introducing Jesus to them, I said, now it is time for you to see Him. I gave out the word and the man came forward. When I told the people that Jesus was going to heal the man, a number of them started laughing and mocking saying, "he will never walk, he IS a cripple, watch, nothing will happen!" This man had a bit of a hunch back as his spine was

crooked. He said that he could not bend over, that it had been years since he bent. He said that if he tried to walk without his cane, he would instantly fall as the pains that come from his back into his legs.

Well, the kingdom of heaven was at hand, the Presence of Holy Spirit was moving. First, after prayer, he bent over again and again and said “the pain is gone!” Miraculously, his spine realigned and straightened. He had a tiny bit of pain left at the bottom of his spine; we prayed again and asked him to walk. He handed his cane and flashlight to me, without asking. He began to walk without his cane and all of a sudden the mocking stopped. He walked over to the village chief, whose eyes were real big with amazement at what he was seeing, and then walked back to us. After this, this man proceeded to take off his Muslim beanie as he now knew it just wasn't right as Holy Spirit was wooing him to Christ (in a few moments he would receive Jesus). Another man with serious back problems for over 3 years stood there now, he too had been unable to bend or to use his knees without pain. We prayed and then told him to bend. He did and with jubilation began to bend, jump and kick displaying to all the people what Jesus had just done for him.

OK, I felt the faith level high, so it was time to give the invitation to come to Jesus. They had seen His Power, they had seen His Glory, and they had seen Him demonstrate that He is alive. AMAZING GOD, He touched everyone; EVERY HAND went up to receive Him! There were 200 salvations that I could see and only God knows how many of the Muslims standing outside (as there was no more room inside) have also given their lives to Jesus. **A NEW CHURCH BEGINS!** The new pastor is here, a young man that has been disciplined by Emmanuel and is ready now to fully commit to these people. They have permission from the Chief and Elders (that have all received Jesus tonight) to use the community center as a meeting place and place of worship, until a church building can be put up.

In talking to one of the village elders later, his name was Joseph, he told me that he had a good friend from America many years ago whose name was Joseph Fiore. That was the name of my earthly father. Joseph Fiore was a godly man, but this village elder, Joseph chose to remain a Muslim, UNTIL TODAY! Glory to God!

I only prayed for two others as the pastors came to pray. I have a few of the other testimonies:

- When the people saw how Jesus was healing, some of them ran off to the Muslim family that has a teenage daughter that has been deaf/mute. They brought her and stood her in front of me and said “please pray, she cannot hear or talk!” Her parents didn’t come tonight, but I would surely like to be in their house when their daughter comes home and explains to mommy and daddy what Jesus did! This miracle was Extremely Fast. In 10 seconds, commanding that spirit to leave her, in the Name of Jesus and I clapped by each year and she responded that she could hear. Now the next part is truly an amazing miracle to me. If she has never heard nor spoken, for many we have seen, there is now a time of learning how to speak. It is very crude at first. These people do not speak English like we do, they have a native language. You would think if she would say anything, it would be in her native language. I asked her to repeat words, beginning with “Jesus” and then sentences all in my English and she repeated them perfectly, **JUST THE WAY I SAID THEM!** She talked as if I raised her and taught her how to talk! Wow, God! The look of amazement, shock and thankfulness on her face really got to me. I had to stop and reflect on what was really happening here. Oh, My Father, I praise and adore You for Your compassionate loving kindness can be clearly seen!
- The Chief got healed. I don’t know what was wrong with him as I wasn’t praying, but he was so powerfully touched, he appeared to be stuck to the floor and couldn’t (or perhaps wouldn’t) move from the Presence of God that had just come upon him. I looked at him and used universal sign language for his state and he smiled and nodded yes and lifted up his hands to praise his new **KING JESUS!**
- A woman with a severe headache (it was some kind of sickness other than normal headache). This sickness troubled her for many years. Sometimes she was not able to see or hear when the pain was severe. This time, while the prayer was going on, she realized that the pain was gone!

- A lady with crippling pain was healed. This pain has been on her for more than 5 years, she said. At the time we were praying for her she said something painful left her from her back. It was as if the demon wanted to throw in one more pain before he was evicted. She was totally healed!
- A lady whose knees were fused and she couldn't bend. How could she work and live properly this way? The woman must use their knees to bend to accomplish all their daily work. She was instantly healed and rejoiced in the Lord.
- Another man, they asked me to come and pray with them. As soon as I touched his hands, I knew that it was diabetes. He complained of numbness and no feeling at all in his hands and feet and also the other typical diabetes. I knew he would be instantly healed. We prayed and he got all his feeling back in his hands and feet, the dizziness and weakness left and he said "I am healed!" He also wanted to be part of helping somehow in the new church.
- There were two people with some kind of disease that creates a division in their skulls. You could feel the groove; it was soft tissue, as if the skull was not there, right down the middle. They both had the same symptoms of pain, dizziness and disorientation. They were both miraculously healed!
- Another pastor was so excited, he came to me waiving his hands and jumping. He said, "I prayed for a blind man tonight, he couldn't see anything, and God opened his eyes totally. It happened so fast, I am in awe of what I have now seen God do thru me!"

Special thanks to all those praying for being part of this Birthing Process! All Glory to God!