

## **Mission to the Katumba Refugee Camps of Tanzania September 2018**

Praise God for all the Glorious Works He had prepared in Eternity Past for us to walk in during these days. Thanks to all who responded to Holy Spirit as you prayed for the team and the beautiful people we were sent to during this time.

I know I have said this hundreds of times, but it would be impossible to adequately explain all that God has done. I'm sure there would be a large stack of documents filled with lists of the lives impacted.

We believers should all know that the enemy will attempt to resist our motions towards bringing His Gospel of the Kingdom to the peoples of this world, but the Good News is that we are not working towards a place of victory BUT we Go from a position of victory in what Jesus has purchased for us. Our enemy has already been defeated by Jesus Christ. So, every resistance that comes to our going, whether across the street or across the earth, cannot stop those who believe. I love what Paul says to Timothy; "Fight the Good Fight of Faith!" Our fight is really only a fight to stay in faith. It's a good fight, because we will always win if we keep standing in Faith. I was flying into Dar es Salaam on a different flight than the rest of the team. When I arrived, a man came up to me and said "are you mister ann toe nee?" I said yes. He said "you are to go directly thru customs and into the departure part of the airport as others await you!" I thought that is kinda weird, but I flew thru customs, out of the airport and the man appeared again and said "follow me". He took me to the departure area where the rest of the team was waiting for me. Ellen said "they changed the flight time on our flight to Kigoma, it was to have already left, but they are holding the flight waiting for you!" As I waited for my carry on bags to go thru the scanner, Caroline took my passport and went to get me a boarding ticket. It hadn't hit me yet, but when the other members of the team told Air Tanzania that they would not leave without me, then the Airline just told everyone the flight is delayed. How many of you have ever heard of an airline delaying a flight for two hours to wait for one passenger? Well, these prop plane flights do not go to the bush areas every day, so missing this flight would have caused a lot of ministry to not happen. This is the greatest Adventure of Life! What had been planned for us in Eternity Past would not be stopped by the enemy. And thru it all we could REST in Him, Hidden in Christ.

Yes, All Glory to God! So, here we go. I will again begin with the summary of this mission at the parting final day and then go back and fill in details of a tiny bit of what God did along the way.

At the last farewell meeting, one of the Choirs (there were 16 different Choirs here giving glory to God on this last day- they all had very colorful coordinated outfits) prepared a song for the Team with words from their heart and sang it to us. Some of the words in the song were: “if possible, let the days go back, let the sun stop so that we can continue proceeding on with these meetings, if possible can we find more days for you to stay”. With tear filled eyes, the impact of what Holy Spirit had done thru us was building.

Some statements made to the team by leaders were: “You have traveled a long journey to come to us, it is fantastic that God has not forgotten us in Katumba, there are so many other good cities that would be so much more comfortable for you, but God sent you here, so full of love and joy. We know you have paid a lot of money to feed us. You have planted good seeds, eternal seeds. There will be a good crop! We love you so, so, sooooo much! What you have provided here, a value cannot be placed on it, it is so great. Remember, that here in Katumba is your HOME, you are part of our family and will always be in our heart. We are all Amazed that Our God has given this Team to come and love us, a confirmation that God will never forget about us.”

“Please send this greeting back to those back in the USA from us. The greeting is from Romans 8:35.”

Here I am documenting notes from the Senior Pastor’s Letter to the Team presented to us at the time of our departure:

*Dear Guests of Honor, praise be the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ. I want to thank you for your great heart of service you have done here at our churches.*

*First of all we thank the Living God who enabled you to pass thru mountains, continents, seas, oceans that was so expensive to reach here at Katumba. May our Heavenly Father bless you so much.*

*Your coming is a miracle of God for we Katumba believers. You agreed as a family team to travel together for the Gospel, may God bless you. The Bible says, “two guys can’t travel together if they are not agreed with each other.”*

*To us, it is a miracle because Katumba is in a remote area, far from town with poor infrastructures and full of poor roads and dust. But that was not a hinderance for you, you tolerated all of these disturbances from Kigoma to Katumba. This is the great love of your heart.*

*The love you have shown us is of God, it will never be deleted in our hearts and lives. This kind of love cannot be acted out, but only through the Holy Spirit can it be.*

*We have so many friends from Europe who are good but in your case it is not only being our friends but also real brothers and sisters. Your love touched our hearts to the extent of bringing out our tears. We love you so much, God bless you.*

*We believe the seeds you have planted here at Katumba will germinate and grow then produce fruits of which God will have watered them. It is a blessing of the Holy Spirit that Katavi and USA people have gathered for The Christ. There are so many good areas and countries that you could go and preach the Word of God, but wonderful enough, God directed you to come here. This is very Amazing!*

*You left your families, work and other duties and joined Katumba people for some days to fulfill God's purpose. Now, take our greetings to your home churches, families, friends and other brothers in Christ. Tell them that we love them, we pray for them and we care for them. We believe we will one day see face to face again, if God wishes.*

*God bless you so much. William Issaya. Senior Pastor for all Katumba Churches.*

So having arrived very late at night at the first settlement camp, Kenoughe, where we will begin our ministry time, the next morning we needed to register with the government that we are there for ministry which was about 20 minute drive outside the camp. To our surprise when we returned back to the camp we were officially greeted by hundreds of men, woman and children. All jumping, dancing and hollering praises to God for our coming. The thought hit me, hey, there are also hundreds of children here greeting us and it is right now during school hours. This event was so important to this Refugee camp that they let all the children out of school to greet us. We all felt like some sort of dignitary. Then again it hit me, we are, we are Ambassadors of Heaven to bring Good News!

The church leaders here were filled with Joy when the Gov Officials (the minister of Home Affairs for the Nation of Tanzania), who were at the opening meetings, said they are going to open the local airport to make our travel here much easier and they are going to open a hospital AND that they realize that what is being taught here, Faith in Jesus Christ, is the source of all healing and prosperity of the people and the Country of Tanzania. When the Official was speaking he said his speech would be very short because what the American missionaries have come to bring us is TRUTH and the most important thing for all right now, and they wanted to quickly give way to the team! Wow, what I am seeing and hearing is a heart that is similar to that heart present at the formation of the United States of America. A heart that recognizes that there is no separation between church and state, but that the government is to be operated by Godly men and woman with full faith and trust in Christ! Amazing, just Amazing!

There was a man named Emmanuel that came from a long distance away in Tanzania to do the interpretation for me during our stay. In these camps it is rare to find someone that can speak English. Swahili is the language. He had a contagious laugh that would bring a smile to everyone. I didn't know his God history so I told him that it is important that he understand what I will be saying since he is translating and that if he didn't understand he should ask me to further explain. He told me, after translating more than a dozen services, that his time doing this has transformed his life. At first the teachings were strange to him, he said, but Holy Spirit linked us together in the Truth and he would repeatedly say "Amazing, just Amazing!" I would turn to look at him and he would just say "Amazing, just Amazing!" The miracles happening in front of him brought him very quickly to praying on his own with shouts of joy repeatedly coming from him. I thank God for this son of God and how the two of us became one in the Holy Ghost during ministry!

There were thousands of people we got to minister to. First intro teaching I made short because I knew we needed to get into demonstrations of power. I turned and looked at the leaders and they said "we need to break for lunch". I said "we really need to pray for just a couple people for demonstration." So I gave one word of knowledge for back issues and a couple people start walking up. I thought ok, here we go, this will be quick. Then about a hundred more people started coming up and they started kneeling down. First I thought I should have picked a

not so common word! I said, “please do not kneel, just stand up”. No time now to address this religious thinking and I am wondering what will happen with all these folks and the “feeding schedule” of our hosts. They really wanted to make sure that we had plenty of food and they made 3 meals a day mandatory. I know that was for our benefit, God bless them!

Ok, so we start praying. Bam, pains gone, I have them give testimony and the crowd roars. Then next guy starts growling. Emmanuel says the guy is saying he has demons and was thinking we should start barking at them. I said “no need, not a problem, the demons are going to go with the sickness!” Bam, the power of God puts out the sickness and the demons with one clean sweep! Hallelujah! I looked at Emmanuel and said “no worries, we will explain how all this is happening later!” So we had about 20 healing miracles in 5 minutes and the leaders said we should tell the rest of the people that we have to go for lunch now and we will pray for them all in the next session.

Mixed in the teaching Holy Spirit had us doing a lot of demonstration letting the people hear and see the general process, knowing that co-laboring with Holy Spirit is the key. After a couple of sessions we got all the pastors, usually anywhere from 30 to 50 folks engaged in praying so they could begin to experience this. We helped them with the biggest obstacle being their traditional yelling and shaking of the prayee even when there is not a demonic demonstration. Again and again I addressed and demonstrated the gentle, loving praying of Holy Spirit and how powerful it is. By the time we got to the end of time with these folks these leaders were jumping with joy, hugging me, embracing me, saying how excited they were to see miracles happening thru them!

In the second prayer session I noticed a number of times about 6 men were carrying women (mostly young women) like a squirming log. Carrying them up in the air and rushing off somewhere. These women were manifesting, screaming and rolling around the ground and quickly a group of traditionally trained men came to remove them. I didn't think too much about it, as I was so busy praying for many people, until a request came to me.

A man came to get me and said “David said please come, he is in another building and would like some assistance.” I went into the building and there were a

number of young women that had been manifesting and a contingency of men hauled these women off to this room and the men were yelling at the demons while the woman rolled around trying to control the rolling. I started telling them all to STOP yelling and take all their hands off these woman. I told them to let them roll around and just pray the prayer of faith. Well, it became very evident that the next teaching needed to be on God style deliverance.

Dave said the girl he was working with was a deaf/mute and he was having trouble getting the guys to stop yelling and physically trying to control the young girl. It was a good teaching time for these men to see. Before this girl's ears popped open, demons were putting extreme pain in her ears. The enemies plan was to try to get her to get us to stop praying. Guess again devil! We stood in faith and the extreme pain stopped and her ears opened, and now it was just her voice. Dave had it under control now that the others have stopped interfering with physical control. Dave later told me that this girl got her voice back and was completely restored! So, on my way out to go back to the crowd where prayer was ongoing, a woman stops me and shows me her crippled hands, twisted and fixed in a curled position. In 5 minutes that arthritic spirit was gone and the fingers were fully functioning. Glory Hallelujah!

Now this was cool and a first for me. This was the first session that I was going to give Biblical evidence that it IS God's will to heal all, all the time, I made this statement: "While I am giving you this Bible Truth, if something happens in your body and you are healed, while sitting in your seat, then I want you to come up here and tell me what happened." Well, I had gotten thru a few scriptures and this lady came walking up to the platform. We asked what had happened, now get what she said: "I was almost totally blind and while sitting there hearing the Word, something started swirling around in my eyes and then I felt it come out of my eyes and they are now open and I can see perfectly!" Praise God! I say Amazing, just Amazing God!

It is just so cool to watch the face of the person that has not heard or has not seen, or has not had a day without pain as long as they can remember, when the miracle hits, and they begin to realize what just happened! I am so grateful to be part of that and even more grateful for all those that are being trained in the

Truth so they too can experience what the sons and daughters of God have been created to do!

Another continual occurrence was while I was teaching or during prayer ministry time, people would bring cloths of varying sizes up to the platform. There were times we had huge piles of them. When it started I asked what they were doing. I was told "they want the team to lay their hands on the cloths, like in Acts 19.12, so they can lay those cloths on their sick family members that cannot get out of their houses." Then in one meeting during the worship time a lady brought a beautiful embroidered cloth up to us while we were sitting. The lady talked to Pastor William sitting next to me and she said "I want to give this to the church as a testimony of my family members that were healed when I put the cloths (that we had laid hands on) on my sick family." She said she was very grateful!

Probably one of the most excited people I saw that had received a healing miracle was this guy that had a hernia bulging out of his abdomen and what looked like asthma. When he felt the hernia disappear and his lungs open up he RAN up to the platform yelling out praises to God! His excitement lit up the crowd!

And there was this lady that said it felt like "someone" was inside of her abdomen that had scissors and was cutting her on the inside and moving all around. What do you make of her saying "someone" instead of "something"? Everytime she felt herself being cut, the pain would be so bad. Ok, enough of this you spirit of infirmity, get out, in Jesus Name! Ok, the next thing that happened is she said "It is gone, It has left me, thank You Jesus!"

And then there was the lady that said "I have had one child 17 years ago and have become barren. I said, "are you married" (I always check that first) and she said yes. I said, "then you want another child?" She said "No!" I said "What?" She said "I want 5 more children!" So, I said, "Ok, womb, I command you to open and become VERY fruitful, in Jesus Name!" I am fully expecting that if I come back here in 3 years she will have 3 more children and have the 4<sup>th</sup> in the cooker. AMEN!

**SALVATIONS:** There were a number of times on this mission that Holy Spirit was clearly leading to present the gospel of salvation and bring those into the Family that were not yet saved. I cannot even guess at the number, but I know there

were very many. I thank God for bringing them in and now for continual growth in the knowledge of Him and the new spirit person they have just become.

Also, a number of times I got pressed into the platform by those coming for prayer. There wasn't any violence, thank God, but I had to help small children a number of times to keep them from getting smothered or passing out from a lack of oxygen. The people were politely persistent and pressing in to make sure they got their needed prayer. If you can picture this, my back against the platform, 4 or 5 bodies pressing against my body, all wanting my attention, and tons of other bodies pressing in against those bodies, no interpreter, people showing me with hand signs where the problem was and giving me the thumbs up or just a smile and a yes nod when healed. Once healed, we had to figure out how to get them out from against me and out from the crowd pushing in. At one time I thought of having them climb up on the platform on their bellies to get out, but figured that might not be such a good idea either. Finally, some men saw the issue and started helping to get the healed people out. I felt what it must have been like for Jesus when scripture says they "thronged" him.

I also want to mention one of the sessions when we brought up all the people needing prayer (there was almost always hundreds of them) and then, besides the pastors, asked which of them wanted to pray for the sick. Every time we did that there were more and more people wanting to be on the side of those that were praying to see miracles thru their own hands. A couple of those people doing the praying I will never forget.

- A little boy who obviously needed healing. He was walking with a crutch as one leg was not functional. When he was asked if he wanted to be prayed for or to pray, without hesitation he said, "I want to pray and see people healed!" Ok, you got it. After a few minutes of instructions before beginning we turned everyone loose to pray. It got quieter as the number of times we had them praying increased, but at first there was A LOT of noise, yelling, crying, coming from everywhere. As confidence increased, also Peace increased. Now, this little crippled boy: The first person he gets to pray for is a young girl with stomach pains. He put his little hand on her stomach and said "I command the pain to come out of this stomach, NOW, in Jesus Name!" He asked her how she was doing and she said "It is GONE!"

If you could have seen this little guy's face realizing what had just happened thru his hand, thank You Jesus! Caroline and Dave got to pray for this little guy's leg later. I got to see it when they lifted up his pant leg. It looked like the lower part of his leg was disconnected from the upper part and the knee was stuck in front and not underneath the thigh bone. It looked like a big knuckle. Of course his leg was non functional and could not be bent. After Caroline and Dave prayed for him bone parts had moved and the "knuckle" was much smaller and he was walking a little on his own for the first time! Since I am writing this report weeks after the mission is over, just today we heard back from the head pastor that this boy is NOW completely restored and walking, jumping, playing as a child without any issue. I was told that as a result of this, as all the people of the region knew about this boy and the bad condition of his leg, the word has spread and many people that were not attending the church services had begun pouring into the church! That might be called an AWAKENING, amen?

- Then there was a moment in the midst of praying when we had the pastors and others that wanted to do the praying. There were shouts of joy and praise going up everywhere and Holy Spirit released life! I will never forget the pastors that grabbed ahold of me, picked me up as they jumped with joy speaking in Swahili and as was interpreted to me, saying something like "It is True, It is True, the Kingdom, the Power, the Authority of Jesus Christ is in my spirit....I finally see who I am, I am so excited, I am so happy, Thank You, Thank You, Thank You Jesus!" The looks on their faces, my God! They got it and I got to see them get it! Thank You Jesus!

Another monumental time for me was near the end of each of the two venues we were at, when we gave those that have been clearly spoken to by Holy Spirit to step into walking out by Faith, to consecrate the members of their bodies to bring Christ and His Kingdom to the hurting world around them. I knew in my heart that Holy Spirit was speaking to thousands of these people about who He had made them to be and His desire for them to GO bring His Kingdom everywhere they go. I told them ONLY if Holy Spirit had already spoken to their hearts were they to come. Amazingly, so many people came, and received and agreed with the prayer with tears and heart emotion. Both times, it was so powerful! The Glory and Presence of God was so powerfully manifested in and all around us. Tears were

pouring forth from me in the midst of such wonderful Glory displayed. What really moved me was the young children and teenagers that stood with hands raised, tears pouring out as they presented their bodies for the Lord's use. At first some leaders tried to keep the children from coming, I'm sure thinking they were too young to understand. But I told them, "No, do not forsake the children, who are we to say this is not God moving them?" So, all the children also came. I will NEVER forget the looks on these little ones faces. It was so powerful, so genuine, so God! I know, if not before, I will meet up with these ones in Heaven and get to see the effect, the radical change that occurred in their lives during these moments! Father, I am overwhelmed with Joy and Thankfulness seeing what YOU have done!

As if all that isn't enough: We were honored to be the Guest of Honor at the Secondary School Graduation Commencement exercise. When I was there 3 years ago the school was in very difficult times with only 100 students and a huge need of resources. We walked the property and prayed over it and released many declarations of provision and fruitfulness. As of the time of this commencement they have grown to 240 students and have a new computer lab and science room with equipment for the students. We went out to the school where they showed us the fruit of our prayers 3 years ago. I was blessed to give the commencement "speech" with words of encouragement to the graduates and the administrators and teachers of the school also. They further honored me by having me hand out the diplomas to the graduates and then made a special dinner for us all to celebrate. I am humbled by all this and thank God for allowing me to be a part of this wonderful Work of God!

As I reflect on this mission, I stand in awe, I just stand in awe, at the Greatness of our God!