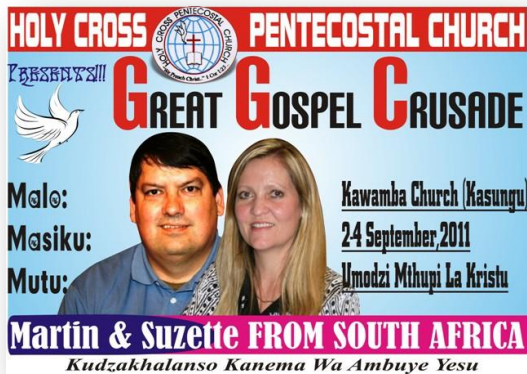


# Report for Malawi Outreach 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> September 2011

## Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> of September 2011



On the 1<sup>st</sup> of September 2011, my wife Suzette and I boarded an aeroplane to Lilongwe, the capital of Malawi for an outreach in the Kasungu area.

We had been invited by the Holy Cross Pentecostal church of Malawi to come to Malawi on our own expense and to fund an outreach in the rural area of Kawamba village in the Kasungu district. The plan was to teach the church leadership and share the Gospel of Jesus Christ through a Gospel Crusade to the villages in the area.

We really did not know what to expect! I had been into many of the Southern African countries before so I knew it would not be as comfortable as we were used to and I explained this to my wife, but she wanted to join me.

When we arrived at the airport, we were met by our hosts Pastors George and Edwin, who drove us to a house in area 10 of Lilongwe where we spent the night in a room. We were left to relax and settle in while Pastors George and Edwin went to exchange the money I had brought for the crusade and we planned to meet that evening at 6pm to discuss the crusade and have dinner together.

So we unpacked our things and had a good afternoon nap and then spent the late afternoon walking around in the garden looking at the different birds and flowers.

At around 6pm we went inside and then the lights went out, apparently Eskom also has black out in Lilongwe too, so we sat in a lounge in the darkness and soon Pastors Sam, George and Edwin joined us and we discussed what they were going to do in Malawi and what the arrangements would be for the crusade.

My first impression of the Holy Cross Pentecostal Church leadership was their organization and attention to detail. They went to great lengths explain the church structure so that we would understand future references to the different types of pastors we would meet and also what we could expect during the crusade.

They also explain their current plans with regard to what they plan to do in Malawi, what they have done so far and what their future plans and vision were. It was so nice to see the organization and structure and we realised that these people were being faithful stewards of what God has called them to do.

They were also open to our observations, suggestions, and comments, which they gladly accepted and planned to adopt.

After four hours the lights came back as Edwin said lights, we laughed at this and asked him why he did mention this before. Then we ate a lovely dinner together. It was a time of great joy, thanksgiving and fellowship, the pastors could not thank us enough for coming to Malawi.

I must add that throughout the crusade we were laughing and joking about everything and a strong bond of friendship was forged during our time together.

After supper we separated and the plan was to leave for Kasungu at 8am the next morning.

## Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> of September 2011



We woke early to the birds singing and the smell of fresh coffee. We go up, washed and prepared for breakfast. Boy breakfast was fit for a king and we felt so welcome by Willie and his wife Thabo our hosts, nothing was too much for them.

After breakfast we packed and waited for Sam and Edwin to pick us up. We waited and waited till eventually at about 11am they arrive, the problem was their car had broke down and need some repairs before our trip.



The drive was very nice, very rural and people walking, bicycling around. The people are all busy, even though there is not much work, they are all doing something. There were no people begging or loafing around, everyone was doing something.

Along the way the car started giving problems. The noise that Pastor Edwin had fixed in the morning, started again to make more noise. So Pastor Sam and Pastor Edwin decided to drop Suzette, Pastor Sam and myself off at the Mbolebole motel for a cool drink while he had the car fixed.

Little did we know that this stop would be a lot longer than any of us expected? One cool drink lead to lunch and another cool drink, eventually Pastor Edwin phoned Pastor Sam to tell him that he had arranged with the truck carry all our equipment to pick us up at the motel and take us to Kawamba village.



So off we went again in a truck. We knew that something was going to happen because obviously Satan was getting nervous and we praised God as we drove towards our final destination.

By now it was evident that the two afternoon teaching sessions would not happen but we now aimed to do the outreach and show the Jesus Film to the village.



The road to Kawamba village was very rough, we could not believe that a normal passenger car, which Pastor Edwin and George drove, would be able to drive the stretch of road.

This stretch was only 20 kilometre long, from the tar road but it took more than 90 minutes to negotiate, we were truly in the African bush, far from anywhere and roughing it and eating dust! There were not white people for many miles, even the children ran away when they saw us!

Eventually we arrived at the area which would be used to setup the tent and where we would be ministering. The people from all over came to welcome us, including the local pastors who were in attendance. These Pastors took our bibles and suitcases and carried them for us, they would not allow us to do no work while we were there, and everything was done for us, with love, respect and kindness. We were so touched!

Pastor Sam, Suzette and I were taken to a nearby house where we met the pastors and where we were serve a cool drink while the rest of the team was unloading the truck, setting up the sound system and pitching the ministry tent.

About an hour later we walked to the tent where everyone was dancing and praising the Lord. The people immediately surged forward when we arrived, because they were so expectant.



Soon it was time for me to preach. More than 1,200 people were hanging on my every word as I taught them they were unique and special to God. I explained that they are so precious to God because they each are tremendously valuable to God, that God valued them so much He sent His only Son to die for them!

I took out a 500 kwacha note and asked who would like 500 kwacha's, many put their hand up, then I pretended to spit on it, crumble it, stood on it, threw water over it and trod it into the mud, it was in a sorry state! Then I asked again, now that the note is messed up, down trodden and spoilt, would anyone still like this note and everyone said yes!

I gave the note away and explained that it does not matter what people have said that you are no good, how people have mistreated you, trod you into the mud and said you're worthless. Just as the note had an inherent value so each person has an inherent value to God. We were each valuable to God!

Then I proceed with the altar call and many people responded and accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour! Then we led them outside where a team of counsellors recorded their names and contact details so that we can follow them up.

After this we drove the two hours back to Kasungu, while at the crusade they watched the Jesus film. We arrived at our motel after 11:30pm and settled in for a good night's rest, and went straight to sleep.

### **Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2011**

We were woken at 5am by the local Mosque when the local mullah started calling the people to morning prayers at 5am. We arose and prepared for our trip back to Kawamba village.

Breakfast consisted of some cereal, coffee and two slices of buttered toast, not much for my tummy, fortunately we had brought some breakfast bars which helped fill the void.

At 8am, Edwin and Pastor Sam arrived and we drove the two hours back to Kawamba village for the day's events.

When we arrived in the village there were around 2,000 people already there waiting for us. They were already singing, dancing and praising the Lord. Pastor George had also arrived from Lilongwe.

Soon I was preaching the first of seven teaching sessions for the day as people drank up the word of God with great enthusiasm.

I taught the people about their relationship with God, that if they did not have a relationship with Him they would not be happy or effective for Him.

Later I taught on Tithing, I asked if anyone in the audiences did not have any money to give, to put up their hand! Many people did, many thought I was going to give them money but instead I said go out and get a stone so that you will have something to give! Some got big stones and some little ones, but everyone had something to give.

They went out and those who had money brought money and those who had nothing brought stones and we had an amazing breakthrough as in faith they gave in the offering many for the first time were able to give, even if it was a stone.

The people brought the largest offering ever in that area, about 9,300 kwacha's (\$62 or ZAR 358), later they would bring even more money to the offerings. It total about 35,000 kwachas (\$234 or ZAR 1,346 ) was given by the people! I asked the Pastors to give the money to Pastor Genesis to complete his church and asked Pastor Genesis to take the stones and build a memorial at his church to remind the people of their breakthrough. We praise God, but if we thought this was the end of the miracles we were in for even more surprises.



The next session I talked about church growth and explained that having a successful ministry has to do with your relationship with God and approachable to your congregation, not how big your building was or anything else. I taught that when you allow God to use you, He will, I also explained that He would use anyone who was willing to give Him everything.

After a short lunch I taught on Faith is Now! As I saw their faith rise, I asked the people to touch the area where they needed healing and asked God to heal them right now where they were sitting and He did. I asked a few people to come forward to testify and soon a long queue had formed for me to pray for the people.

There were many people who God touched, He healed 7 people of deafness, we saw 3 peoples legs grow, those people with pains, like tooth ache, headaches, back aches, gout any pain we healed instantly. This obviously spread throughout the area and people started to come from all over to the meeting.



Next we split for the ladies and men for their sessions. Suzette took the ladies and boy, were they bless by what she taught them, they were only sad she did not teach the men and children too.

I taught the men about being a Godly influence in their families lives, that they were the priests of their home and they had a responsibility to train up their children and to teach them about the bible.

One of the men asked what they must do if they did not have a bible and I proceeded to demonstrate how to tell a dramatised story of David and Goliath, much to the delight of the adults and children. I am sure many will not forget about David but it demonstrated a point to the men. Soon the ladies arrived back.

By now word of the miracles had got around the villages in the area and people started to arrive from all over, because of the large crowd (around 2,500 people) we decided that I do the Evangelical session immediately and so I went through the John 3:16 presentation with them and at the altar called hundreds responded.

We again called for the sick and prayed for them and they were healed, we even had two manifestations and the demon's we driven out.

There were two people in particular who came from far to be prayed for, one was a blind man who walked 12 kilometres alone to the meeting and another a woman who walked for 10 kilometres to receive her healing.

We left the area when the Jesus film started and returned to Kasungu for some sleep, the next morning we, Pastor George, Suzette and I, would be leave at 6am to Lilongwe and Pastors Sam and Edwin would go back to the village and preach there.

When they returned the next day, hundreds of people had arrive to be healed, including the local chief, who had walked from his village more than 10 kilometres away with 30 women from the village in tradition dress, apparently is was very beautiful and colourful to see. He had heard about the healings and wanted to meet me personally!

The miracles continued and in particular a woman with a crippled hand was healed and she was able to use her hand, her hand is not perfectly.

### **Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> of September 2011**

We were up bright and early at 5am and God answered our prayers because the mullah had over slept. After a quick breakfast we left for Lilongwe and Pastor Sam and Edwin left for the crusade.

Pastor Sam commented that he was so over whelmed by what had happened and he was going to have to fill big shoes in the village. He also said something which was amazing, he said, Martin the harvest is great in Malawi but the white missionaries and pastors who visit Malawi only want to stay in the cities and not go into the villages, if they did they would lead many people to the Lord because the Harvest is so great but there are no white people who will go!

So off we went for the 120 kilometre trip back to Pastors George's church in Lilongwe. This trip was uneventful but full of jokes and laughter as we travelled back.

We drove to the church and joined his congregation in the school classroom they rent. They are so busy planting churches and building them that they have no money for their own church.

It is amazing that they have such a high commitment to the churches of Malawi.

After praise and worship, I was invited to preach, Pastor George has specifically asked me to teach on our relationship with God and so I did and the people were blessed. After my sermon I gave an altar called and 7 more people gave their hearts to the Lord (4 of them were first time visitors).





Next they asked me to pray over their tithes and offerings and so I did, God told me that they would give me some money but I was not allowed to take it but instead I was to be given it back for their church building program.

Sure enough, the church gave me a bunch of notes and it really touched my heart. I have preached in churches all over and no one has ever given me any money or gift, I asked to speak and I told the people I receive their gift with the love that they gave it but now I will give it back because of my love for Malawi, so that both our love for each other may be put back into their church building program.

After the service we quickly stopped at a pizza shop and shared a pizza together. While sitting there a group of American's came to sit down. From their accent I knew they can only be from Texas. After asking them why they were in Malawi, they explained that they were a team from their church who had come to Malawi to build a well for the people – please visit their web site <http://www.water1042.com/>

We left Lilongwe and drove to an orphanage at Chitukula in Dowa district, to speak to the children and hand out some sweets to them.

The road to the orphanage was atrocious to say the least, we got out of the car because we knew it would never get over the terrain with us in the back.

After much prayer, we watch the car skid and slide over the stones and through ditches. Fortunately we arrived in the village in one piece and later we arrived at the orphanage to the singing of the children, they were singing "Welcome! Welcome!".

They sang until we sat down in the tent and then we were introduced to them and the 14 chiefs who had come to meet us!



It was asked to address everyone and so I did, then I told the children the story of David. I selected a very small boy to play David, the Senior Chief was King Saul and I was Goliath.

So I dramatised the story and the children screamed with joy and excitement at the right places as they relived and heard the story and the Gospel message I gave. When I asked if anyone wanted to ask the God who helped David defeat Goliath into their hearts, just about everyone there put their hand up, including the Adults and people who came to meet us!

I prayed the sinner's prayer with them and they accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour. After this we handed out a sweet to everyone there.

Then the chiefs took us to show us the well they had dug, they were so proud of everything they had done and I was very impressed.

They took me and showed me all the bricks they had made to build an orphanage the only thing they needed was cement, wood, windows and roof sheets!

We left the orphanage with the chiefs thanking us for coming to them, the children ran next to our car for at least a kilometre to say good bye and then we returned through the dongs and ditches back to the tarred road.

The evening we got home, we were joined by Pastor Sam and Edwin who had returned from the Crusade. We ate dinner together and discussed what had happened at the orphanage and the crusade.

We joked and discussed everything and our hearts were sad that Monday we would be returning back home to South Africa.

After supper we did a debriefing on what happened and what was achieved, we were given an 11 out of 10, for all we had done.

We discussed the future and we committed to coming back over Easter 2012 but I was not sure when else I could come because I first need to see my project schedule for the rest of the year.

After the debrief we exchanged gifts and said our good bye's and went to bed, the next morning Pastor George and Sam would take us to the airport at 9am for our flight home.



### **What we achieved**

Our crusade was a huge success, measured against any criteria it exceeded our wildest imaginations God really broke thought for us in Malawi. The following were the high lights of the crusade:

1. A very conservative estimate is that more than 1,000 people came to saving grace of Jesus Christ and will be followed up and invited to attend a local fellowship. This figure is more in the region of 2,000-3,000 people but we have not received the figures back from the church doing the follow up.
2. Another 350 orphans, care givers, chiefs, village members gave their hearts to Jesus Christ at the orphanage!
3. There were many miracles, people being set free from sicknesses, diseases and demonic influences. The facts are, 7 people who were deaf last week can hear! 3 people who were cripple because their one leg was shorter than the other, are now walking perfectly! 1 lady who had a cripple hand, her hand straightened and is now perfect and she can use it! Many, many others we healed and set free.
4. The church in Kawamba village has been set free of a spirit of mammon and have broken through in their giving, they have out given any previous record by more than five times their past best and they continue to give!
5. A bond has been forged between Suzette and myself and the leadership of Holy Cross Pentecostal Church where we can trust one another with our lives and together we can serve our Lord in unity and love.
6. Malawi has been shaken and will never be the same again! A white man and his wife are prepared to come to the village!
7. We made a few contacts which we believe we will be able to access to raise funds and bring in other Christian groups into Malawi for outreaches and hopefully we can get some wells dug and installed in so remote regions of Malawi.
8. My testimony of what God has done has already spoken to people who have started giving for our next trip for which I am in faith hoping will happen over the weekend of 20 to 24 October 2011!

### **The needs**

The need is so great in Malawi, they are so poor, so poor that even though tobacco is grown in Malawi virtually no one smokes because they cannot afford to. Those who do not have jobs do something in the hope of earning an income to feed themselves and their family!

We need your help for:

1. Finances for future trips, it cost about \$2,000 for an outreach, I pay my own air tickets and expenses the money goes right into the crusade to pay for transportation, food, accommodation and crusade costs.
2. The people are waiting for building material to build churches, orphanages and schools. They have made the bricks but they need cement, roof timbers and sheets, window frames and glass to start building.
3. We urgently need at least one 4X4 vehicle because the vehicle the pastor's use cannot take the punishment of the bush roads, during our four day trip the car broke down four times!
4. We need anybody from the local churches to come to Malawi and do their own crusade. We will assist you and show you where to go, but we need you to come.
5. We need your prayers and support for Malawi!

Please visit our web site <http://www.xtupie.com> and feel free to contact me if you want to donate to this ministry, want to go to Malawi on an outreach or you would like me to share at your church about Malawi.

God Bless

Martin and Suzette De Villiers ([pastor@hisvalley.co.za](mailto:pastor@hisvalley.co.za))