

OUTREACH REPORTS: Malawi

REPORT: Malawi 2004

Friends in Christ,

The Malawi '04 outreach is safely back in (cold) Pretoria after a really blessed outreach. We would like to thank you for your prayers and support, and everyone who made this outreach possible (e.g. prayer, financial assistance, hard work or equipment). The outreach was truly blessed and we give the Lord all the glory for that. At the same time, He used people to do the work or to make it possible and for that we as a team just want to thank you and all those who were involved.



ABOVE: The Malawi '04 Team (Norman and some others are absent) in front of the main hall at VIBITAC.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES:

1. EE-3 Clinic

The EE-3 clinic went off well with 20 students who completed it. Ansie Monteith (fulltime missionary close to Lilongwe in Malawi and EE-3 representative there), with the help of 8 Malawian team leaders, presented the clinic and did an excellent job. During the practical training approximately 70 people devoted their lives to Christ! Clinic goers testified throughout of great blessing and that they were looking forward in equipping other evangelists. A result of this is that we are contemplating using our two project managers on Vibitac, Bruno Spoko and Sydney Kansengwa to present similar clinics there in future. Please pray for this and for the new converts, as well as for Ansie and Andrew Monteith's work at Lilongwe.

2. Gospel Volleyball Tournament:

As last year, 13 teams took part in this tournament. The purpose was to reach the young people, who cannot be reached with conventional evangelistic methods to a large extent, with the Gospel. Dylan van Graan, who took the lead in the organization of this, and his team made a huge success. They really had to stay focussed in order to organise the different matches on the three courts and still create opportunities for ministry in between! Please pray for the young people who gave their hearts to the Lord, but also for those who heard the Gospel without making a decision. (Also start praying for next year's tournament!)



ABOVE: A match in full swing on one of the three courts.

3. Dramas performance at School

The team made use of many short dramas to share the Gospel and aspects thereof at a primary school in Kande. Louise Schoeman and Gretchen Ferreira took lead here and to judge from the children's reaction, it was an absolute hit! After the performances, Philadelphia's projects manager in Zimbabwe, Norman Kalilombe (who again went with us to Malawi as a team member) shared the Gospel with the children and many indicated that they would like to accept Jesus as Lord. Please pray for these young children and trust with us that the Lord will lead and equip them further.

4. Passion of the Christ film

As all our personnel and students of Vibitac underwent the EE-3 clinic training and had to study in the evenings, we could only reach out with the film on two evenings this year. I was uncertain if the Passion of the Christ film would work as an evangelistic method as we usually used the normal Lucas version of the Jesus film. After many technical problems which almost had us cancel the film show, we showed it one Sunday at Tukombo Girls High School. To put the film in context, the Gospel was shared beforehand and afterwards an invitation was made to those who wanted to give their lives to Christ.



ABOVE: Please pray for these young women who gave their lives to Christ at Tukombo. Pray especially for those who now have to do the follow-up to help them grow to spiritual maturity in Christ.

We were stunned to see that at least 70% of the approximately 450 girls present came forward. The Holy Spirit simply worked on an “unbelievable” and mighty way under these young girls. Many cried and openly confessed that they lived in sin and need the Lord. Others confessed that they were backslidden Christians and begged the Lord for forgiveness. After the show, the team spent about another 2 hours praying with individuals and to counsel others. Please pray for each one who met the Lord that night and also for the team of Vibitac who will be responsible for the follow up work.

5. Maintenance work and Trustee Meeting

It is difficult to report on the personal impact the team experiences on an outreach like this. The friendships and personal testimonies probably have a bigger impact on people’s lives than which could ever be measured and the results would surely only be visible in the eternity. However the team made a huge contribution through maintenance and repair work at Vibitac. Fanie Muller, Juan Nieuwoudt, Quintus Fourie, Justin vd Berg and Dylan van Graan did a huge amount of work in a relatively short period of time. Without this kind of commitment it would not be possible to do the long-term work properly at the bible school.

The Vibitac Council of Trustees also met again and we can say that the Lord really was in control. Various important decisions were handled without friction and we look forward to what the Lord will bring about at Vibitac in the following year. Please pray unceasingly for the training work that is being done.



ABOVE: "Fast Food Outlet" on the way back in southern Malawi – anyone for a dried mouse-kebab?

Well, this was as "short" as I could do it. Obviously one cannot add EVERYTHING that the Lord did during this outreach, but at least it gives a basic idea. I also want to say thank you very much to the team – a fine group of people for each one's commitment, adaptability and unity. Besides those already mentioned above, thank you very much to Cornè Kriek (prayer teams), Gretchen (cooking teams) and the four "youngsters": Ruan, Thomas, Phillpi and Margit. May the Lord make it possible for you to come along again next year!

Lastly I would like to ask that you continue to pray for the work in Malawi (but also for Philadelphia's work in Zimbabwe and Madagascar). Pray for new converts, but also pray for our fulltime team on Vibitac who will have to handle all the follow up work over the next couple of months. Pray specifically for Bruno Spoko, Philadelphia's Project Manager, and the approximately 50 church leaders whom he is currently training.

(Ps: I will also forward a couple of photos of the outreach!)

God bless and please remember to pray for us!

Yours in Christ

- Manie

(082 925 4125)
