

Thoughts and gleanings from our visiting Missionaries to Kenya- Tom & Marg Tucker:

A Work in Progress- Phil.2 Josh. 4:4-7

God desire for everyone, not just the saved but also the unsaved, is freedom. Whether here in Canada or in Africa, He looks at the crowds of people that walk through our town, through Africa and wants them to be free.

Do you have the eyes of Jesus when you look at your family, your friends, and your neighbours and say, "I wish that they would be free."

They can be free! **John 8:36; John 4:14; John 7:38.** Is the river flowing to you today?

There are many excuses people use for not accepting Jesus Christ: I'm a good person, my mom is part of the church, my dad is an elder... that's all well and good, but is the flow of the river going to you? Are you open to the flow of the river? Have you invited Jesus Christ into your heart? Have you allowed the flow of God to come to you and if you have, it's not meant to end there; it needs to flow from you to others. Flow like a river flow free. May the Lord answer that prayer.

It's all about Jesus. It's about humility. Many think that God has these shelves full of gifts for us and if we can just become bigger Christians that we will be able to reach high enough to get them. That's carnal thinking; God's shelves have the best gifts on the lowest shelves. In order to get them you have to bow down, you have to go low. As we humble ourselves He lifts us up. Some of us never get the gifts God has in store for us because we never humble ourselves.

To preach the gospel effectively we need to humble ourselves, get out of the way and trust the Holy Spirit to do what He needs to do. Humility goes hand in hand with sacrifice, but what we sacrifice for the sake of the Gospel, God more than compensates. If called to leave family and friends behind for the mission field, He gives more friends and sets the lonely in families (Ps. 68:8). Tough times reveal where our trust is. Is it in things, other people or is it in Jesus Christ? When all around us is chaos and turmoil, He is able to keep us safe He is faithful and in the midst of trials and tribulation, if we will listen, we can hear the voice of God that will guide and direct us. In the middle of something that looks absolutely impossible God still moves. It is in the hard times that God proves His faithfulness. We need to train ourselves to hear that still small voice because God seldom shouts. There is an anointing for everything He calls us to do and it will bear fruit. We look like a healthy church, people in the pews, spaces here and there; where is the fruit? Are there new converts? Who have you lead to the Lord? Don't wait for the pastor or the evangelist to do it; we all have seed to sow so get sowing. We will be blessed when we plant. There is no harvest without a planting. Remembering where we came from will help us where we are going. Do you remember the day you were saved? Do you remember the day you were baptized with the Holy Spirit? Do you remember the trials and how God took you through them? Do you remember the joy of leading someone to Christ?

Remembering what God has done in you and through you will keep you going in the hard times. Sow for a harvest, make it your life, and let Jesus become your passion.