

Africa On

Challenging The Way The Church Views Missions

Fire

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Did You Know?

- The tickets to go to Kenya cost \$3900 (US). Costs for lodging, food and other incidental items was over \$2000 (US)
- We have a website at <http://www.africaonfire.com> at a cost of \$40.00 per month
- This newsletter costs' over \$150 (US) to produce plus another \$50.00 to mail.
- We have so far received \$1000.00 (US) towards these expenses.

What's Inside This Issue:

"My vision is to reach as many unreached tribes as the Lord will enable me.... My desire is when the Lord comes or I go to Him, He will say to me *You did all the work I gave you.*"

Elizabeth Minaini
Missionary to Timau, Kenya

"I happened to rent a room in a house owned by a witchdoctor, without knowing it. After two or three days the healer [witchdoctor] detected something was amiss with his powers....."

James K. Nyaga
Missionary to the Samburu

Read about these missionaries and others as well as about our trip to Kenya in this issue.

EXTRA EXTRA
PLEASE NOTE NEW ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBERS!!!!

KENYA TRIP *How was Kenya? Dust in the valleys where it was dry, and mud in the mountains where it was wet. Dogs howling all night long outside our window. Dust in our hair, clothes, skin. Impassable roads that have permanently rearranged our spines because we passed over them anyway. Mud up to our ankles, and on our clothes.*

Vehicles that refused to meet the demands that were put upon them and had to be repaired daily, babied and pushed everywhere. Dust in our suitcases, briefcases, Bibles, and papers. Long days and demanding schedules. Dust in our mouths and noses.

By now it may sound like we had a terrible time in Kenya. On the contrary. This was the most rewarding ministry trip we have ever had. The above difficulties just served to give the trip flavor (mostly of dust) and humor. God's blessing and sense of humor came through particularly at the end. After having to push every vehicle we rode in during the trip, we thought by the time we reached the airport we were safe. We were tired and ready to go home. Then we were informed the plane we were to fly in had also broken down!! We offered to push, but they didn't think that was too funny. The airline had to send off to South Africa for the part, so our flight out of the country was delayed for over 24 hours. The blessing part was that British Air put us up in a five star hotel, all expenses paid!!! This gave us an extra day to rest before we began the journey home, for which we were very grateful. God knew that we needed the extra rest before we came home to hurricane Dennis; hurricane Floyd and a move into new quarters.

Read more about our trip on page two: *Trip Reports.*

God is not unjust; He will not forget your work and the love you have shown Him as you have helped His people and continue to help them. Hebrews 6:10

What's Up!

Due to a lack of funding we were forced to give up our home and office when we returned from Kenya. Funds that we had expected did not come in. We have refinanced our home over the years to help pay for the finances of AOF and travel expenses. The strain on our finances was just too much. We had to give up our primary residence and took our other house off the market and moved in. You will find our new address and phone numbers at the top. God has been good and faithful in all this. He has allowed us to move and continue our work with Africa On Fire with little to no disruption. To see the growth in the work that was started in Kenya two years ago through the sacrifice that is being made on the Kenyans side makes the loss of our home nothing in comparison. So we have relocated and are continuing the work that was started. We thank those of you who have made the commitment to help support these missionaries. We have been able to help raise monthly support for twenty indigenous missionaries and to begin to buy bicycles for missionaries to use for traveling in remote areas. But as for AOF general finances only one has committed to this support and few have given at all. The support of this ministry is dependent upon God's people. Please pray for funding that we may continue in this ministry full time. We can do this alone but I don't believe that that is God's will. Your partnership with AOF will insure that the gospel will reach ears that have not heard.

TRIP REPORTS:



The first week was spent in Karatina, a town about 60 miles north of Nairobi. PEFA brought their missionaries off the field so we could provide some further training for them.

That was such a rewarding time, as we were able to pour into these Hebrews 11 heroes and heroines of the faith and listen to their stories and testimonies. These are the missionaries that PEFA sent out as a result of our last visit there, where we challenged them with their responsibility to pick up and carry the missions mandate. God had already been speaking to many of them, and this was just the challenge they needed to mobilize for action. During the seminar, the PEFA bishops and the Africa On Fire team instructed them in church planting and leadership, the gifts and operation of the Holy Spirit, homiletics, cross-cultural communication and ministry. We were so humbled by the opportunity to train these men and women who have had so little in the way of formal education, and yet are using to the maximum everything they have been given. Many of them had long, difficult and dangerous journeys from their missions posts to arrive at the conference center. During the conference, they had to sleep in unfinished rooms, some on concrete floors, in cold and inclement weather. Yet with joy they endured for the privilege of the call that is on their lives, and God is using them in mighty ways to take to gospel where it has not gone before. Here are some of their reports:

Frederick Gache Jibo of Marsabit: *[Marsabit is a town composed of many unreached groups located in the desert north of Kenya. Frederick started a church in this town several years ago, but was challenged with a strategic missions vision as a result of our last visit there. He now reports...]* “In mid-February of this year, I received three Kenyan missionaries who now work among the Gabbra and Rendille people groups. Before February, we only had three churches in the district, but now we have six churches...At Hulahlula...we have a new church of about 15 adults and many children. The people group here are the Rendilles. At North Horr...we have a new church of about 10 members...amongst the Gabbra people. At Korr...we have a new church of about 16 members...amongst the Rendille people. Our church in Marsabit town also caught the vision for missions by supporting the missionaries when they first got here. They gave in love from whatever little they had, through items needed and finances for transportation and paying for the rented houses. This amounted to about Kenya shillings 10,000.*[The annual income in this area is \$500 - \$600 for those who can find work.]* This love amazed me! Praise the Lord!! *[This missions giving took place from a church composed of people who are just newly saved out of Islam and tribal religions, but who are catching a missions vision through Frederick’s leadership. Frederick has been recently appointed as overseer over the Marsabit and Moyale districts.]*

“They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins, and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented--of whom the world was not worthy.....And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith,..... Hebrews 11:37-39 (NKJV)

Elizabeth Minaini of Timau: *[Timau is a town in central Kenya that has numerous tribes. Many of them are Muslim]* In February of 1999, I moved to Timau to preach. When I went to that place, I didn’t know where to start, but...I started reaching them through homes. It was very difficult because of their culture. They believed that ladies should not stand before men. I took time to fast and pray that God will give me favor in the eyes of these people. *[God has answered this prayer and Elizabeth now has a church of over 65 new converts. Many of them are men.]* My vision is to reach as many unreached tribes as the Lord will enable me, not only in Kenya, but also in all Africa. My desire is when the Lord comes or I go to Him, He will say to me, “You did all the work I gave you.” And in my grave there will be no riches because all my riches will be with men.

Bernard Murage Munyi of Hulahlula: *[Bernard is one of the missionaries who was sent to Frederick Gache’s district in Marsabit. He responded to the missions challenge of our team in 1997.]* I didn’t fully understand what I was up to until I got here and came face to face with real opposition and hardship, such that I even anticipated to withdraw. Only the Holy Spirit was comforting me and convincing me that He was in control...While going for door to door witnessing, I came across a young lady who was demon possessed and mad. The girl was so sick that she could hardly stand. Her people were convinced that within a day or so she would be dead and as custom would allow they had left her in a deserted hut where they went only to check whether she had died. This is the state I found her in. After praying for her and earnestly pleading with God to spare her life, I went hunting for the elders, seeking permission to be allowed to take her to the hospital. This concern alone started winning their hearts and the following day permission was granted....I had no means to take her to the hospital, so I went seeking for help in our Marsabit town church where I got transport and took her to the hospital. *[Since Bernard does not have a car, he walked the 8 kilometers to Marsabit town to get a vehicle]* With the assistance from the town brethren we continued to pray for her and within 4 days she was fully recovered...The community was so amazed with this healing of a girl they had surrendered to death, that they started treating me with a lot of respect. They even went to an extent of declaring me as one of their own and the elders insisted that I either marry the girl or take her to my people where she shall be married. (Being given a young lady as a wife is the best gift a person can be given in this community.) When I insist that I am married they just don’t understand because in their custom one can marry as many wives as he wishes. It is through....this girl that I can now go about the whole place proclaiming the gospel and they are responding very well.

“The Lord gave the word: great was the company of those that published it.” Ps. 68:11

TRIP REPORTS: **Continued**

James K. Nyaga of Wamba:
[James is also a product of the 1997 missions mobilization conferences.] “In February of

1999, I was posted to Wamba in Samburu District, North Rift Valley Province...I had a problem of relating Jesus to them because of their cultural beliefs, including witchcraft. They were yet to discover a greater power than that of the local traditional healer/witchdoctor. I happened to rent a room in a house owned by a witchdoctor, without knowing it. After two or three days the healer detected something was amiss with his healing powers. He was left with no option but to vacate the premises for the powers of God superceded his powers. He left behind his patients, among them a critically ill old man. The others went home, but the old man was too sick to go anywhere. For three days, he suffered. The fourth day I prayed for him and led him to Jesus before taking him to the hospital. Later, I opened a church with five members who had received Jesus. On our first day, a mad woman came to church and after praying for her, she got delivered from the powers of Satan. She gave her life to Jesus together with her entire family of nine. The witchdoctor's son also came and gave his life to the Lord. *[Talk about a power encounter!! The son of the witchdoctor confronted the Son of the Living God!!!!]* As of now, I have a church of 54 members and I look forward to a great future with God.”

These are just a very few of the stories that are still being recorded and causing heaven to rejoice. During the next three weeks, Joe and I trained over 1500 pastors, youth pastors, and elders, in how to mobilize their churches for missions. This training took place in the towns of Maua, Kirinyaga, Karatina, Kiambu, Naivasha, and Nyeri. Pastor Oried Graves, from Suffolk, VA, joined our team for one week. He was such a blessing, and greatly strengthened our ministry with his teaching on discipleship to seventy-five pastors and missionaries. We encourage others of you to join us on a trip that will help increase your vision to actually see the harvest fields.

Joe was also able to visit with missionaries in the Kitui region, an area that has been stricken with severe drought. Life is hard for the average person here, it is even more difficult for the Kenyan missionaries in this region. The rivers have dried up, so their lives are consumed with the finding and carrying of water. The people of this area have to walk to a dried up river bed and dig for water. This trip takes up to an hour and half or more to make. They carry this water in three and five gallon jugs. These were often used oil jugs. But in spite of this obstacles one missionary has managed to plant five churches. He has to leave his home at 4:00 a.m. on Sunday, to walk and preach to all five churches. He returns home by early Monday morning. While we were there, Africa On Fire purchased a bike for him. (see col. two of this page)

How beautiful upon the mountains

Are the feet of him who brings good news,

Who proclaims peace,

Who brings glad tidings of good things,

Who proclaims salvation, Who says to Zion, “Your God reigns!” Isaiah 52:7

Developing Programs: **Bicycles for Missionaries**



This is a program for indigenous pastors and missionaries who are already engaged in ministry to reach the unreached. **AOF**, working in close cooperation with the Pentecostal Evangelistic Fellowship of Africa, is raising funds to buy bicycles for national ministers and missionaries who live in remote areas and are involved in frontline evangelism to reach the unreached.

While we were in Kenya we recognized the need for alternative transportation and we knew that God had given us another opportunity to help. Due to a lack of adequate transportation and poor roads due to neglect, war damage and weather, as well as the high cost of fuel, and maintenance, bicycles are the answer. The bicycle is the most practical and affordable means of getting the gospel to where it is needed most. A bicycle can go where even 4X4 vehicles cannot. This vital program assists them in the purchase and maintenance of these bicycles and is the link to many of the unreached. Many of the missionaries and pastors that will receive these bicycles can barely afford to feed themselves and their families. .

These missionaries are worthy servants of God needing our support and help to more adequately continue their ministries. The amazing thing is that it costs so little to help. For \$75.00 (US) we can buy a bicycle and spare parts for an indigenous missionary in the field. Lesser amounts, as little as \$5.00, \$10.00, \$20.00 can also be a significant help.

Should you decide to help for \$75 or more, **AOF** can provide you with detailed information on the indigenous African missionary. You will receive a map pinpointing his or her ministry, a letter of thanks from the missionary (for lesser amounts as well), and a picture (when available) of the bicycle being delivered.

The only thing that will make a difference is practical help that expresses itself in action. They need our love and support

Make checks payable to **Africa On Fire**. On a separate piece of paper or use the card if provided, designate that these funds are for buying bicycles.

By committing yourself, these missionaries can receive practical assistance and a chance to reach the unreached. We invite you to become co-workers with us as we pray and work towards reaching the unreached with the Gospel.

We ask that you prayerfully seek to respond according to your means. Please prayerfully consider this program.

For further information on how you can become involved with this program or any other program please contact us here at

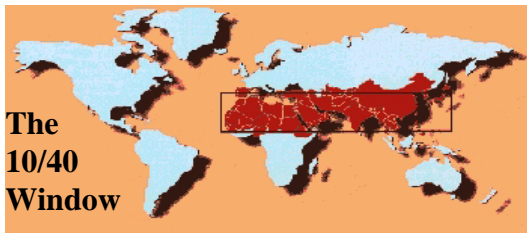
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Missions Terms and Definitions

Mission vs Missions:

When we speak of the *mission* of the church we are speaking of the redemptive work of the church, that is, taking care of widows and orphans, feeding the hungry, clothing the poor, prison ministry, and salvation and discipleship training. This is the work of the church in its hometown and surrounding areas.

When we speak of *missions* we are speaking of the cross-cultural spreading of the Gospel. The going out beyond the comfort zones of our own culture and into another totally different culture. *Missions* is not just another ministry but completes the redemptive works of the church.



This is continued from the last newsletter.

The first and most fundamental reason why committed Christians must focus on *The 10/40 Window* is because of the biblical and historical significance of this area. Indeed, the Bible begins with the account of Adam and Eve placed by God in the heart of what is now *The 10/40 Window*. God's plan, expressed in Genesis 1:26, was that mankind should have dominion over the earth, subduing it fully. However, Adam and Eve sinned against God and forfeited their right to rule. Man's sinful behavior increased until God intervened and judged the earth with a cataclysmic flood. Then came man's attempt to establish new dominion in the building of the great Tower of Babel. That effort, which also occurred in the heart of *The 10/40 Window*, was an open defiance against God. Once again, God reached forth His hand in judgement. The result was the introduction of different languages, the scattering of earth's people, and the formation of nations.

In *The 10/40 Window* we can see clearly the crucial truth expressed in Graham Scroggies book [The Drama of World Redemption](#): "A world having turned from God, He left it and chose a man through whom He would ultimately by Christ reach the world.".....It was here that Christ was born, lived a perfect life, died sacrificially on the cross, and rose triumphant over death..... Without question, this is an area of great biblical and historical significance.

(This information is from the AD2000 booklet [The 10/40 Window](#).)

10/40 Window Facts 2.4 billion people -- 40% of the world's population -- live on less than \$1.40 per day in *The 10/40 Window*.

Only 2% of the missionary force work in *The 10/40 Window*

Supporting Missions:

Many years ago Carl K. Becker, a long time missionary to the Congo, noted, "My greatest experience on the mission field is meeting impossible circumstances with Someone who makes them possible. It is the deep thrill that comes from facing something you know you can not do-and finding your weakness suddenly turned into strength. that's something exciting."

We at AOF echo this sentiment, for we too have seen God meet and defeat every "impossible circumstance" that has come against us in the past four years. We know that this was not our doing but that He has accomplished this through the intercession and financial donations of people like you who have partnered with us in prayer and support. It is through this commitment that we can continue to bring about the fulfillment of the prophecy as expressed in Rev. 7:9 (NIV) - "After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count , from **every nation, tribe, people and language**, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb." *This* is, after all is said and done, *what* has to be accomplished before the end will come.

We have supported most of the work for **Africa On Fire** out of our own pocket. We have received some compensation from churches that we have spoken at and this was used to cover our expenses for going to that church or conference. But for the most part we do not get reimbursed for our trips or for any other expenses for that matter. We have reached a point financially where we are now struggling with how we are to continue this ministry. We believe that the work that we do is God's calling and will continue to do this much needed task as much as we can with what we have but we can not do this alone.

We need your support and prayers. Your support will enable us to continue to train the Church to target Unreached People Groups and regions where the Gospel has yet to be preached. We are on the front line, standing in the gap for those who can not go. We ask that you help us to continue in this challenge.

We ask that if you are already a part of this ministry that you continue and if you are not that you prayerfully consider us in your offerings and becoming a part of this ministry. Your donation can bring the message of the

"For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

Hebrews 4:12

Your church can help train and support Africa's indigenous missionaries so that they can go and win their nations for Christ through reaching the unreached, without leaving your home town!

Our one day or two day seminar can show your church how.

**"The Missions Mandate:
Lighting the Fire of God's Desire."**

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