

Africa On

Challenging The Way The Church Views Missions

Fire

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PLEASE NOTE NEW ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBERS!



Did You Know

- We have a website at <http://www.africaonfire.com>
- You can get news about Africa, you can do research and get information on unreached People Groups. You can find maps and much more!
- We have a missions forum at AfricaOnFire@Egroups.com. You can receive updated information.

What's

Up!

by Joe

We are moved into our new home and have set up the office for AOF in our front room and are continuing on. Peggy is working part time as a nurse. I was working part time as well, but I am now working AOF full time as God has directed me. As I was working part time, God asked me if I believed what I preached. "If God calls you He will provide for you." This came to me in many ways. One was in a sermon at a church we were visiting. Another was during a counseling session as I was counseling someone on their finances. As I spoke to him of not giving up and relying on God not on man, I could hear God's voice saying "Are you listening as well, Joseph?" I was reminded of the stories of David, Joseph, Moses, Daniel and others. God called them and each was provided with the tools and provision for what they were called to.

This faith walk is probably the hardest thing that I have done. I grew up always working for a dollar. It is hard now to work for faith. I have always trusted no one and I still have a hard time with this issue. I have been the one that provided for myself one way or another either working or using others. God has me in a different place now. He has said to me "If I wanted you to do it on your own I would have done it myself." He wants us all to enjoy the work and bask in the glory of His Love.

God continues to provide for our needs. We recently received a \$3000.00 support check from a person who happened to visit our web site and felt that this is what God wanted him to do. We have also received several checks for \$50.00 as well. We want to thank all of you who have been obedient to God's word and have given into this ministry.

May God bless you all this New Year.



Benin

THE GATE OF NO RETURN BY PEGGY


As we mentioned in a previous letter, we are working with an organization called COMINAD (Cooperative Missions Network of the African Dispersion) which seeks to mobilize African Americans into world missions. As one of their projects, they are sponsoring a reconciliation voyage that will retrace the paths of the slave ships, stopping and praying at key locations, asking God to break the bonds that have enslaved us all as a result of that event. The voyage will culminate in the West African country of Benin.


On Benin's shore line stands an archway called "The Gate of No Return." When the Africans walked through that gate headed for the ships, they knew they would never see Africa again. The final service of the voyage will be held at that location.


As I pondered the things that must have occurred there, though, another thought struck me. So often in our teaching, as we present the facts of the condition of the world, how many people groups are yet unreached, how many Christian workers are ministering to the already evangelized, how we spend our money, and contrast that to Christ's clear command, there still does not seem to be a corresponding response in the hearts of people. Joe and I have agonized over this, and yet as I was contemplating The Gate of No Return, it suddenly became clear to me what the problem is.


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What's Inside This Issue:

 It was nearly 2000 years ago that Jesus challenged His disciples with the great Commission. As we enter into the 21st Century we are nearing the goal of, the Gospel for every "nation, tribe and tongue."

 Adopting an Unreached People Group (UPG). Who are they and where are they and why do we need to adopt?

 The Gate of No Return. A slave's last view of his home land, Africa. When the Africans walked through that gate headed for the ships, they knew they would never see Africa again.

 Peter Gichuki Elijah is serving in Isiolo, Kenya, and ministering to mixed tribal groups, but primarily to the Turkana and Somali people.

**TRIP REPORTS:
BENIN**



We have churches full of people who have never passed through their own personal Gate of No Return. We have called ourselves Christians, and rested there. We find ourselves increasingly busy with good things, but never the “best thing.” We have never walked through the Gate of No Return and become disciples. That is why we can hear Christ’s command and yet feel it applies to someone else. We can be aware of the state of the world, but the cares of this life and the deceitfulness of riches cloud our vision and render us unable to pass through our own Gate of No Return.

When an African slave passed through that gate, everything about his life changed. The old priorities changed. For him, his family and everything he had loved before ceased to exist. There was a new reality to deal with. He was no longer master of his own destiny. To pass through that gate cost him everything. The terrible thing is that this was forced on him. When we come to Christ, He asks us to be His bond-slave. He gives us the right to make a choice in the matter. But if we decline, we will come to the end of our days knowing we never fulfilled His purposes for our lives.

Have you passed through your personal Gate of No Return? Have you looked for the last time on everything that you hold dear and familiar- your rights, your wishes, your desires? Have you taken your last breath as a self-made child of independence, and purposed that as you walk through that gate, you will no longer be your own? You are now under new orders, and in this life, the Master’s commands become your sole priority. You have no other task in life but to fulfill His prayer that His Kingdom come, and His will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. And for His Kingdom to come in fulness, this gospel must be preached to every tribe and tongue and kindred and nation.

As we enter this new Millenium, let’s make it our goal that we will stop giving lip service to our love for Him, and complete the task so He can return and set up His rightful reign on earth.

“For he who is called in the Lord while a slave is the Lord’s freedman. Likewise he who is called while free is Christ’s slave. You were bought at a price; do not become slaves of men.” 1 Cor 7:22,23

Kenya Missionary Report

Peter Gichuki Elijah is serving in Isiolo, Kenya and ministering to mixed tribal groups, but primarily to the Somali people.

We had a wonderful opportunity to get to meet Peter when we were in Kenya in August. PEFA, (Pentecostal Evangelistic Fellowship of Africa) called all their missionaries off the field so we would have a week to minister to them, along with the PEFA leadership. Peter is very bright, and served as our interpreter in some of the classes. Many of these missionaries and pastors have never had the advantage of formal training, other than what PEFA has been able to give them in seminars. Joe and I taught cross-cultural communications, leadership skills, and a graduate level course on sermon preparation, which we tried to consolidate down to a week-long seminar. We were amazed at how quickly Peter caught on to the material, even though English is not his native tongue.

Towards the end of our trip, we visited with Peter in Isiolo, and can assure you he is doing a marvelous job. He was conducting a crusade while we were there, and 65 gave their hearts to the Lord as a result of this outreach. Spiritually, this is a very hard area. Isiolo serves as a gateway to the north of Kenya. This area is primarily desert and predominantly Muslim. Tribes coming in off the desert use Isiolo as a way point and trading post. From Isiolo north, there are no adequate roads, and transportation is accomplished only by lorry. This is a very strategic location to minister to people that have no access to the gospel and hopefully have them receive the Lord and take the message back to their tribes in the north.

Please pray for Peter and his ministry. Peter stated; “I held my first crusade in June 1999. There was a Boran woman who had waited to deliver her baby for more than the normal nine months (actually getting to the tenth month). After going to the hospital, the doctors prescribed a Ceaserean operation. She was afraid to undergo the operation. Her option was to run away from the hospital. She landed in our crusade. She accepted Jesus and requested our prayers to reverse the operation and have a normal delivery. We prayed with her and five days later, she gave birth to a normal baby boy by normal delivery, much to the surprise of the doctors and nurses, and just an hour before the operation was scheduled. Barely a month later, she came back to church to testify together with three other women, two of them Turkanas, and one of them a Somali. I’m now pastoring about 15 people [adults and many children] and I see a great future in this town.”

Benin, formerly Dahomey, is located in West Africa . It is bordered on the North by Burkina Faso and the Republic of Niger, on the East by the Federal Republic of Nigeria and on the West by the Republic of Togo.



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



TRIP REPORTS: **News From Africa**

About 1,400 people watched the "Jesus" film when it was screened in seven villages in the West African country of

Benin. Missionaries reported that 500 people decided to receive Jesus as Lord and Savior after viewing the film. Praise God for these new believers. Ask him to mature them in Christ and use them to bring thousands to faith in Christ.

An elderly woman chief of an unreached West African people group publicly declared her desire to follow Jesus. When she died, her son told the elders of his mother's decision and invited a missionary and local believers to conduct a Christian service at her funeral. Believers hope the public witness will bring many others to faith in Christ during the following months. Ask God to glorify his name among this people group and use the witness of this woman's faith to draw people to himself.

SOURCE: Brigada-orgs-missionmobilizers-newsbrief; Dec 17, Advance newsletter, <Advance-newsletter@xc.org>

A Letter From Africa

You can help us to get there. Contact us at AOF

Hello Joseph and Peggy Rayman,

So much thanx for your mail and true to it not heard from me. Things are pretty fine and Father has really been so much clear to us to understand...I was in a meeting of four days with a group of young lads here...age b/w 17-22..it was such a blessing to see the Father work thru such....for I got a hold of..or He got a hold of me when I was just 18, but really started understand the message of restoration of all things at the age of 20..well me is 27 now.

I work in an internet cafe and thats the only way I can get online and use a computer as our little body here can't afford a system talk of internet connection...well the Father opened up this job for me, but as you know, I can't spend time in much correspondence as it used for business purposes...all is well though.

We longed for your coming and even talked about it with some brethren here, but we know the fathers timing is always best...how South Africa ?....I'll get back soon to you and do keep in touch...boss calling.....

In love and life,

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Developing Programs: **Adoption Guidance Program (AGP)**



The AGP consists of newly updated information on:

- Adoption (selecting a people, assistance for prayer and reseach)
- Networking (types of networks and steps for finding or forming a network)
- Partnerships (insights, keys, and cautions)
- Individual Involvement (types and resources)
- Advocacy (definition and role of an advocate)
- Resources (adoption counselors, agencies, where and how to find unreached people data, videos, children's materials, prayer resources, and more.)

The Adoption Guidance Program, a program developed by AD2000 and Beyond, assists individuals, churches, and agencies with motivational teaching, articles, and 'how-to' steps for adoption and networking. All AGP sections include examples of those who have been successful, as well as lists of resources for further information.

Africa On Fire has developed this program into a training seminar that will take your church through this procedure step by step.

This program empowers your church members to be become involved in God's redemptive plan; the Gospel for 'every nation, tribe and tongue'.

Reaching the unreached should be the most important goal for the Church. **"It Can Be Done; It Ought To Be Done; It Must Be Done"** and it will be done before Christ's return.

May God grant each of us boldness, wisdom, and the energy to do our part, Amen.

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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[And afterward, I will pour out My Spirit on all people...And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved](#) Joel 2:28, 32
But how will they know to call out, if know one tells them?

Missions Terms and Definitions

Unsaved vs Unreached:

These are probably two of the most missused words in the Church next to mission and missions. When we speak of the unreached we are talking of those who have had no exposure to the gospel in such a way that they can make a choice to receive or reject it. While the unreached are unsaved not all unsaved are unreached. Your neighbor, friend, family member, may be unsaved but for 99.9% they are reached with the gospel. They have just refused to accept it! There are churches that they can attend, there are radio programs that they can listen to, music, books, there is you and on and on. Two-thirds of the world have yet to hear the gospel in such a way that they can make a decision. Every second 23 people die having never had a chance to hear the truth about the redemptive love of Jesus. You do the math. We spend 99.9% of our efforts and money on the evangelized unsaved (and not making much headway at that), less than one third of the worlds population, and the rest 0.01% on the four billion that are not reached. We must reach the unsaved somehow but there needs to be a parody in the relationship between reaching the unreached and the unsaved.

Praying Through



The 10/40 Window

The core of the unreached people of our world live in a rectangular-shaped window, the window extends from West Africa to East Asia, from ten degrees north to forty degrees north of the equator. This specific region encompasses the majority of the world's Muslims, Hindus, and Buddhists -- billions of spiritually impoverished souls.

God deeply loves all the peoples of the earth. His central concern is to bring all peoples back to Himself as their Redeemer (Psalm 86:9-10). Not only individuals, but whole people groups need to experience His salvation (Genesis 12:3; Isaiah 60:1-3). God is not willing that any should perish, and one day representatives from every people group on earth will join the multitudes bringing honor and glory to Him and to the Lamb (Revelation 7:9-10). Jesus said, My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples (Mark 11:17). We have a priestly calling to intercede for all peoples through prayer. As one theologian says, History belongs to the intercessors. As God's people pray, the history of entire peoples can be altered. The LORD is looking for intercessors willing to stand in the gap for particular peoples (Ezekiel 22:30).

(AdoptAD2000//PrayerJourney)

10/40 Window Facts The "unevangelized" are people who have little knowledge of the gospel, with little to no opportunity to understand or respond to it. 97% of persons who live in the least evangelized countries live in the 10/40 window.

Supporting Missions:

"It can be done; it ought to be done; it must be done."

A hundred years ago, evangelist D.L. Moody said this concerning the spread of the Gospel to the whole world by the end of 1900.

It has been over 100 years since D.L. Moody made this statement and nearly 2000 years since Jesus mandated His disciples with the task to take the gospel into all the nations. As we enter into the 21st century, we as Christians are entering into a millenium that for the first time in the history of the Church can see the reality of Matt 24:14 "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world for a testimony unto all the nations; and then shall the end come." and Revelations 7:9 "After these things I saw, and behold, a great multitude, which no man could number, out of **every nation and of all tribes and peoples and tongues**, standing before the throne and before the Lamb,..." Within sight is the goal set by the AD2000 and Beyond movement, "A church for every people and the Gospel for every person." We at **Africa On Fire** fully support this goal and are putting all of our efforts, finances and resources into completing this unfinished task.

What can you do? The question that I get asked the most is "But what can I do, I am just me?" You can begin by praying and asking God how you are to become involved in this the greatest time in Church history. Whenever there has been a breakthrough in evangelism it has always been preceded by prayer. You can pray for the remaining least-evangelized people groups, that they are adopted and targeted by the Church. Encourage your church, Bible study group, cell group, or prayer circle to adopt an unreached people group for prayer.

You can join with us at **AOF** in forming research groups and short term missions teams to gather information and data that can be used to reach these remaining peoples. Your church or fellowship can network with us and adopt one of the indigenous missionaries that we have trained and join them in these efforts to reach the unreached. You, your church or fellowship can partner with us in these efforts and see this unfinished task completed.

We at **Africa On Fire** believe that we as one Church networking together, can see the end result of Matthew 24:14 in our life time. Won't you join us in this most wonderful task.

"It can be done; it ought to be done; it must be done; [it will be done]"!!!

"You are not your own, you are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body and spirit which are God's." 1 Cor 6:19,20

Without leaving your home, you and 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!

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

"The Missions Mandate:"

"Rekindling the Flame to Proclaim His Name!"

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