



GEMS

GLOBAL EVANGELISM MINISTRY SERVICES

First Quarter 2023

The “ALSO” God – continued

Out last update began like this:

The task ahead seemed like a cloud that covered the landscape as far as the eye could see. What was God asking of my family and I? - Two major fronts at the same time, and with big projects on both fronts? What? Take on the task of completely gutting and remodeling a 3500 sq. ft. house in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula and make it a place for servants of God to “Come apart and rest a while”? What? And You want us to walk through a wide-open door in Congo at the same time? How, Lord? How do we accomplish these tasks? Are we to continue to base in the U.S. and continue a ministry in Congo so far away? Not to mention, Lord, we still are overseeing the village churches in Ghana and traveling and counselling here in the states – How can we do it all? How can the Mission afford it all? How do we have time for it all? Lord?

God’s response came to me through His Word! ***Isa 49:6 KJV** And he said, It is a light thing that thou shouldest be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved of Israel: I will **also** give thee for a light to the Gentiles, that thou mayest be my salvation unto the end of the earth.*

I saw it: “also”, there in His Word; He said He can accomplish multiple things at the same time.

While God has used us in many different ways over the last few months, I would like to continue to share about the two areas we highlighted in our last update. I will start this update where the last one ended with my being in the hospital with severe Malaria.

God's Provision For Medical Bills

After being in the hospital for ten days, seeing many doctors, having many tests run and multiple treatments administered, I found myself, over the next several weeks, checking the mail daily with a feeling of dread and impending doom as I waited to see the "damages" in the form of hospital bills that would come to us. However, the days turned into weeks, weeks turned into months and nearly six months later I have to say, I don't know who took care of my hospital bills, but I do know that all the glory belongs to LORD! To this date all I have received from the hospitals is a survey asking me to evaluate the care. Praise Jehovah – Jireh, He is truly The Provider!

Faith Haven

A Heart Healed

He sat on our couch pouring out his heart - a man hurt, battle weary, discouraged and ready to give in the fight. He said to my wife and I, "I'm here as my last hope". We listened as he poured out his heart. Many hurts, many questions – his mind confused, his heart wounded, his body tired. He confessed his walk with God had gotten cold and he was not hearing the voice of the Great Shepherd. We talked and prayed for a long time and as it was getting very late, I took him to a local B&B that had graciously provided for his stay and prayed with Him once again. Together we reminded God of His promise, "Every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened." This man had come asking, seeking, and knocking. The next day I waited all of the morning and some of the afternoon as I had told him to take his time in the morning and call me when he was ready. He finally called. I am ashamed to admit that I was surprised, upon his return to us, to see how much work God had done in one morning. Here he was beaming and talking about how God had met with him: how he had finally given in to forgiveness, gained guidance concerning current circumstances, and found relief for the inner turmoil he had been facing. He was so excited! Over the next several days God kept working in this man's life and he when he left he left renewed with hope, confidence, and joy!

There are other stories of God's healing from bitterness, relationships restored, prayers answered, and more but we will save those for another time.

Provision

We needed windows for the first apartment at Faith Haven, so I called a window company recommended by an acquaintance. I had priced windows at Menards prior to calling this other company as I figured windows from a specialty company would be way too expensive for us to handle. I was impatient waiting to hear back from the first company and went ahead and ordered the windows from Menards.

Another lesson in faith learned: Shortly after I ordered the windows, I received a phone call from a lady that represented the first company I had called. She asked me what I was looking for but couldn't understand my explanation, so she asked me to tell her what my project was so she could help. I told her I had a large building and was working on apartments in it for missionaries and men of God to come and get rest. I told her I just needed seven windows to replace windows in the one apartment. She said she would get back to me on Monday. Ok, I thought, but honestly didn't think much more of it. But just a few minutes later as I was talking to an electrician, I got several texts from her. Then, before I was done with my conversation with the electrician, she was calling me. I said goodbye to the electrician and answered. She said, "I sent you a picture, see if that design will work, we will do your windows for FREE"!!! Oh my I was so excited I could hardly contain myself! After I stopped rejoicing, I panicked remembering that I had put in an order for other windows and raced to cancel that original order. I was informed that my request for cancellation was sent to the manufacturer, but it couldn't be guaranteed that it would be granted. I found one of my sons and we prayed together first thanking God for what He had

done and also asking Him to help us get a full refund. I apologized to the Lord for my impatience and God mercifully answered and we were fully refunded. Lesson learned! God works in mysterious and mighty ways.

Another blessing: upon hearing what God was doing at Faith Haven, a pastor felt impressed of God to donate a brand new generator. We are praising God for His works!

Moyoni Baptist Church, D.R. Congo

Our Congolese Missionary Partner, Bro. Paul, returned to Moyoni Baptist Church which had recently been established. He reported that there were dozens meeting every Sunday. They have begun to build their own building, and they have received permission to go to another nearby Pygmy village and plant another church. Paul also informed me that the local government, which had been against us, has now granted permission for us to start churches in the area. Praise be to Jehovah! I am praying we can take many audio Bibles with us on the next trip so many of the Pygmy believers can have a copy of God’s Word in audio form.

Thank you

Prayer Requests

1. Please pray with us as we seek God’s wisdom to know when to return to the Congo and the logistics behind getting further into the interior.
2. Continue to pray for Moyoni Baptist Church
3. Please pray for wisdom for us as we continue to move through the restoration process of the Faith Haven.

Help

Please pray about and consider helping our Mission continue to provide the following for village churches and unreached peoples:

1. Audio Bibles (Proclaimers) – many people in remote regions of the world lack ability to read and write. If they cannot read the Word of God then we want to help them hear It so they may learn and grow.
2. Tracts/ John and Romans in the local dialects.

For His Glory,

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