

Nairobi and Mombassa March 2010 – Dave Weaver



It has been said that if you always aim low, succeeding in tasks you know you can achieve you will probably grow very little in your walk with God. But to achieve success in a task you know is beyond your current experience, outside of your 'comfort zone' is the place of real challenge and growth. The Africa trip with Living Hope Ministries this early spring was such a time for me.

True I had spoken in the slums of Nairobi many times although never for more than a day, but

Mombassa for over two days and in temperatures of 38C and high humidity, was a different story and a challenge.

God was very gracious to me, He promised He would be with me and He would do it.

How true that promise was, for as I started the first day in Mombassa I realised I still didn't have enough material for the whole seminar period. A quick prayer 'Lord help me' and I learned more lessons in trusting God. I was speaking out material I had not prepared as I spoke on our need for a closer walk with God that first day. It may not have been the most fluent of presentations but I know it brought blessing, if only to me.

My main theme was to speak on Elijah and Elisha, how Elijah's ministry was developed in God and the training of Elisha to carry the mantle after Elijah was taken from earth. Well may the whole church take note of the need to prepare God's people for works of service (Ephesians 4). There is a need to mentor young men and women in the church.



Somehow even though I drank plenty of fluids I still came back to Nairobi feeling quite ill suffering from dehydration (more learning this time, be prepared for anything). Thank you Matthew and Chris Wright for those re-hydration sachets: mental note - never go to Africa without them for future trips. It is amazing to go out on these trips to meet beautiful brothers and sisters in Christ.

Many times now I have been privileged to be in their humble homes and how welcoming they are. This trip I had to walk into the interior of two of the slum areas in Nairobi. The ground was very wet, slimy and smelly. Steep in some places and treacherous as there had been considerable out of season rain. One time having walked some distance in narrow alleyways, ducking to make sure I didn't cut my head open on jagged corrugated sheeting, we stopped outside one such humble home and ducked into the small room. A small table in the centre and a few chairs was all the furniture. Sitting on one of the chairs was a lady says 50 years old and recently gone blind. It was my privilege to pray for her to receive her sight back again. It was hard enough for me to walk in those narrow alleys with all my faculties, what of our precious sister, the much loved wife of one of the elders in the church, how could she move around without a guide?



Speaking at Kwarangare

This time was the time for new things as already stated but in Mathare was the first time for my case to be carried by a Bishop's wife, on her head! Besides being in Mombassa I spent time in Kibera, Mathare, Kwarangare and finally the leaders conference at BuraBura where I was able to meet up with many pastors from Uganda, Rwanda, Congo, Kenya and Tanzania. It was here that many bibles were distributed to pastors for their people. Thank you Ian from the six villages church for your fantastic support along with

others who have given for bibles and general expenses of my trip. Thank you too for those who prayed for me. You too have a share in the blessing of God, because without prayer and the Holy Spirits presence we can do nothing, because we are nothing without God with us.



Mathare case transpot

Thanks must go to Paul Newett who accompanied me to Mombassa. Thank you for the support you were to me. It was good to get to know you much better and to see your organisational skills at first hand. I must admit I was almost envious of your dips in the pool at the ACK guest house. I of course had forgotten my swimming things again!!

Amidst all the serious stuff there were times of laughter and fun. When you consider the challenges our brothers and sisters have to face, it is incredible they can smile at all. When I came back home I saw too many serious and unsmiling faces in the streets and sadly in the church too. Maybe we should take many of our 'bored' youngsters to Africa and see if they get the point – we are so privileged in this country. We have so much, they so little.



What's cooking



Our Taxi Man



BuraBura



Anglican Churches of Kenya Guest House Mombassa