

Dispatch #11

10.03.06 East Africa Mission Dispatch #11 The Worth of the Individual

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A. God's Word clearly taught. Please claim II Timothy 4:1-5
"I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom: preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires; and will turn away their ears from the truth, and will turn aside to myths. But you, be sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry."

B. The Power of God's Word - please claim Zechariah 1:6
"But did not My words and My statutes, which I commanded My servants the prophets, overtake your fathers? Then they repented and said, 'As the LORD of hosts purposed to do to us in accordance with our ways and our deeds, so He has dealt with us.'"

C. God's Word gladly received - please claim John 8:31 & 32
Jesus therefore was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, "If you abide in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

D. God's Word transforming lives - please claim John 17:17
"Sanctify them in the truth; Thy word is truth.."

Dear Prayer Warriors,

We are back in Kenya and God is blessing your ministry of prayer. This past weekend in addition to my other duties I spoke at a Navigator one day conference on the theme, "The Worth of the Individual". Over 15

churches and over 150 laborers were represented at this conference. God greatly blessed and I could feel the power of your prayers. As always it was my prayer and earnest desire that men and women would go away ministered to and impressed with God's Word and not my efforts. By your prayers this is possible. I have been reading of late the biography of D.M. Lloyd-Jones by Ian Murray. Dr. Jones was a great preaching and teacher of God's Word. In Volume One Dr. Jones is quoted as saying, As I read of the work of the great evangelists in the Bible I find they were not first and foremost concerned about results; they were concerned about proclaiming the Word of Truth.

They left the increase unto Him. They were concerned above all else that the people should be brought face to face with the Truth itself." (D. M. Lloyd Jones - the First Forty Years, page 302). This too is my greatest desire, that while in Kenya men and women would be brought face to face with the Truth itself and by your prayers and a clear teaching of the Word of God this will indeed occur.

There is a persuasive power that comes from the oratory of men and a life changing power that comes from the empowered Word of God. I care not for the first and implore you to pray earnestly with me for the second. Again on page 316 of this same volume Dr. Jones is quoted, "It is very easy to make a Welshman cry, but it needs an earthquake to make him change his mind." This is as true of Africa as it is of Wales, as true in America as it is in Russia - great oratory can bring men to tears, to laughter and to temporal convictions which are changed as soon as the next great argument is skillfully woven but it is the Word of God which changes men's lives. The ministry we seek is one in which men and women are brought face to face with the Truth itself and go away changed by the Truth, not merely persuaded by the skill of man.

As such we desire to make disciples of Christ not of me nor any other movement or name save the precious name of Jesus. In John 8:31 & 32 Christ states to the believing Jews, "...If you abide in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." At the conference we had over 150 attend from 15 churches, but this is of no value or meaning if men and women are not brought face to face with the Truth and leave with changed lives as a result of the work of God the Holy Spirit through His holy Word.

The thing that is exciting about ministering to and with the Navigators in both Kenya and Nigeria is that in an age when conferences are attended mainly by women and youth who come with a high expectation of entertainment, I find here instead primarily men intent on seriously studying God's Word.

This has been true in the past and this current conference was no different.

How I praise God for men who desire earnestly to both know, do and then teach the Word of God. These are modern day Ezra's of whom God the Holy Spirit teaches us in Ezra 7:10, "For Ezra had set his heart to study the law of the LORD, and to practice it, and to teach His statutes and ordinances in Israel." Join with me in prayer that the fruit of this conference would be the multiplication of men throughout Nairobi and Kenya who discipline themselves to study the Truth, to personally obey the Truth and then to teach the Truth throughout their land. This is the ministry we seek, one in which men and women are brought face to face with the Truth itself and go away changed by the Truth, and then in turn teach this to others throughout their land.

Thus we have it in a nutshell, the fruit of our labors - men and women brought face to face with the truth, transformed by the Word of God by diligently abiding in it and then equally as faithfully teaching it to others also. We are co-laborers in this endeavor and it is through your faithful and sacrificial prayers that our faithful preaching and teaching of the Word of God is empowered. I appeal as Paul, in Romans 15:30, "Now I urge you, brethren, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to strive together with me in your prayers to God for me,". Your prayers are genuine labors, as we strive here in Kenya, you too strive with us back home through your prayers. We are equals in our labor, we share equally in our faithfulness, in our sacrifice and in the rewards of our labors. These are exciting times and it is a privilege to be ministering in the harvest fields of Kenya together with you as fellow laborers as we men and women face to face with the Truth - the Word of God, resulting in changed lives, not by the oratory of men but by the sanctifying power of the Word of God. As Jesus prayed so we appeal to you to faithfully pray - "Sanctify them in the truth; Thy word is truth." (John 17:17)

By His mercy,
II Corinthians 4:1
Rev. John S. Mahon
Grace Community Int.
(Back in Kenya preaching and teaching the life changing Word of God)

PS: My message on the Worth of the Individual had two parts - I. The Worth of the Individual as it pertains to personal evangelism and II. The Worth of the Individual as it pertains to follow-up and Disciplemaking. Below are my notes from the introductory section, may God bless you in their reading as He did me in their preparation and delivery.

The Worth of the Individual

Introduction:

- A. In the eyes of God every man has supreme worth.
- B. But this worth is not a reality apart from God
 - 1. Example: Kazuri Clay
 - 2. Example: Neve Clay
- C. True, every man has worth, but this is not apart from God.
- D. Why did God choose your particular lump of clay?

I. Glory of God

Isaiah 43:7 Everyone who is called by My name, and whom I have created for My glory, whom I have formed, even whom I have made."

Isaiah 43:25 "I, even I, am the one who wipes out your transgressions for My own sake; and I will not remember your sins.

II. Good Works

Ephesians 2:8-10 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, that no one should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

III. Bear Fruit

Romans 7:4 Therefore, my brethren, you also were made to die to the Law through the body of Christ, that you might be joined to another, to Him who was raised from the dead, that we might bear fruit for God.

John 15:16-17 "You did not choose Me, but I chose you, and appointed you, that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask of the Father in My name, He may give to you. "This I command you, that you love one another.

IV. Good Solider

2 Timothy 2:4 No soldier in active service entangles himself in the affairs of everyday life, so that he may please the one who enlisted him as a soldier.

A. Make Him known

Psalms 67:1-2 God be gracious to us and bless us, and cause His face to shine upon us-- Selah. That Thy way may be known on the earth, Thy salvation among all nations.

Psalms 67:7 God blesses us, that all the ends of the earth may fear Him.

B. Proclaim the Gospel

1 Peter 2:9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy

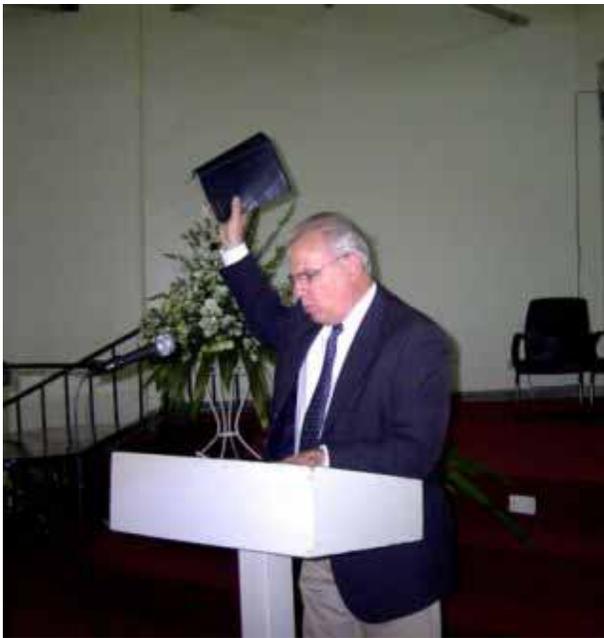
nation, a people for God's own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

C. Make Disciples

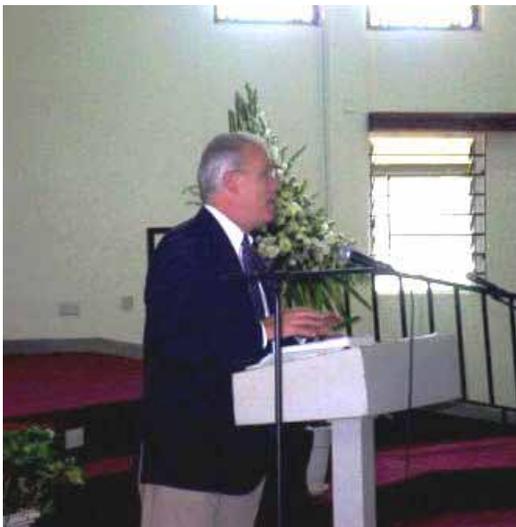
Matthew 28:19-20 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

A. We do not decide what this means

B. God has given us a blueprint



Bless Thou Your Holy Word



Teaching on the Worth of the Individual



Receiving the Word of God – Nairobi, Kenya



The Fruit of Our Labors