

Dispatch Four

I. Hitting the ground running

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,"

II. Planning: Proverbs 3:5-7 "Trust in the LORD with all your heart,

and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight. Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and turn away from evil".

III. Witnessing: 2 Corinthians 5:20 "Therefore, we are ambassadors for

Christ, as though God were entreating through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God."

IV. Reception - meeting a new class of trainees: Luke 10:2 "And He was

saying to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."

V. We are at war: a sobering picture

Ephesians 6:13 "Therefore, take up the full armor of God, that you may be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm."

VI. Prayer Requests: Bless the teaching and preaching of the Word of God

Below are a series of passages dealing with the divine attributes of God's Word. Please pray over each verse asking that as I preach and teach the Word of God these truths would be empowered and as a result lasting change brought about in the hearers.

Isaiah 55:11 So shall My word be which goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to me empty, without accomplishing what I desire, and without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it.

Jeremiah 1:12 Then the LORD said to me, "You have seen well, for I am watching over My word to perform it."

Jeremiah 23:29 "Is not My word like fire?" declares the LORD, "and like a hammer which shatters a rock?"

Zechariah 1:5-6 "Your fathers, where are they? And the prophets, do they live forever? 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.'""

John 6:63 "It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing; the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and are life.

Acts 2:37 Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?"

Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

1 Peter 1:23 for you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, that is, through the living and abiding word of God.

Dear Prayer Warriors,

We have hit the ground running here in Kenya and are dependant upon your prayers both for stamina and empowerment. As Paul appealed to the Roman Christians so we do to you our prayer warriors - 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," As we strive here on the in the service of God we look to you our prayer warriors to stand shoulder to shoulder by us, striving with us through your payers.

Our first order of business after delivering the Bibles, Bible study aids and Bible reference books was to sit down with Dr. Mukolwe who directs the ministry of the Navigators here in Kenya and go over our schedule. Proverbs 3:5-7 enjoins us to "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight. Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and turn away from evil." Dr. Mukolwe has put together an exciting series of conferences and events and we appreciate so much all the work he has put into the preparations for our ministry. As we teach and preach the word of God during the coming weeks and months we look to you our prayer warriors to go before us and prepare the hearts and ears of the hearers through your prayers and to empower the teaching and preaching of the Word of God through your prayers. We are all too aware that the blessing of this ministry does not depend on any perceived "wisdom" on our part but on the clear proclamation of the Word of God in

those places and to those people He has prepared. We look to Him to direct our paths and to you to empower our ministry.

I was reading in my Quiet Time Alone With God this morning in the book of John. The words of Christ in John 9:4 & 5 came home to me once more, "We must work the works of Him who sent Me, as long as it is day; night is coming, when no man can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world." Our work is first and foremost the gospel of Christ, a light in a dark and dying world. As I go about I try always to be looking for opportunities to share Christ and bring others out of the kingdom of darkness and into the kingdom of our beloved Savior and Lord. One such man is "Dennis" (not his real name). I had the opportunity of presenting the gospel to Dennis just yesterday and he was particularly taken by Christ's words in John 5:24, "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life."

As we went over the plan of salvation it became clear that Dennis not only was not a believer but that Dennis was himself aware of this fact. I began to appeal to Dennis to repent and come to Christ, to be born again. I have never been able to master the dispassionate approach to the gospel. The dropping of a hint and then just leaving it there. The gaping hole of Hell lies open with Dennis precariously on the edge, how can one be dispassionate about the eternal terrors which await this poor man. My heart went out to him as Paul's in 2 Corinthians 5:20 "Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were entreating through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God." And I began to appeal, to beg him to not delay, to be reconciled to God. I asked him if he wanted to go to Hell. I appealed to him on behalf of his daughters, how could they escape Hell if their father was lost? Who could lead them to Christ if their own father was leading them down the road to perdition? I appealed to him on behalf of his mother who is a believer. Did he hate her, did he want to break her heart, was she a wicked woman who had hardened him to Christ? He protested "no" that she was a good Christian woman and so I appealed to him, "Did he want to spend eternity in Hell, apart not only from the love of God but from his own mother?" Was not her heart breaking over his lost state? I appealed to him on the basis of the broken heart of God over his indifference to the sacrifice of His only son. I asked him to consider, "What if your child needed a kidney. What if you could not donate. What if only your brother could do this. Your brother goes to the hospital, they perform the operation. They cut him open. From his bloodied body they lift the kidney. There are just moments to spare. But you are not there. You have not come with your daughter. His sacrifice is all for naught. How will your brother feel? What kind of man would ignore such a sacrifice"

Then I appealed to him that God has sacrificed his only son on the cross. Christ's bloodied body lies before us hanging limp and lifeless on the cross. His side pierced by the spear, blood and water flowing down.

Now God looks up for Dennis to receive the eternal life that this sacrifice has made possible, but Dennis is not there. How will God feel? What kind of man would ignore such a sacrifice?" We talked on. Dennis was obviously moved but was not freed from Satan's snare. I held his hands in mind and prayed that God might call him to Himself and we parted with a warm embrace.

I look forward to more conversations with Dennis. I made him promise that he would prayerfully consider the claims of Christ and allow me to baptize him should he repent before November, to which he readily agreed. By your prayers I hope to send you a picture of this baptismal service, by your prayers and the grace of God.

Having left Dennis I arrived at the reception Dr. Mukolwe had planned for the Navigators of Kenya. Here the graduating class of staff trainees were honored and a new class inducted. One of the privileges I will have is teaching the new staff trainees for the next two months on the basic doctrines of the faith as they pertain to evangelism and discipleship. It will be an exciting aspect of our ministry here in Africa. I will spend eight hours each Thursday teaching the new trainees and feel keenly the burden of this responsibility. I rely upon the grace of God and you my prayer warriors.

Lastly I had a sobering experience. It was a reminder that we are at war. As God the Holy Spirit teaches us in Ephesians 6:13, "Therefore, take up the full armor of God, that you may be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm." So we must be ever vigilant and aware that this is serious business. As I was being given a tour of the church where I will be teaching the Family Discipleship Seminar as well as other leadership classes I was shown a building in the complex with a new roof. It was explained to me that there is a radio ministry of the church which takes place in that building. This ministry had begun to impact the Islamic community. One day last month two hooded men burst into the building. They tied the guard up and began shooting at the pastor who was delivering his message over the air. The pastor and his aid were able to escape out a back door. The Islamic militants, thwarted in their assassination attempt turned their weapons on the bound guard and emptied their guns in him before tossing their petrol bombs into the station. They made their escape and were never caught. Yes we are at war, it is a true spiritual war. Satan will not idly stand by as we impact his kingdom. We minister and will continue to minister by the grace of God and the empowering protection of your prayers.

By His mercy,
II Corinthians 4:1
Rev. John S. Mahon
Grace Community Int.
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Dr. Stanley Mukolwe, country director of the Navigator ministry in Kenya and I prayerfully go over the schedule.



National staff team reception for the new incoming class of staff trainees. I was introduced as the visiting teacher for the next two months.