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July 2010: A Publication of Life B-P Church

# FOCUS ON MISSIONS

## A SHORT RECOLLECTION OF MY EXPERIENCE IN THE KENYAN MISSION FIELD

### The beginning of the ministry: Starting Sunday School and the Clinic

As a Christian nurse, I always admired how Jesus used His healing ministry to reach out to the sick and lost ones. God then gave me a desire to serve Him with the skill He gave me.

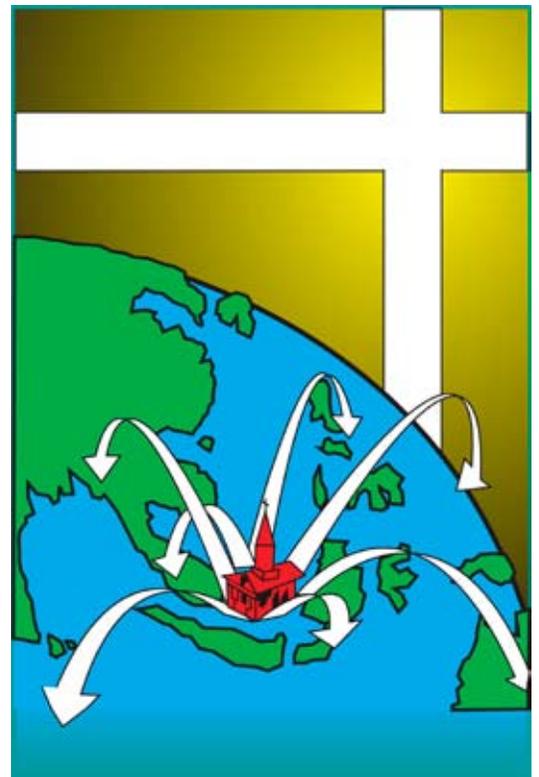
“Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.” Psalm 37:4-5

June 2001 - The Lord called me to Kenya to serve Him as a Nurse at Kiluani Mission Station with 2 other missionaries, Lawrence Chan and Lilian.

Initially, I was just treating the students from Kiluani New Life Secondary School in a small room beside where Lilian and I stayed. Gradually, the clinic opened to the locals treating them free of charge. Our Pastor would preach to the waiting crowd making evangelism the most important activity before treatment. Thank God that He brought many locals to the clinic where I subsequently started to introduce a minimum charge of 20 ksh (equivalent to S50 cents) per consultation.

Besides the clinic work, the Lord gave me the opportunity to start the Sunday School with only 3 children on the 1st Sunday School lesson. Gradually, the Lord gave us many children to about 130-150 to date. Many of them were channeled to the Sunday School through the clinic ministry.

Practicing nursing in Singapore and in Kenya is totally different. In Kenya, you treat the sick as if you are a doctor. You get to do a lot of things which you do not do in Singapore, e.g. cosmetic surgery!! (repairing of severed ear lobe), twins delivery, knee aspiration, etc. Thank God that the medical books were my constant ‘consultant’ but God was my greatest help and



guide. How to treat a whole lot of illnesses!! e.g. Diarrhea, pneumonia, worm infestation, malnutrition, etc. What dosage to give to very young infants and children? I was in constant fear that I might dispense the wrong medicine. Thank the Lord that He always comforted and strengthened me with His word.

### **Physical and Spiritual developments in the Clinic Ministry**

June 2002, a new clinic building was constructed next to where I stayed.

In 2004, Infant Immunization Programme was introduced after two months of Community Health attachment at Kijabe Mission Hospital, about 6 hours' drive from the Mission Station. In the following year, Antenatal Clinic was also introduced. This opened to more boma (Maasai mud house) calls (house calls) for emergency and complicated deliveries at home besides the medical cases.

The number of patients coming to the clinic continued to multiply.

From 2001 -2005, there were other missionaries running the school, church and the Mission Station. The Lord enabled me to be more focused in the clinic work. He gave me opportunities to conduct Bible studies, health education and prayer with the clinic staff besides the busy clinic day, night calls and 'boma' calls. The Lord sustained me well then.

### **Assuming other responsibilities after Lilian Lee left**

In March 2006, Lilian left but the Lord kept me to continue the work at Kiluani. He gave me strength and wisdom to serve Him in various capacities:-

- Church – oversaw the Sunday school, conduct Bible studies with the Kiluani Secondary School Students, and involved in Ladies Fellowship. Initiated the Youth Fellowship and Youth Choir in 2004.



- Station – oversaw the station and assigned work to ground workers.

- School - settled land issue with the School Principal and any related issues with the school and served as a BOG member.

- Clinic – as mentioned above.

Gradually, it took a toll on me. It affected me spiritually not having quality time with my Lord and not being able to read as much as I wished. My physical health was also

affected especially my back.

“Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” Matt 11:28

I had not learned how to cast my burden upon Him and trust Him.

### **Back surgery**

In November 2007, I sustained a slipped disc and flew back immediately for surgery. The Lord heard all your cries for me and brought me back safely for the surgery. The Lord taught me many precious lessons through this agony and excruciating pain.

“Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart; and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.” Matt. 11:29-30

Thank you for praying for me. It is very important to keep fit whilst serving in the field.

In July 2008, thank God for sending me back to Kenya again. I re-adjusted the Clinic opening hours to 3 days a week. Praise the Lord that He continued to bring many old patients back to to the Clinic. But I found that I could not sit too long as my back had not fully recovered. By the end of 2008, my back was much stronger.

## **Mobile Clinic**

In November 2008, the Lord prompted us to initiate an outreach to the Maasai in the remote areas with the Mobile Clinic. We surveyed a number of villages and the Lord led us to Olentekei village, about 30km from Kiluani. We started the Mobile Clinic in March 2009.

Olentekei is in the far remote area where there is lack or no medical facilities around. Though the response was not very good, an average of 10-15 infants and children came for the immunization program and about 5 women came for the Antenatal Clinic during each visit. Nevertheless we continued because our objective was to give the gospel to them. The locals were very happy because they were not only receiving medical treatment; they were also fed with the Word of God. Some of them gave us milk for cooking tea over the fire.

## **Conversion of a Maasai**

A middle aged Maasai man came with his 2nd wife for the Antenatal Clinic check. After listening to Pastor Omweri's message, he stayed behind for the Bible studies conducted for those who were interested to learn more about the word of God.

On the next mobile visit, he came alone but he was rather quiet and looked troubled. After the clinic, as we were packing to leave he came to request us to visit his boma. He told us that his wife passed away a week ago due to severe bleeding after delivery. He also shared that it might be a curse on him because of what he was doing. He had been doing black magic for men who wanted to steal other people's wives. He



realized that it was a sin and wickedness. We went and shared the gospel and prayed with him but he was not ready to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as his Saviour. Then we left.

On the following mobile clinic day, he did not come. After the clinic hours, we went to his boma but he had moved back to his own home village because the rain came. We left the place rather disappointed, but the Lord had an appointment with him. As our car was heading towards Namanga, lo and behold we saw him on a motorbike (motor-taxi) going home. We stopped him and shared the gospel with him again. Praise the Lord, he was ready, keen to pray and he received the Lord as his Saviour. We encouraged him to attend a nearby Baptist Church or an Africa Inland Church. Incidentally, he was a long lost good friend of our driver, Lawrence. Since then Lawrence had been encouraging him to go to church.

## **Turning Point**

In April 2009, the Lord gave me a growing desire of wanting to know more and to be equipped with His word. The longer I served, the more inadequate I felt. I thought I needed a break to re-charge my spiritual needs.

In June 2009, the Lord gave me an opportunity to return to Singapore to attend the Mission Conference and the Church camp. I brought it up to Brother Mok and the Mission Committee about my needs. Thank God that they were very merciful and accepted my request. Actually, I had been praying that if it were His will, then New Life BP Church and Rev. Kim would agree unanimously. Praise the Lord, they saw the needs and agreed.

## **Ensuring smooth hand over**

Upon returning to Kenya in July 2009, there were quite a number of issues to consider for the hand over:-

- Continuation of the work in the clinic and ceasing of mobile clinic
- Recruitment and training of more Sunday School teachers

- Transferring electrical items such as generator, fridge, etc to responsible people.

- Informing leaders of the community, church members and concerned parties about the changes.

### 1. Church

- In January 2010, the Lord sent Pastor Benard, Valerie (his wife) and 2 children to Kiluani to replace Pastor Omweri who was transferred to another station at Lenkejabe. Valerie who is a Kindergarten Teacher, readily took over the Sunday School work as an overall in-charge and as well the youth choir from me. Praise the Lord.

- Praise the Lord, before I left the Lord gave us 7 SS teachers : Pastor Benard took the youth class; Valerie took the teens (boys) class, David Keru taught another teens (girls) class; Nchaanka, Peter Sikampe, Joseph Mukenge and Rosina Balala took the lower primary classes. The Lord gave an increase of 1 more class that year.

Peter, Joseph and Rosina are the first fruits of the SS ministry. They were our SS students since they were young. Peter and Joseph are also our bursary students at Kiluani Sec. Sch. They are at Form 2 and 3 respectively. Peter was also the youth choir master. Rosina was one of the most faithful and serious SS students when she was young. Though she is 18 years old she is only in class 7 as she started going to primary school at the age of 12. We thank God for each one of them.

- We also wanted to commend on some of the youth who had been with us since we started the Sunday School eg. Mpoke, Daniel Muriatoi, Koikai Keru, Naneu Keru, Yiamat Simintei, Nooni Simintei and Leina. Thank God for keeping them with us and they are serving in the youth choir.

- Praise the Lord, Rev. Kim initiated the Kindergarten at the church sanctuary in February 2010.

- In January 2010, Pastor and members were informed of my return to Singapore. They were disappointed and concerned. Nevertheless, they accepted it because I would be furthering

my studies.

### 2. Community

- The chief, leaders of our community, school, and Ministry of Health were also informed of my return. They expressed concern and disappointment especially when the clinic had to close but were comforted that a Korean nurse may be coming quite soon, God willing.

### 3. Clinic

- All the equipments and instruments eg. Hb machine, Daptone, Glucometer, Autoclave machine, suction machine, etc... are left behind for the next nurse to use.

- Thank God that an AIC (Africa Inland Church) Dispensary at Kajiado (district town) is willing to conduct a mobile clinic once a week at Kiluani Clinic of Life. The latest news from Rev. Kim was that they requested for more days because the response is very good. Praise the Lord for the answer to the community needs.

- Rev. Kim is also expecting a Korean nurse to come quite soon.

- Thank God for giving us faithful staff to the clinic.

Gideon Leshushu, a maasai, who worked with us for >1 ½ year (Dec.06 – Nov.07), was admitted to the Government Medical College for Diploma in Clinical Medicine in August 2008 when I was in Singapore for spinal



surgery. He was a hardworking and keen to learn worker and an ex-student of Kiluani Secondary School. Last August 09, during his 2nd year vocation, he came back to the clinic to learn and help us. He was very grateful and thank God for what he had learnt when he was with us. In January 2010, he wrote to me and requested to find him a sponsor because the severe drought had wiped out his father's herd. And he almost missed his examinations because of his fees arrear. His case was brought up to the Mission Committee. Thank God that our church was willing to sponsor him with the condition that he will be bonded for 3 years after the completion of his course. He was most grateful and assured us that he is very happy to serve at Kiluani Clinic. Hence, he was referred to Rev.Kim to follow up. Praise the Lord.

Another staff, Nchaanka Kipelian, a Maasai, worked with us for about 1½ year till the day I left. He was our ex-bursary student of Kiluani Secondary School. He was diligent, faithful and willing to go an extra mile in his work. He is also a Sunday School teacher and always availed himself to serve God in any capacity.

#### 4. Mission Station

The mission vehicle was sold and the generator and some items were given away.

All praise and glory be given to our Lord God that all issues of the handing over were dealt with care with no major problems.

I thank God for many missionaries who had come and gone during my period in Kiluani like Lawrence Chan, Lilian Lee, Mr.& Mrs, Famachoi, Mr Chin, and Bro.Mok & Carol. Their contribution to the spiritual and physical development of the Mission Station speaks of what it is today. Example: Bro. Mok who layed the water piping system and sewerage system in the houses and constructed the water storage tanks had made our lives more comfortable otherwise we were still be using the pit latrines and carrying water into the house for use.

#### Future Plan

God willing, the Lord will lead me to a Bible School because I desire a deeper understanding of His Word, know how to live for Him and bear a

fruitful life for my Lord.



#### Future Prayer Requests

- The ministry in Kiluani will continue to prosper for the Lord.
- The Lord will send a missionary or a nurse to the station.
- Pastor Benard will be faithful to feed His people with the Word of God.
- The bursary students will study hard and do well for the Lord.
- The Lord will bless the Kindergarten which was set up by Rev. Kim.

In His service, puimeng

#### Designated Offerings

Where the purpose for which these were given have failed (e.g. contributions are made for cyclone relief when the need is no longer present) efforts will be made to trace donors for their permission to re-designate their contributions to other worthy causes. In the event that donors cannot be traced, the Church will re-designate such funds for missionaries, missions, relief work, mercy ministry, ad hoc projects or other needs in keeping with being good stewards of God's resources.

## MISSION REPORT FROM EFENDI GINTING IN BATAM

Since I started ministering at Batu Aji B-P Church on October 2009 I have seen the hand of God at work.

We now have a teens fellowship with about 25-40 teens coming every Saturday. Every Sunday morning 20-30 children come for Sunday School. This is followed by the worship service which is attended by about 15-20 people. We praise the Lord for giving the increase.

For greater unity and spiritual growth, Batu Aji B-P Church had some combined activities with other churches: We joined Tanjung Piayu B-P Church for an Ascension Day service at the beach, and on 5-6 June we had a combined camp at a resort with Petra B-P Church. May the Lord God bless these activities so that our church members will grow in their knowledge of Christ.

*A sister leading in singspiration at the camp.*



We thank the Lord that many at Batu Aji have grown in their commitment to God's kingdom and would like to join the church. Because of this, catechism classes have been arranged to prepare them for transfer of membership and reaffirmation of faith at the Church anniversary in October 2010. Some infants will also be baptized at this service.

*Devotions during the combined camp*



*Playing a game on the beach*



*Fellowship time*

# MISSION REPORT FROM REV DAVID KOO IN CAMBODIA

We thank and praise God for His grace and mercy upon our Cambodian mission. By the grace of God, our ministry has slowly been growing spiritually and physically.

1. A Korean couple came to Cambodia recently. They helped out at a mission in a rural area, especially by giving free hair cuts and donating a well to a village that does not have water.



2. One of our daughter churches located in a rural area is Ozam Na B-P Church. It has been growing both spiritually and physically. Even though the members are poor, they are keen to learn the Bible and worship the Lord. Our 3rd and 4th year Bible students are carrying out the ministry there as church leaders.

3. There are 32 students studying in our Bible College. Nine senior students will be graduating in October 2010. They will be the future leaders - elders, deacons, Sunday School teachers, and fellowship group leaders – at various places in Cambodia. Pastor Srun Chivan is the lecturer of the Bible students and brother Sen Ponnreay is in charge of the secondary and high school worship services and the Bible classes.



Ordination of the three pastors

4. We had an ordination and baptism service on 25th April 2010. Three pastors were officially ordained by Rev David Koo & Rev Srun Chivan: Rev Prum Chanta of Andong Thmor BP Church, Rev Sieng Zun of Ream BP Church and Rev Tieng Chanton of First BP Church of Siem Reap. We thank God for these faithful servants of God who have been serving and preaching the Gospel to the villagers in rural areas for over 10 years.

After they were ordained, the three pastors baptised 63 members and conducted the Lord's Supper.



Baptisms by the three pastors



The 63 members who were baptized

5. In obedience to the Great Commission of our Lord Jesus Christ, we need to train His servants to spread the Gospel for the salvation of souls and to build up the believers in the faith. Please pray:

- That the Lord will continue to lead and guide in the future of Cambodian missions.
- For our Bible College students who are in need of financial support.
- For the safety and health of our family.
- For spiritual growth in the Lord of the leaders and members in our rural daughter churches.



## LIFE B-P CHURCH MISSIONS

### Missions Station

*Malaysia:* Kota Tinggi Sunday School

### Missionaries

*Batam, Indonesia:* Pr Efendi Ginting & his co-workers Sis Merry Lasfeto and Bro Mikdal Lisin

*Kenya:* Sis June Tan-Korir

### Partners-in-Missions

*Chiang Mai, Thailand:* Rev Nirand Tamee & Sis Jess Lim

*Chinese nationals:* Sis Ho Heng Sau

The following Missionaries will be classified as Partners-in-Missions with effect from 1 Jan 2011:

*Kompongsm, Cambodia:* Rev David Koo and Rev Moses Hahn

*Batam, Indonesia:* Sis Roska Choi

*Myanmar:* Rev Andrew Kam

## Announcements

1. Bro Mok Chee Cheong left for further theological training at Western Reformed Seminary at Tacoma, USA, and also to serve in Vancouver Bible-Presbyterian Church, Canada. The Missions Committee is thankful for his service as our Missions Field Representative from 1 Oct 2008 to 28 Jun 2010. We wish him well in his studies and his new ministry.

2. Sis Chan Pui Meng is preparing to study Christian Missions in the U.S. starting on 1 Sep 2010. Please pray for her preparations and that she will be well-equipped through her studies to serve the Lord in missions.

3. For enquiries regarding Life B-P Church missions, please write to [missionscom@lifebpc.com](mailto:missionscom@lifebpc.com).