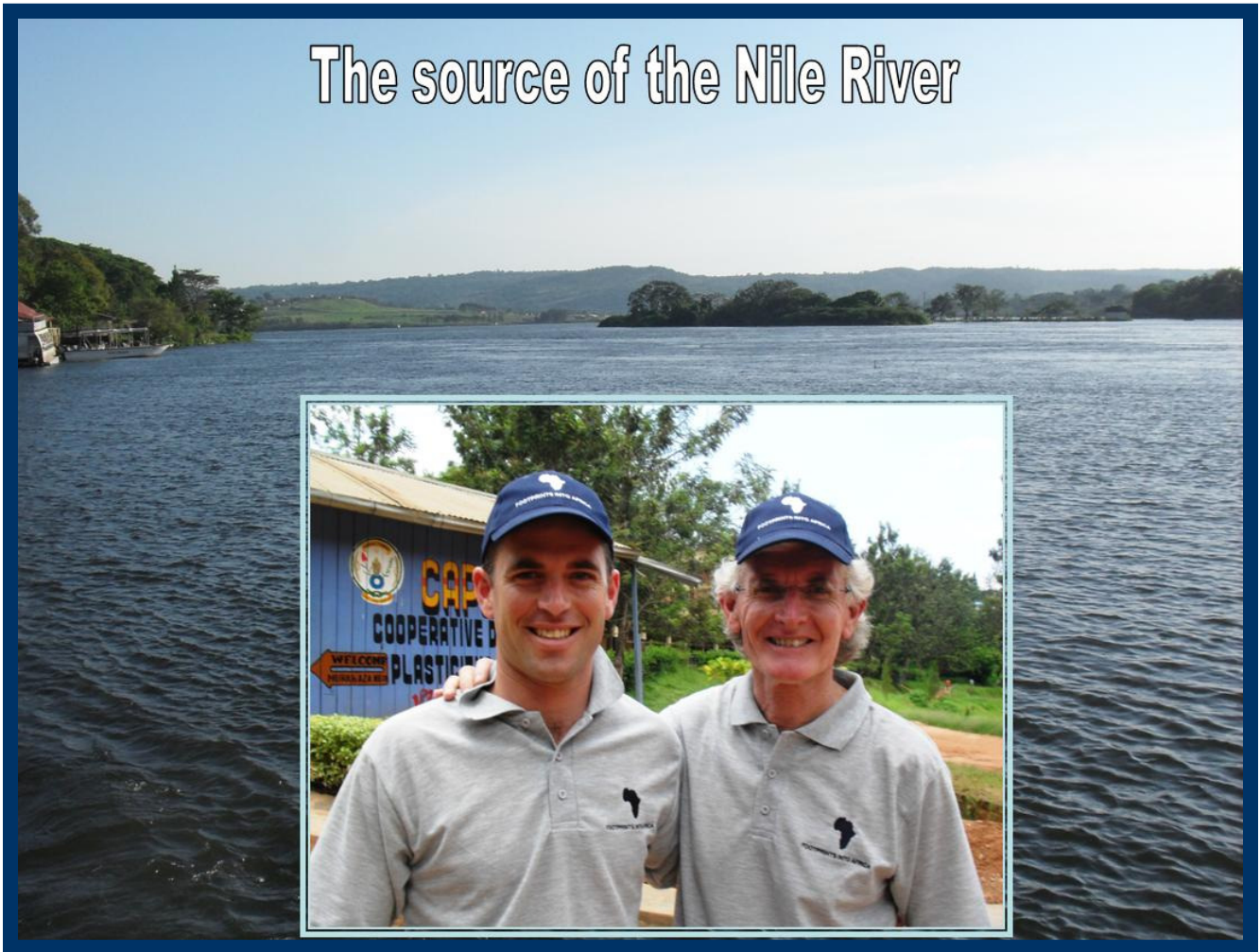


# *MY FOOTPRINTS INTO AFRICA*

## *TRIP TO*

### *RWANDA AND UGANDA*

The source of the Nile River



AND VISITING THE SOURCE OF THE NILE

NOVEMBER 2012

By Bishop Warwick Cole-Edwardes

Trip No. 26

## Introduction

In a wonderful book that I read recently THE CONGO FOR CHRIST, J.B. Meyers wrote in 1895 on all the pioneer missionaries who brought the Gospel to the Congo. It was stirring reading, challenging certainly me to the very core of my being. Listen to one of these pioneers who was to give his life for Christ:

*“Work for Christ in AFRICA must be my life work. I desire this work **more than all else** and be my life long or short, I pray it may be faithful unto the end. And who knows how soon the end may come? Life is not always to be measured by years. As I think of the dear ones now with Jesus, I seem to feel in a solemn way bound to AFRICA. Their graves seem to be speechful and to bid me gird up my loins and work in AFRICA while it is day ...”*

That is where my heart is and I want to spend the remaining years of my life serving the Church in Africa. This is now my third trip into Central Africa this year after having been to Malawi and Zambia, so now I set out with my son Gregg on my twenty-sixth mission trip into Africa. We will be visiting Kigali in Rwanda where a Pastor’s Conference has been arranged, then preaching in some of the local Churches, and after that travelling on to Kampala in Uganda. This will be a first for me ... so I am very excited ... but a wonderful reminder came from Hudson Taylor, listen:

*“it is no small comfort to me to know that God has called me to my work, putting me where I am and as I am. I have not sought the position and I dare not leave it. He knows why He places me here – whether to do, or learn, or suffer”.*

*Hudson Taylor*

So as my first year of being a missionary into Africa draws to a close, what could be better than going to Rwanda and Uganda...



*Cultivated honeycomb hills painted in shades of green*

## **BACKGROUND**

In a book, I read last month by Jacques Pauw entitled 'RAT ROADS' which covers so much of the history in Rwanda, he wrote:

*“Rwanda and Burundi are so small that on a map of Africa their names are usually printed in neighbouring Congo or Tanzania with arrows indicating the speckles to the right or left. Their northern neighbour, Uganda, is much bigger, although together the trio occupies only a tiny percentage of the Africa land mass. All three evoke images of cultivated honeycombed hills painted in shades of green, volcanic slopes blanketed in impenetrable rainforests and silvery-shiny lakes that are the source of the continent's greatest river, the Nile.*

*Between them, their peoples have endured the continents' bloodiest dictators and hellish political turmoil. Once engulfed in a genocide in which the machetes of the butchers worked faster than Nazi Germany's gas chambers, they seem to be trapped in perpetual cycles of tribal hatred, division, greed, and mistrust.*

But the Lord is at work in Rwanda. Operation World writes:

*“evangelists emerged from the ashes to grow rapidly post 1994. Today, they are present in great numbers in political leadership, education and health and nation building. While the spike of Protestant/Independent growth has plateaued, the consolidation of evangelicals as a force in society is to be lauded.”*

So I return to Rwanda where I had such an amazing time last year. Two of our students will also be with us; Fred Kiiza and Jean-Marie Vinney, so hold on to your seat belts, we are off on another great African adventure.

## HISTORY OF RWANDA

### POLITICS

*Rwanda was a feudal Tutsi monarchy, which continued through German colonial occupation (1899-1916) and Belgian Mandate (1916-1926). A Hutu revolt overthrew the Tutsi government in 1959 with many Tutsi killed or driven into exile. A Tutsi invasion from Uganda in 1990 led to conflict, many deaths, and the displacement of thousands of people. Hutu extremists seized power in 1994 and began the genocide of the Tutsi minority and Hutu moderates. In 100 days, 800,000 perished. The more disciplined Tutsi-led forces gained control, and over a million Hutu fled to surrounding lands. Hutu and Tutsi rebels and militias remain at large in Congo, a thorn in both countries' sides. The government made massive strides in excising ethnicity from politics and society, making the country safe and rebuilding infrastructure. The current parliament is more than 50% female, the world's highest rate. Political dissent is currently met with little tolerance. Rwanda, a former Belgian colony, joined the British Commonwealth and enjoys improving relations with France.*



Yesterday I finished one of John Stott's greatest books "EVANGELICAL TRUTH". This was Stott at his best stating how we are bound to:

1. The Bible
2. The Cross of Christ
3. The indwelling of the Spirit

Then he applied this to our discipleship and wrote:

### DISCIPLESHIP

*"Becoming and being a Christian involves a change so radical that no imagery can do it justice but death and resurrection with Christ, namely dying to the old life of self indulgence and self will, and rising to a new life of self control and self giving, in which the world has been crucified to us and we have been crucified to the world".*

Surely this is what I long to be ... a real disciple of Jesus Christ dying to the old self of self indulgence and self will and rising to a new life of self control and self giving ...

## MY DIARY

**FRIDAY, 23 NOVEMBER**

Today is the day, after months of preparation I am on my way to Rwanda and Uganda. This morning in my Bible readings, I read from 1 Chronicles, James, Jonah, and Luke. Listen to what John Calvin once wrote regarding one's daily Bible reading:

### BIBLE

*"unto a Christian there can be nothing either more necessary or profitable, than the knowledge of Holy Scripture, forasmuch as in it is contained God's true Word, setting forth His glory and also man's duty. And there is no truth nor doctrine necessary for our justification and eternal salvation, but that is, or may be drawn out of that fountain and well of truth. Therefore as many as be desirous to enter into the right and perfect way of God, must apply their minds to know the Bible, without which they can neither sufficiently know God and His will, neither their office and duty."*

This is now the 45<sup>th</sup> time I am reading through the Bible, how I long to know it better and teach it better because it brings me closer to God. Then, as always, I close off my devotions with prayer and the reading of 'MY UTMOST FOR HIS HIGHEST' by Oswald Chambers. Listen to what he wrote today, so incredibly relevant for us.

### DISTRACTIONS

*"beware of the cares of this world because they are the things that produce a wrong temper of soul. It is extraordinary what an enormous power there is in simple things to distract our attention from God. Refuse to be swamped with the cares of the world."*

So now I am ready, all packed, my Bible in, twenty-one sermons prepared, three great books to go through and .... to have my son Gregg with me is the cherry on the top. I will catch a plane from Pietermaritzburg to Johannesburg, meet up with Gregg at the airport, and then fly out to Rwanda, arriving there just before midnight ...

One of the books I brought with me is entitled HEROES by Iain Murray. I love books like this, biography at its best so here we go with the first hero – JONATHAN EDWARDS. There are times when the discovery of an author makes such an impact that the reader never forgets the date. So for the date, June 22, 1832, Robert Murray Mc Cheyne marked in his diary "bought Edwards' works." They became his companions for life. I have read his works; the students at K.M.B.C. do assignments on his life, teachings and ministry. So in between flights what better to do than to read about this hero. Listen to just one of the great things he wrote:



**NEW**

*“They that are truly converted are new men, new creatures, new not only within but without; they are sanctified throughout in spirit, soul and body; old things are passed away, all things are become new; they have new hearts and new eyes, new ears, new tongues, new hands, new feet ... they walk in newness of life and continue to do so to the end of life.”*



After flying out of Pietermaritzburg I arrived in Johannesburg and while waiting read from the hero Jonathan Edwards. Listen to this:

**NEW CONVERTS**

*“the new convert is aware of God, admires God, loves God, lives for God. The false convert, whatever his language or experiences, remains self-centred: self is the one abiding interest of the unregenerated life.”*

Met up with Gregg, so father and son now head into Central Africa on a mission trip together which I pray, by the grace of God, will be the first of many. Had an excellent flight arriving at Kigali International Airport just after midnight and there was Pastor Miriam to welcome us and to take us home, back to where I stayed during my visit last year. We lost the Footprints into Africa banner, so let's hope they find it!



It is late now, 3:00 am but fantastic to be back in Rwanda so let me close off the day with a last quote from our hero Jonathan Edwards:

**ONE TEXT**

*There is one text more than any other to which the life of Jonathan Edwards leads us back. It is at the heart of the Resolutions he wrote as a young Christian; he preached it in Boston at the age of twenty-seven when he said, ‘the creature is nothing, and God is all’; and he delighted in it the longer he lived. The text is 1 Corinthians 10:31: ‘Whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.’ To exalt man is to disown the purpose of God that ‘no flesh should glory in his presence’. All good is given to believers – all grace, all revival, all redemption, all eternity – that we might be abased and find our all in God. Whatever the hardships, the persecution or the disappointments in things temporal, the churches’ brightest and happiest days are those in which she is learning to sing, ‘Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto thy name give glory’ (Psa. 115:1), for this is God’s preparation for the world where all will say,*

*Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen (Rev. 7:12).*

Fell asleep in Kigali in Central Africa ready to preach in the morning.

## SATURDAY, 24 NOVEMBER

How wonderful it is to wake up in Kigali on a magnificent morning. My Bible readings were from 1 Chronicles, 1 Peter, Jonah and Luke and then what a reminder from “My Utmost for His Highest”, listen to Chambers:

*“SPIRITUAL LEAKAGE” begins when we cease to lift up our eyes to Him. Whenever there is a leakage, remedy it immediately. Recognize that something has been coming between you and God, and get it readjusted at once.*”

After time in prayer began with the second hero GEORGE WHITEFIELD because I don’t ever want there to be any spiritual leakage in my life ...

### TRIBUTES

What a man ... listen to what men said of him and his zeal ... Dr. Ebenezer Pemberton of New York said of him, *“Perhaps no man, since the apostolic age, preached oftener, or with greater success. John Newton who heard Whitfield often, declared: ‘If anyone were to ask me who was the second preacher I ever heard, I should be at some loss to answer; but, in regard to the first, Mr. Whitefield exceeded so far every other man of my time, that I should be at none.’”*



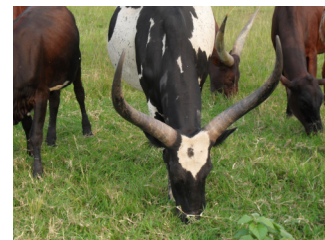
### TRIBUTES

Perhaps the finest funeral testimony came from John Wesley who asked, *‘Have we read or heard of any person since the Apostles, who testified the gospel of the grace of God through so widely extended a space, through so large a part of the habitable world? Above all, have we read or heard of any, who has been a blessed instrument in His hand of bringing so many sinners from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God’?*

Ready now for the day ... being in another African country, living in one of their homes is such a marvelous experience I thoroughly enjoy. Listen to what I have just read about how the Rwanda people see their cows. Jean Marie told me the President of Rwanda now wants every family to own a cow!

### COWS

*“A cow with white patches across its face might be called Kiroko, a reddish-brown one Ibihogo and a brown beast with white spots Umusengo. A black cow with white spots is usually named Ikibamba. The cow is the quintessential paradigm of beauty, elegance, and grace. In Rwanda culture, it is thus a great compliment to tell a woman that she has amaso y inyana – calf eyes – or reminds you of inka nziza – a beautiful cow.*



*Every cow has a personality, a name, and a character. Many Rwandan names are related to cows, expressions of greeting are about cows, and many metaphors originate from cow vocabulary. If, for example, you tell someone to meet you tomorrow morning around seven or eight, you'll say he or she must meet you inka zahutse – when the cows go out to graze."*

What a beautiful day greeted us, enjoyed a wash and shave and a special Rwandan breakfast of two slices of bread, no butter or jam, and some tea. Today is CLEAN RWANDA day and what a joy it is to see, people all pulling together to clean their country, we have so much to learn from these dear people. No shops open until midday – everyone is out in the streets cleaning, it is so good to see.



So now, before we set out let me share two traits from George Whitfield.

**ZEAL**

*"although dying of asthma at the age of 55 his motto was still NO NESTLING, NO FLAGGING, THIS SIDE OF ETERNITY."*

**HUMILITY**

Twelve years later and just four years before his death, he wrote after his birthday *"Fy upon me, fy upon me, fifty-two years old last Saturday, and yet, O loving, everlasting, altogether lovely Jesus, how little, yea how very little have I done and suffered for Thee. Tomorrow, God willing I intend to take the sacrament upon it, that I will BEGIN TO BEGIN TO BE A CHRISTIAN."*

These heroes are such a challenge to me, I long to portray both of those traits in my life. Gregg and I walked into town, giving him a feel for Kigali and we found the most amazing curio shops. We spent ages looking around and I negotiated for a real African plate, with Africa and her countries carved into it ... perfect for my office ... (Gregg walked away embarrassed by his father). This is Africa ... negotiate a fair price ... but bargain hard.





Came home just before a storm giving us time to get ready for our trip to the Kigali Genocide Museum, then on to Church for our first service. What a fantastic afternoon. Jean-Marie arrived to fetch us, and the three of us set off to the Museum. I caught my first motor cycle taxi holding on for dear life as we weaved our way through the peak Kigali traffic until we arrived at the memorial. It was Gregg's first visit and what a dreadful reminder of the 1 million Tutsi butchered to death in only ninety days ... absolutely horrendous! Afterwards we went to the mass graves and paused for a while, it is so very moving to be there.



From there we took another two taxi rides, jam-packed, music blaring until we arrived at the Church for our first service. The Lord was with us. Gregg shared a few words and I preached on "THE NOMINAL CHRISTIAN", after which ten people indicated their desire to follow Christ. It was wonderful being with these dear people. From there caught another two taxis back home ... exhausted but so incredibly fulfilled seeing souls saved.

How better to close off the day than to begin my next hero – JOHN NEWTON. After being refused ordination by two archbishops and one bishop, he was nevertheless later ordained and became a faithful minister of Christ. He always acknowledged the praying friends who supported him – listen:

**PRAYING  
FRIENDS**

*"to be interested in the simple, affectionate and earnest prayers of such a people, is a privilege of more value than the wealth of kings." He of course wrote the hymn "Amazing Grace".*

Fell asleep so grateful to be right in the heart of Africa, preaching the Gospel and seeing people being saved, and having Gregg with me ...

## **SUNDAY, 25 NOVEMBER**

Another magnificent morning greeted us in Kigali, so out on the veranda overlooking Kigali I can do my readings. This morning my Bible readings were from 2 Kings, 1 Peter, Jonah and Luke and then Oswald Chambers gave us an excellent reminder in "My Utmost for His Highest":

*“we have to concentrate on THE CROSS, to keep in contact with that centre where all the power lies. In holiness movements and spiritual experience meetings the concentration is apt to be put NOT on the Cross of Christ but on the EFFECTS of the Cross.”*

Before heading off to preach, spent time in prayer and read more from John Newton. Iain Murray summarized his life in this way:

**HIS LIFE**

*“we best remember John Newton by admiring the grace of God. What a strange life – a man who left school at the age of ten, press-ganged at eighteen, delivered from his own slavery when he was twenty four, slow in understanding his new faith, failing in his first efforts to preach, and then at thirty nine becoming the curate of an obscure town, YET ... ultimately, dying a much-loved teacher of the whole world. With Newton, every believer may sing”:*

*“tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lend me home.”*



Caught a taxi to the Church for the morning service. Gregg gave his testimony, which made me feel like the proudest father on earth ... he was outstanding. I preached on ‘THE INFLUENCE OF A CHRISTIAN’ from Matthew 5:13-16 and there was a lovely response. The service lasted nearly four hours, poor Gregg was shell-shocked!!! Afterwards we then went to one of the managers of Rwanda Bank, Mr. and Mrs. Edwards and they gave us a five-star lunch. We then made our way back to the Church for another service. I am now exhausted but with Jean-Marie as the interpreter I preached on PRAYER from Matthew 6. Afterwards we made our way to the taxi rank and headed for home ... what a full and glorious day in Rwanda.



Read the next chapter of HEROES on the life of THOMAS CHARLES who preached so effectively in Wales. In one of his letters, he wrote:

GOD'S  
LOVE

*"I find it daily indispensably necessary to have a clear appreciation of the eternity, unchangeableness, freeness and independency of God's love, to enable me to walk forwards with any degree of confidence and comfort. God's love depends upon nothing outside of Himself, but upon His sovereign will and pleasure only. Christ did not die for us to cause God to love, but God's love alone was the cause of Christ's propitiation ... I want nothing but to know more experimentally the power of this love, more effectually influencing my heart and life."*

Tomorrow we start the Pastor's Conference so I need to go over all the talks I will give. It has been a full day so after some preparation went to bed just as a huge storm broke over KIGALI. Let me close with one last quote:

OBSESSED  
PEOPLE

*"People who are obsessed with Jesus aren't consumed with their own personal safety and comfort above all else. Obsessed people care more about God's Kingdom coming to this earth than their own lives being shielded from pain or distress."*

## **MONDAY 26 NOVEMBER**

There had been a lot of rain during the night so everything was looking crisp and fresh this morning. Everyone is still sleeping so I found a table outside to read and get ready for the day because today the Conference begins. My readings were again from 1 Chronicles, 1 Peter, Luke and we began with Micah. Oswald Chambers again brought me back to the CROSS:

*"in external history the Cross is an infinitesimal thing, from the Bible point of view it is of more importance than the empires of the world. Preach the Cross and the energy of God is let loose."*

So after preaching three times in Pastor Miriam's Church over the weekend, today I start with the Pastor's Conference and over the next two days, I will be preaching through 1 Thessalonians. Wow ... this is Footprints into Africa on the go, teaching the Bible, encouraging Pastors in Kigali and into Africa. Here is another brilliant quote from Francis Chan:

OBSESSED  
PEOPLE

*"People who are obsessed with Jesus live lives that connect them with the POOR in some way or another. Obsessed people believe that Jesus talked about money and the poor so often because it was really important to Him."*

These trips do connect me with the Rwandan people, living with them, catching taxis everywhere I go, it is so exhilarating and rewarding, I want to be obsessed with Jesus, connecting with the poor, loving them and training their pastors. Nothing could be better in life than this.”

So after our breakfast of two slices of bread and a cup of tea, Gregg and I are on our way. We will catch two taxis, because the motorbike ones are too expensive, and then preach our hearts out. One more quote:

**OBSESSED  
PEOPLE**

*“People who are obsessed with Jesus are known as givers, not takers. Obsessed people genuinely think that others matter as much as they do, and they are particularly aware of those who are poor around the world.”*



I preached three times from 1 Thessalonians:

Chapter 1 – Christian Evangelism

Chapter 2 – Christian Ministry

Chapter 3 – Christian Behaviour

It was moving to see the pastors at the end all singing “All to Jesus I Surrender”, as they rededicated their lives to the work. I was very grateful to God ... and Gregg’s testimony was brilliant.



Gregg and I were again given a wonderful lunch by one of the Church families, so all in all another brilliant day teaching the Bible in Rwanda with your son beside you ... slowly



made our way home so what better than to read the next hero WILLIAM HEWITSON one of the students so wonderfully trained by Thomas Chalmers in Edinburgh. Andrew Bonar said this of him:

*“he was the likeliest to Robert McCheyne of any I knew.”*

Undoubtedly, much of the resemblance lay in the way the tenderness of Christ shone through both men. Yet Hewitson saw himself as far short of what he ought to be: he was still saying at the end of his short life, *“I should be far more tender”*. He had not attained the likeness to Jesus he sought, yet he was heard to confess: *“I am better acquainted with Jesus than I am with any friend on earth.”*

After being trained by Thomas Chalmers, he joined Dr. Robert Kalley as a missionary to Madeira but sadly died soon afterwards ... what a hero ... This was written on his tombstone:

**HIS  
LEGACY**

*“adorned with natural gifts and human learning he yet counted all things but loss for the sake of the knowledge of Christ, a man full of faith and zeal, abounding in prayer. The Word dwelling in him richly and the love of Christ constraining him. He was in his private walk and in the work of the ministry, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord.”*

So another fantastic day. I have preached six times already, with three more tomorrow at the Pastor’s Conference then Gregg and I head on to Uganda, the land of Bishop Hannington and Alexander Mackay. Before going to sleep one more quote:

**OBSSESSED  
PEOPLE**

*“a person who is obsessed with Jesus thinks about heaven frequently. Obsessed people orient their lives around eternity : they are not fixed only on what is here in front of them.”*

## **TUESDAY, 27 NOVEMBER**

Enjoyed the best sleep I have had so far ... I think because I put up the mosquito net early and so there were fewer mosquitoes ... so much better!! When I woke up everyone was still sleeping so I went and washed Gregg’s and my clothes, got some hot water and enjoyed a shave and a good wash, now let me read my Bible and pray – I don’t want any spiritual leakage as we read earlier. Again, read from 1 Chronicles, 1 Peter. Micah and Luke. It is amazing how the Word speaks so clearly each day and then Oswald Chambers made this comment:

*“if I brood on the CROSS of Christ, I do not become a subjective pietist, interested in my own whiteness : I become dominantly concentrated on Jesus Christ’s interest.”*

This book by Francis Chan continues with that theme, listen:

**OBSSESSED  
PEOPLE**

*“a person who is obsessed with Jesus is characterized by committed, settled, passionate love for God, and above and before every other thing and every other being.”*

That is so powerful; I want to be like that as I move around Africa teaching the Bible.

So I will now enjoy my two slices of bread and a cup of tea, then we will go to the Conference and deliver three final lectures on 1 Thessalonians, so it should be a busy and fulfilling day. Poor Gregg would have listened to nine talks by his father so far ...



Finished our studies in 1 Thessalonians with two talks:

Chapter 4 – Christian Hope

Chapter 5 – Christian Community

We then had a practical session on “how to prepare a sermon”. It all went so well, afterwards all the pastors came forward and sang, “All to Jesus I Surrender” - it was very moving. Together we gave thanks and they then prayed for Gregg and I, which was also very emotional for me. I love these precious people ... it was a once in a lifetime experience.



So we wound our way home so incredibly grateful. I think for Gregg this trip has been a huge challenge, he has seen Africa, and the desperate need there is for teaching. He has

experienced African hospitality and being in an African Church, which perhaps will change him forever. Exhausted and fulfilled so how better than to end with the next of the heroes CHARLES JONES.

BOOKS  
BURNT

One day all his files, notes and books were burnt in a fire. Listen to what he said, how his Clerical brethren *“consoled with me particularly with the loss of all my library and papers, lectures and sermons of every kind, the accumulation of some twenty years or so. A great loss indeed : can never be restored. I am in respect of ministerial stores burnt out.”*

Wow ... what would happen if my files and books were burnt out ... I tremble at the thought. Charles Jones lived his whole life for the black people of his country; he loved them dearly and gave his life for them. He said of them in a sermon:

OTHER  
RACES

*“they are not foreigners but our nearest neighbours – they are not hired servants, but servants belonging to us in law and Gospel. They are constant and inseparable associates – whither we go, they go – where we dwell, they dwell – where we die and are buried, they die and are buried – and more than all, our God is their God.”*

In 1899, James Stacy said of Charles Jones:

*“it may safely be said that no man has every done more for the coloured race of this country (U.S.A.). No man was ever more beloved and appreciated by that people, his name being mentioned with reverence to this day.”*

At his funeral, his son said of him:

BIBLE

*“the Bible was his constant companion, his text book, his acknowledged teacher, his guide, his supreme authority.”*

What a hero ... so after nine hours of preaching, I am tired and going to bed because tomorrow I make another *“footprint”* into Africa – this time in UGANDA, called “THE PEARL OF AFRICA”.



## UGANDA

### **BACKGROUND**

This is my first visit to UGANDA and I am so very excited; nevertheless I go with a certain amount of trepidation. Jacques Pauw in “RAT ROADS” wrote:

*“Few places in Africa embody the beauty and the mystery of the continent quite to the extent that UGANDA does. The sight of the boiling waters of the Nile cascading over the Murchison Falls, the soaring and mystical Rwenzori Mountains on its western border and the big apes loitering in its rain forests have seduced poets and writers into painting it with lyrical brushes. Africa’s lushest garden is above all the continent’s friendliest destination and after a tumultuous start at independence followed by calamitous dictatorships, it now exudes a whiff of promise.”*

### **KAMPALA**

*“My worst expectations are realized when we spend much of our first day navigating the potholed, congested and frenzied streets of hilly Kampala. It is one of those jumbo African cities – think Nairobi, Accra, Lagos, Khartoum and Addis – that has reproduced itself many times over and over is now in a state of permanent asphyxiation, gasping for air. All day long, life on the streets resembles a palpitating heart that propels cars and buses and taxis through its clogged arteries. The sidewalks are choked with people that mill around with seemingly nowhere to go. Ugandans refer to them as bayaye, people who have abandoned their villages in the countryside and journeyed to the city in hope of scoring a job or something meaningful to do. Few do, and the majority idle around on the sidewalk where they compete for space or the few cents of parking money from charitable motorists. Many live on the streets, while others find their way to slums that are immersed in a shroud of smoke. Nobody cares; certainly not the shiny-faced and roly-poly politicians and officials who glide past the unfortunate populace in sleek German technology.”*

**BUT** what stirs my heart more is the history of the early missionaries who first brought the Gospel to this beautiful country. Men like C.T. Wilson and Bishop James Hannington who was butchered to death, were heroes. However, the one man, who more than anyone else laid down the foundation for the Church today, was ALEXANDER MACKAY.



*“the conquest of Africa has already cost many lives but the end to be gained is worth the price paid. Let us not forget that the redemption of the world cost infinitely more.”*

For fourteen years, without a furlough, he gave his everything to Uganda and to building of a highway for the Gospel. Once the preparations were completed, and after fourteen years of heroic service, he died and went to be with his Lord. It was he, more than any other, who so implanted a living devotion to Christ in the African breast that within eighty years of his coming, the African were prepared to die for him ....

So I now visit the place where this amazing man laboured for the Gospel. This is so humbling ... who am I ... nothing compared to these giants. But what an unbelievable thirty years I have had travelling into Africa. Wow ... it has been incredible.

**Dr. Wilfred Grenfell, a missionary to Labrador wrote:**

*“I have dwelt at length upon the experience of the North Sea, because trivial as they appear on the surface, they concern the biggest problem of human life – the belief that man is not of the earth, but only a temporary sojourner upon it. This belief, that he is destined to go living elsewhere, makes a vast difference to one’s estimate of values. Life becomes a school instead of a mere stage, the object of which is that our capacities for usefulness should develop through using them until we reach graduation. What life gives to us can only be of permanent importance as it develops our souls.*

*“Feeble and devious as my own footsteps have been since my decision to follow Jesus Christ, I believe more than ever that this is the only real adventure of life. No step in life do I even compare with that one in permanent satisfaction.”*

The Lord has truly given me “the only real adventure in life” ... I have loved it, now off to “THE PEARL OF AFRICA”.

### **WEDNESDAY, 28 NOVEMBER**

It is overcast, everyone is still sleeping, but I found my little table outside and can spend time in the Bible and prayer, getting ready for today. My McCheyne calendar for Bible readings was again from 1 Chronicles, 1 Peter, Micah and Luke. This morning Oswald Chambers then wrote on the “bounty of the destitute”, this is what he said:

*“I will give my life to martyrdom, I will give myself in consecration, I will do anything, but do not humiliate me to the level of the most hell-deserving sinner and tell me that all I have to do it to accept the gift of salvation through Jesus Christ.”*

The Gospel is the most glorious message of grace; we are saved by the work of Christ on the Cross. Francis Chan then wrote:

OBSESSED  
PEOPLE

*“people who are obsessed with Jesus have an intimate relationship with Him. They are nourished by God’s Word throughout the day because they know that forty minutes on Sunday is not enough to sustain them for a whole week, especially when they will encounter so many distractions and alternative messages.”*

Having been nourished by the Word let me now finish the book on HEROES by reading CHARLES HADDON SPURGEON. He had the most amazing ministry in London but here is the secret of his phenomenal success. He wrote:

PRAYER

*“One starts in this place every Sunday at 7 o’clock in the morning and another at 10 o’clock. A still larger company goes up to the oracle on Monday nights at 7 o’clock. Some twelve to fifteen hundred of us are usually found in happy fellowship, going up to the mercy-seat in prayer.”*

One looks around Churches today and there is so little emphasis on prayer - the prayer meetings poorly attended ... Listen to him preaching to the lost:

WHOEVER

*“oh that precious word WHOEVER ... remember there is the same Christ for big sinners as for little sinners, the same Christ for grey heads as for babes, the same Christ for the poor as for the rich, the same Christ for chimney sweepers as for kings, the same Christ for prostitutes as for saints ... whoever looks to Christ shall live.”*

Oops ... no electricity, which means a wash and shave in cold water ... for Gregg as well! However, afterwards you feel incredibly refreshed. Now to enjoy breakfast of two slices of bread and tea, which is boiled over a fire at the back of the house, then Tim will take us to Kigali Airport and the two Footprints into Africa Missionaries will fly to Entebbe Airport in Kampala. I have never been to Uganda and don’t know a soul there so I hope everything works out, but I am told everything in chaos in Kampala, with its potholed, congested, and frenzied streets.



The plane was delayed for over an hour but we eventually took off. It was magnificent coming in to land in Kampala as we flew over Lake Victoria and landed with one huge bump ... phew ... we were glad to get off. We went through customs quickly and there Pastor was waiting for us holding a picture of me. Then our first problem surfaced, he said he had no money and no transport. Eventually he came with a taxi and said it would cost 8000 Ugandan shillings ... so finally we set off for Kampala. Friends ... you have never seen anything like Kampala!!

Pauw is right ... *“all day long life on the streets resembles a palpitating heart that propels cars and buses and taxis through its clogged arteries. The sidewalks are choked with people with seemingly nowhere to go.”*

There are millions of people all around and the traffic is horrendous, like a permanent gridlock. Anyway, we arrived in a very poor slum area of Kampala where we are to spend the next two nights. No electricity, no running water, no toilet and after the rains everywhere was just mud ... ☹ ... then the pastor said to me that the cost of the transport was 80,000 Ugandan shillings and not 8,000. I was so cross with him for lying to me at the airport, anyway I never had that amount of money so I said to the taxi driver I would pay the rest at the airport ... he understood! Shame the very dear women made up two beds for us on the floor and gave us a special brand of Ugandan tea and after some prayer Gregg and I went to bed. Poor Gregg I think he was in shock ... but I love being in Africa connecting with the poor. The toilet is one of those “long drops” outside so we made sure we did not have to go during the night ... in the mud ☹.



Let me close off an amazing day in Kampala by quoting to you from a missionary article I read on the plane written by JOSHUA WITHANGA from Kenya.

*“because AFRICA is not getting easier to work in, it is ravaged by poverty, war, and disease. It is being strangled by political misgovernance. It is bleeding from corruption. It is suffering from violence and carelessness in the society as a result. Therefore going to AFRICA is not a great adventure or a picture safari. It will be very hard work and it can be dangerous ... but ... most Africans need to be helped to some*

*empowerment. Missionaries should be prepared to TRAIN UP and MENTOR African leaders who will in time replace them. This will encourage people to take responsibility for God's call upon their lives and finally this new breed of missionary will go prepared to learn and be changed, while working with Africans as equals.*

That so perfectly describes exactly how I long to work ... now to put that into practice in Uganda.

## **THURSDAY, 29 NOVEMBER**

Made it through the night ... so now let me do my readings from the precious Word of God. Again read from 1 Chronicles, started 2 Peter, continued in Micah and Luke, after which Oswald Chambers reminded me"

*"the type of Christian experience in the New Testament is that of personal, passionate devotion to the person of Jesus Christ."*

While I wait for some hot water listen to Francis Chan:

**OBSSESSED  
PEOPLE**

*"A person who is obsessed with Jesus is more concerned with his or her character than comfort. Obsessed people know that true joy does not depend on circumstances or environment, it is a gift that must be chosen and cultivated : a gift that ultimately comes from God."*



So my heart is now full, I am ready for the Conference, just need some tea!! We quickly walked into town and managed to change some money, which should see me through to the end of our stay. The Conference then began and was better attended than I had first thought, such lovely, poor, simple people, plus a number of children, which was so nice to see. I preached for an hour on the "OVERVIEW OF THE BIBLE" because people's knowledge of the Bible is at times pathetic. Gregg has now seen the enormous damage done by the "PROSPERITY" teaching, it is so very sad to see how so few pastors actually teach the Bible. Then the rain came ... and came ... and came ... more mud everywhere. Not to be outdone the women cooked us such a delicious lunch, I gave them 50,000 Ugandan shillings for our two days, and they were so grateful. During lunch, I began my



next book "THE WOLF FROM SCOTLAND". This is the gripping story of ROBERT REID KALLEY, telling of the work of God in bringing the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the Portuguese island of Madeira and later to the people of Brazil. This work, largely unknown, rightly takes its place among the great missionary endeavours of men such as William Carey, David Livingstone, and Adoniram Judson. His ministry in Madeira said Andrew Bonar, was "the greatest happening in modern missions". If you have not read it, go and buy it now ... you cannot put it down! Now off to preach my heart out until supertime. I will cover:



THE FOUR CERTAINTIES



HOW TO GROW IN CHRIST

And that will mean twelve hours of preaching done for the glory of God. When the day ended, I had a special time with all the Pastors, which was such a privilege for me and spoke from TITUS 2 – "THE PROPRIETIES OF A PASTOR".

It was getting dark quickly so the people slowly drifted back to their homes, through all the mud.



We were given our little lamp so Gregg and I headed off to our little room with the foam mattresses on the floor, no electricity, no water, no toilet ... wow ... it has been a huge opportunity to identify with the poor of Kampala and live in their homes.



Because of the rain they cannot cook outside, so now they are cooking just outside our door in the passage – they are incredible people, never get down; they merely re-adjust and get on with the tasks. They made us some lovely coffee and brought us some fruit, which was so kind. After prayer, Gregg and I hit our pillows, what a day in Kampala... While lying there listening to all the many different noises I reminded myself of what WILLIAM BURNS, the missionary to China wrote:

*“I am ready to burn out for God.  
I am ready to endure any hardship, if  
by any means I might save some.  
The longing of my heart is to make known  
my glorious Redeemer to those who have never heard”*

## **FRIDAY, 30 NOVEMBER**

After two nights in this desperately poor situation, we now move to one of the largest Churches in Kampala and will live in the Pastor’s house, which will be such a difference to what we have had these last two days. So first my Bible readings and prayer for the day. I continued with 1 Chronicles, 2 Peter, Micah and Luke; afterwards Oswald Chambers was such a challenge:

*“There is only one relationship that matters, and that is your personal relationship to a personal Redeemer and Lord. Let everything else go, but maintain that at all costs, and God will fulfill His purpose through your life. One individual life may be of priceless value to God’s purposes, and yours may be that life.”*

So now, I will wait for some hot water, to enjoy a wash and shave. It is so funny because you have to wash over a bucket with only a loose curtain to protect you ... no wonder the passage is full of people when ‘PAPA’ is washing ☺. They make me laugh so much because I am “their father, their PAPA” and all they want is to make me happy. So now while I wait let me carry on with “THE WOLF FROM SCOTLAND”, it really is fantastic. Robert Kalley was a forceful yet gracious personality. His build and dignified bearing made him a natural leader. He was a true Scot, canny, ruggedly independent, resolute in action, and honest in all his dealings. His faith was straightforward and uncluttered, fashioned not in the halls of theological colleges, but in the practical issues of everyday life. His teacher had been the Holy Spirit and his textbook the Bible, and he was a good pupil. He had an ordered and disciplined mind, which enabled him to grasp and to hold fast revealed truth. Excellent wash, refreshing tea and bananas for breakfast, so now to preach two more sermons then to the city Church where I will preach tonight for two hours, the pastor says!

I preached on “THE INFLUENCE OF THE CHRISTIAN” – being salt and light and ended off with “THE DANGER OF NOMINAL CHRISTIANITY”. It has been an amazing time in this village of KATUSSO BUZIGO working alongside EMMANUEL CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES, in a very real sense trying to identify with the poor and the Churches that are neglected and forgotten about.



What a moving farewell from these precious, poor, and simple people. We exchanged gifts and I gave Susan a special gift of money because of all she had done to look after Gregg and I. Gregg also gave them some books and the two Footprints into Africa missionaries left to go to a very different situation and minister in a large Church.

There were two terrific men who want to come to K.M.B.C. and study in the future, so they and some outstanding men from Rwanda would make this trip so worthwhile. Pray with me that they will come; I will organize full bursaries for them. Here is a great quote as I leave KATUSSO BUZIGO, from Francis Chan:

OBSSESSED  
PEOPLE

*“Obsessed people are more concerned with obeying God than doing what is expected or fulfilling the status quo. A person who is obsessed with Jesus will do things that don’t always make sense in terms of wealth or success on this earth.”*

The Pastor eventually came to collect us and was I glad to see him ☺! Living in this place with no electricity, water or toilets, and just MUD with loud music all day had taken its toll on us ... we said the Pastor was our “Moses” leading us into the Promised Land. My dear friends, he then dropped us off at the place where we will stay for the next three nights ... **A HOTEL** ... wow, the Church has been so unbelievably kind to Gregg and I. First thing, I dived to the toilet, then had a fantastic shower, then a cup of tea and felt like a brand new man. Phew ... it was fantastic to then be taken to our first service at ‘THE MIRACLE CENTRE’ a 1500-seater Church in the centre of Kampala.



The senior Pastor met with Gregg and I and then escorted us into this huge but beautiful building and it was so moving to see how happy the people were to see us. After just ten minutes of singing they asked me to preach for one hour which I did with fresh enthusiasm from 2 Timothy Chapter 1 – “THE SHAPING OF A SERVANT OF GOD”. You sensed the presence of God with us and almost the whole congregation stood to dedicate themselves to the Lord afresh for whatever service the Lord has planned for them. I had tears in my eyes, it seemed too good for me to see this and I so longed for JON to see what was happening, he would have loved being with us.

Afterwards the Pastor took us back and I got into a bed with **clean sheets and en-suite bathroom**, so very grateful. Had the best sleep of this trip and was so conscious of God’s hand upon us and on this trip, it has been life changing for Gregg. Night in Kampala ... but Kampala never sleeps, people by their thousands in the streets, all selling goods ... it is incredible. Now here is a great quote:

*AFRICA has a reputation: poverty, disease and war. But when outsiders do go, they are often surprised by Africa’s welcome, entranced, rather than frightened. Visitors are welcome and cared for in Africa. If you go, you will find most Africans friendly, gentle, and infinitely polite. You will frequently be humbled by Africa’s generosity.”*

## **SATURDAY, 1 DECEMBER**

How fantastic it was to wake up refreshed and I dived into my Bible for the day because a very busy schedule of preaching lies ahead. Again read from 1 Chronicles, 2 Peter, Micah and Luke, it was great. This morning Oswald Chambers wrote:

*“when we choose deliberately to obey Him, then with all His almighty power, He will take the remotest star and the last grain of sand to assist us.”*



Fred Arnot a missionary to Central Africa wrote in 1879:

*“I do not feel as if I were in a strange country or among a strange people, and I can say with all my heart that I love the Africans and long for their conversion. Now is the golden opportunity, God has opened the door and the time is short. It does not seem too much to say that scores of true servants of the Lord are needed in this part of Africa ...”*

Pastor Alex came to fetch us at 7:00 am and we set off for JINJA where the Conference was to take place. Pastor Alex has a car in a million – the windows do not work, there are no shock absorbers and as I sat in the front passenger seat, I almost went through the windscreen because the seat just shot forward – but three hours later, we arrived in JINJA – hair-raising stuff ...!



The Lord was so very gracious. I preached from 2 Timothy and spoke for two hours before lunch:

Chapter 2 – The marks of a Christian Leader

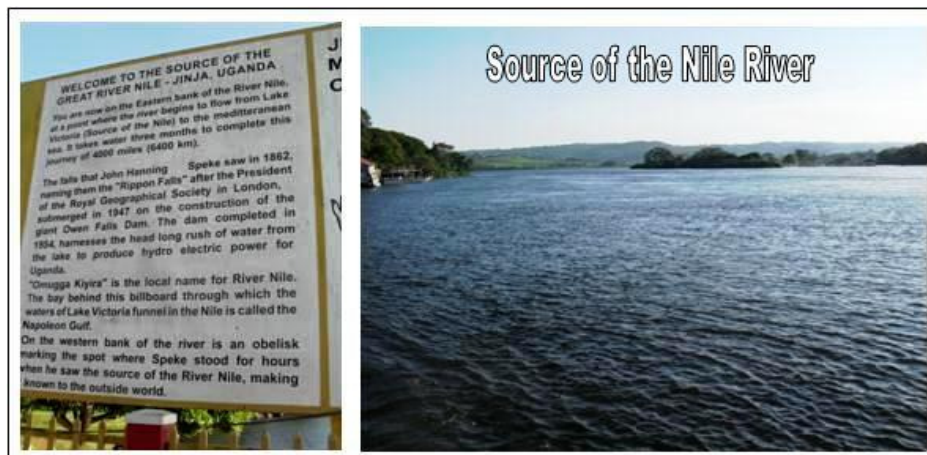
Chapter 3 – A Bible Man

Lunch has been the same every day on this trip .... After the break, I preached for another hour on:

Chapter 4 – The Picture of a Pastor



Pastor Alex drew the Conference to a close and he then gave me one of the greatest moments of my life – he took me to the source of the NILE.



You will remember that David Livingstone so longed to see this, but sadly he never got here, dying in northern Zambia. Rather JOHN SPEKE discovered the source in 1862 and from here, this River flows all the way up Africa into Egypt and the Mediterranean Sea – what an experience for Gregg and I to share.



From there the long journey on one of the very worst roads in Africa, arriving back at our “palace” thirteen hours later. It has been a fantastic day, preaching my heart out for three hours and then seeing the very source of the Nile River. WOW ... now to have some tea and then read from ‘THE WOLF FROM SCOTLAND’ and then sleep in between clean white sheets. But ... when in Africa there is always a catch ... a knock on the door by the manager saying the Bill has not been paid, and I must move out ... phew ... I scraped all my money I had and paid for the nights accommodation and supper, but tomorrow Gregg and I will share a room to save money. Also Gregg’s Blackberry had been stolen and all my dried fruit ... that’s Africa!

So let me close now with a great thought from Hudson Taylor, that amazing missionary to China:

REAL

*“Would that God may make HELL so real to us that we cannot rest, HEAVEN so real that we must have men there, CHRIST so real that our supreme motive and aim shall be to make the Man of Sorrows the Man of Joy by the conversion of many.”*

## **SUNDAY, 2 DECEMBER**

This is our last day in Uganda for tomorrow we fly to Rwanda and then on to Johannesburg. My readings continued with 1 Chronicles, Micah and Luke and I started 1 John. After prayer, I always close with Oswald Chambers who this morning wrote:

*“In a fallen world, I am called to live in perfect relationship to God so that my life produces a longing after God in other lives, NOT admiration for myself. Thoughts about myself hinder any usefulness to God. God is not after perfecting me to be a specimen in*



*His showroom. He is getting me to the place where He can use me. Let Him do what He likes.”*

Read another Chapter from “THE WOLF FROM SCOTLAND”, now I will shower, shave and then preach three more times at this 1500-seater Church in the centre of Kampala, what a joy and privilege; again Gregg will give his testimony.



At the last service, I preached on “RUNNING THE RACE” from Hebrews 12 and then at the second one on “SALT AND LIGHT” from Matthew 6, it went really well.



The Church was packed with 1500 people, the singing was excellent, and I felt the Lord was with us in a fantastic way. This trip could not have ended on a better note. Afterwards:

1. A member of the Ugandan Parliament came to me asking if I would speak to parliament (!!!)
2. A member of the local T.V. station wants me to broadcast over their station every week (!!!)
3. The people loved the teaching and just want me back.

4. But the most moving was when Pastor Paddy, the senior Pastor called me to the front again and gave me the name KATONGOLE – which means “Chief of the Tribe”. He wants me to now be the KATONGOLE of this Church, phew; I got such a lump in my throat. I love being here so much, Africa is my home.



Now I have one more service tonight speaking to engaged couples and would have preached twenty one times, that is what Footprints Into Africa is all about, it has been wonderful.

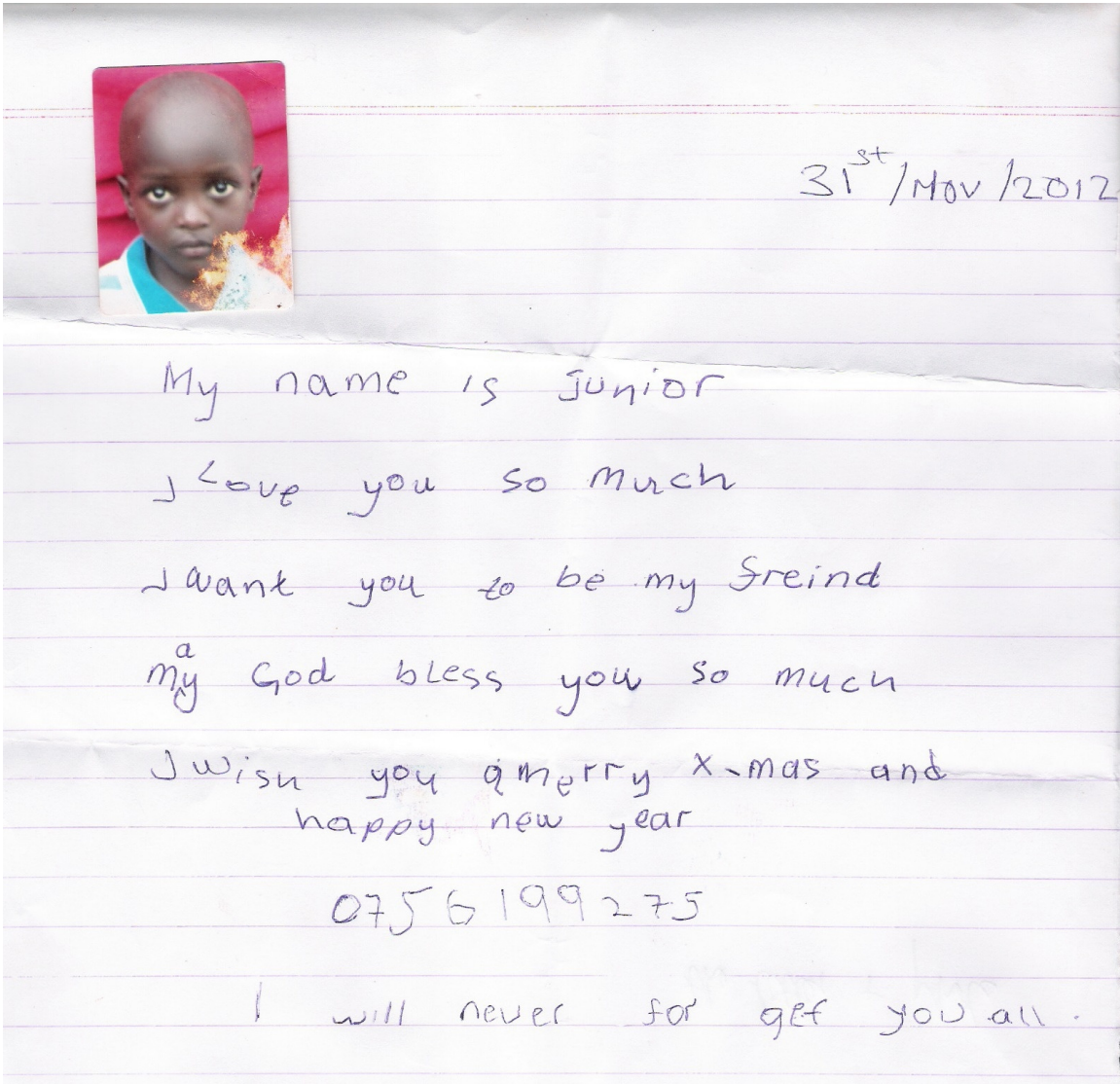
So these amazing few days draw to a close for Gregg and I.

Let me end with the stirring appeal from Uganda’s first missionary, Alexander Mackay who wrote on 2 January 1890, two weeks before his death – it touches the heart as he calls for missionaries to go to Uganda.

*“you sons of England, here is a field for your energies. Bring with you your highest education, and your greatest talents. You will find scope for the exercise of them all. You men of God, who have resolved to devote your lives to the care of the souls of men, here is the proper field for you. It is **not** to win members to a Church, but to win men to the Saviour and who otherwise will be lost, that I entreat you to leave your work at home to the many who are ready to undertake it and to come forth yourselves to reap this field now white to the harvest.”*



To tear at your heart .... here is the picture and letter a little boy of ten wrote to Gregg and I when we left ... ☹ ...



And so this mission trip into Central Africa draws to an end, what an experience, one that Gregg, and I will certainly never forget.

- The ride on the MOTOS through Kigali holding on for dear life through the traffic.
- The fun of travelling in the taxis all around Rwanda and Uganda was unforgettable.
- The fantastic fellowship with Emmanuel and Alex, it was wonderful.
- Living in squalor in the slums of Kampala, identifying with the poor ... phew ...
- Being at the Church in the centre of Kampala teaching the Bible to 1500 people.
- The trip up to Jinja and to visit the source of the Nile was amazing.
- Having Gregg was fantastic, the people absolutely loved him, he was a star.
- But preaching twenty one times was the purpose, teaching the Bible into Africa.
- The memory of all the Pastors standing up to sing “All to Jesus I Surrender” at the end of the Conference was moving for me.
- It has been a once-in-a-lifetime experience, incredible, unbelievable.
- The farewell at Kampala, and the title KATONGOLE ... was moving.
- Being in Africa is the greatest and serving the Church.
- All my books are read and summarized – what a blessing.
- Feel I’ve given my all ...
- Being in Kampala takes your breath away, it never sleeps, and it is a permanent traffic jam.



*SIYABONGA  
MAMA AFRIKA*

# PERSONAL REFLECTIONS



## 1. KMBC

This College I founded 26 years ago is by God's grace doing such a wonderful work for the Gospel right across Africa. Now this visit to Rwanda and Uganda has yet again stirred me and to see past students working for the Gospel in this part of Africa was marvelous. Oswald Chambers who also worked in a similar college to us wrote this, it is fantastic:

*"it is not its practical activities that we are the strength of this Bible Training College, its whole strength lies in the fact that here you are put into soak before God ... here in this College God is at work, bending, breaking, moulding, doing just as He chooses ... ONE student a year who hears God's call would be sufficient for God to have called this College into existence. This college as an organization is not worth anything, it is not academic, it is for nothing else but for God to help Himself to lives."*

Nearly 400 students have now passed through KMBC and are serving the Lord right across Africa ... isn't that just too wonderful for words. Pray for this work at KMBC and for me as I continue to teach, that the Lord "will help Himself" to many of our students.

## 2. TRAINING

Remember Floyd McClung said of Africa:

*"we need to build our work among the people we want to reach and mobilize. There are hundreds and thousands of teachable, dedicated, emerging leaders in AFRICA who are crying out for training and mentoring."*

This is what I want to spend the rest of my life doing at K.M.B.C. and Footprints into Africa. Please pray that the following men will come to College and study with us for the Diploma in Missions:-

- From Rwanda – a lovely man Emmanuel
- From Katusso Buzigo – another Pastor called Emmanuel and his daughter Dorcas
- From Kampala – Pastor Alex (A pastor with twenty years experience) but who has had no Bible training.

Pastor Alex bonded with Gregg and I, it was wonderful and to say goodbye was not easy. I am going to try to encourage him and next year we will now be able to develop on what has begun and run Bible Conferences across Kampala. K.M.B.C. and Footprints into Africa is “on the button”. I only wish I had more time to do all I want to do across Africa. Without any doubt, this has been the greatest year of my life, being able to live out my dream of training and mentoring Pastors for Africa, I am so very grateful for this work and the opportunity to teach at K.M.B.C. and travel into Africa. That pioneer missionary to Uganda, Alexander Mackay wrote so beautifully:

*“My heart burns for the deliverance of AFRICA, and if you can send me to any one of the regions which Livingstone and Stanley have found to be groaning under the curse of slave-hunters, I shall be very glad. It is no sacrifice, as some think, to come here as pioneers of Christianity and civilization. I would not give my position here for all the world. A powerful race has to be won from darkness into light; superstition and idolatry have to be overthrown, men have to be taught to love God and love their neighbour, which means the uprooting of institutions that have lasted for centuries. Who would not willingly engage in such a work and consider it the HIGHEST HONOUR ON EARTH to be called to do it.”*

### 3. AFRICA

Floyd McClung wrote:

*“we need to build our work among the people we want to reach and mobilize. There are hundreds and thousands of teachable, dedicated, emerging leaders in the nations of AFRICA who are crying out for training and mentoring.”*

I want to be a part of that training and mentoring in Africa. But I follow in the footsteps of men who laid down their lives for Africa, listen to this amazing quote from the book “Congo for Christ”:

*“He might come home again; if so, good-bye till then. It might be that death’s bright angel might call him to higher work, and perhaps they might never meet again till before the throne; yes, good-bye till then”. Wrote another to Mr. Baynes: “In this enterprise of winning Africa for Christ there must be, I know, my dear Mr. Baynes, much of what the world calls loss and sacrifice, and it may be that many will fall in the blessed work of foundation building only; but what of this? To have any share in this noblest of all toil,*

*however humble or obscure, be it only hewing wood or drawing water, is, surely, honour and privilege any servant of Christ must court and long for. I desire to go to this work feeling yet more intensely day by day, as the days pass on, that to live is Christ, and to die is gain; and if He should ordain for me early death, after a few years of humble, obscure, pioneering work only – well, it must all be right; for it means early and complete satisfaction. ‘Then shall I be satisfied, when I awake in Thy likeness.’ ”*

#### **4. PRIORITIZE**

Peanuts cartoon strips Charles Schulz depicts Charlie Brown – as he peruses the newspaper – complaining to Linus that the papers are full of horrible things every day. Charlie kicks the paper away in disgust and laments how he hates to ‘see little Sally grow up in sick a world.’ Linus is no such pessimist. He urges Charlie Brown to forget the darker development. ‘Look on the bright side,’ he counsels, ‘think of the advancements – by the time she grows up, there will be three major leagues!’ Now the writer of Kings would tell Linus that that doesn’t matter. How can the progress of baseball hold any vital importance next to broad moral-social decay? Granted, any given phenomenon may be amazing or impressive, and yet be utterly trivial.

This year has given me an amazing opportunity to visit all sorts of Churches and I have learnt a great deal, BUT ... what saddens me beyond measure is to see how Churches focus on what is UTTERLY TRIVIAL ... money is spent on what is UTTERLY TRIVIAL ... Samuel Zwemer, a missionary to Muslims wrote:

*“does it really matter how many die or how much money we spend in opening closed doors and in occupying the different fields, if we really believe that missions are warfare and that the King’s glory is at stake. War always means blood and treasure. Our only concern should be to keep the fight aggressive and to win victory regardless of cost or sacrifice.”*

Please pray that I will stay focused on what is the main thing and not get caught up in what is utterly trivial. In an amazing book I read on 1 Kings by Dale Ralph Davis, he wrote:

*“the Word of God ignores what we regard as significant and prizes what we regard as mundane.”*



## 5. 2013

This year has been an amazing year, being full-time, lecturing 30 periods a week at KMBC has been my life's dream, having our first Central Africa Pastor's Conference in Kitwe was so exciting, dedicating the borehole in Malawi for my precious son Jon was emotional, this trip with Gregg to Rwanda and Uganda has been so amazing for me. But 2013 beckons and I don't want to settle into doing the UTTERLY TRIVIAL. Five mission trips are being planned – Zimbabwe, Malawi, Zambia, Burundi and the D.R. Congo, so please do pray for me, it is wonderful seeing Africa opening up for me.

In addition, next year I have a couple joining me in Footprints into Africa. Sipho and Amanda Moyo will be with me for two years and will serve as the Chaplains to our students at KMBC. Having an African is critical and Amanda brings a lovely mother's touch to the lady students. This couple comes fully supported so what a pleasure to have them on our team. 2013 is promising to be an exciting year, Footprints into Africa is truly reaching out into Africa!

Now let me close with a quote from Dr. Robert Kalley the pioneer missionary to MADEIRA, listen to his prayer of dedication:

*"Lord, thou knowest all my weakness, my folly, my sin, my utter inefficiency. But here I am. Oh, do thou take me, make me what thou wilt, send me where thou pleasest, do with me what thou sees fit, only let me feel thou art with me, that thou lovest me and employest me, and wilt be glorified by thy work done by thee through me!"*

As I bring this journal to an end what better way than to share that passion of Alexander Mackay and count my work as the "highest honour on earth"

As always, my hero David Livingstone has the last say:

*"nothing earthly will make me give up my work in despair. I encourage myself in the Lord, my God and go forward. My Jesus, my King, my life, my all, I again dedicate my whole life to you. Accept me and grant, O gracious Father that ere this year is gone I may finish my task. In Jesus name."*

*Thank you for all your love, support, and prayers. Your partnership in my work into Africa is greatly appreciated.*

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