# MY MISSION TRIP TO

# TANZANIA KENYA AND UGANDA





# FEBRUARY 2017

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TRIP 47

## INTRODUCTION

This New Year has got off to a flyer. We ended 2016 on a brilliant note with a wonderful graduation, at which Pastor Alex Mukwabi from Uganda, one of our past students, was the speaker. I always am overwhelmed when I see these students, whom we have trained for three years, now going all over Africa to plant new churches. At the same time, it was such a joy to welcome back Hugh and Julie Fowles, two of our past students now serving as missionaries in Cambodia.



Then it was time to spend Christmas in Cape Town with Gregg and Roxy, during which time I was given the privilege of preaching at Christ Church Somerset West with Gregg leading the service ... such a proud moment in my life! Afterwards Gregg took us to Genadendal, the oldest mission station in South Africa started by George Schmidt in 1728. Schmidt came out to South Africa as a missionary with the Moravians ... it was a fantastic time for me. Here are a few photos including one of me at George Schmidt's gravestone. I really loved being there to see again what an amazing work the Moravians did.



But then it was home again to my Bible College, which now launches out into its 31<sup>st</sup> year. By God's grace, we are full with students coming from all over Africa. This year Rev. Dietrich Wichmann joins us at Footprints into Africa, so our compliment of lecturers is now full - such a privilege for us. Also during the holidays, I re-read the memoirs of Bishop Stephen Bradley. I owe so much to this amazing man. He opened the door for me to become a minister in the Church of England in South Africa (now REACH) and then he sent me to Ovamboland in 1980 which ignited my passion for missions into Africa. He was an inspiration and a model for me, a man with a heart for the lost and for missions.



In his memoirs, he wrote such kind words of my work at Holy Trinity in Pietermaritzburg, listen to what he wrote about the College after one of his visits to us ...

"In August 1996 I was in Pietermaritzburg for the twentieth anniversary of Holy Trinity Church, and between Wednesday night and Monday morning eight opportunities were given to share, on 'God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son so that whoever believes in Him will not perish but have everlasting life'. Arrangements were made for me to speak at the mid-week Bible study, the men's breakfast, to the senior citizens, the twelveyear-olds, the congregation on Sunday, and especially to speak to the students at Holy Trinity Academy. This offered a full-time course for men and women who wanted God to use their lives in some special service. It was attended by people from other countries also, as far afield as Morocco, training to go and serve God and people, training for ministry in foreign lands. There were also classes for business people, parents, and retired folks. Just being there gave me a sense of a throbbing heart pushing life right through the bones: 'get knowledge - get going'! The library had facilities to come, to study and to think, and it was well used."

Those were such an incredible 30 years for me!! Now the College is full, and here I am about to set out on my 47<sup>th</sup> trip into Africa. I will be preaching at a Pastor's Conference just outside Dar es Salaam at a place called BAGOMOYO, then with the local transport will wind my way up to Nairobi, Kenya where I will speak at another Conference, then find my way to Kampala in Uganda for the final Conference. It will be busy and hectic so hold on to your seat belts ... also to save money I will be using local transport so it should be challenging, but thrilling, moving from one country into another on this my 47<sup>th</sup> African adventure.

January also was a month full of preaching opportunities for me, as I said in Somerset West, I also preached a 3-week series at the Hayfields Bible Chapel, 3 talks at St. Olav's in Durban and then my regular visit to Emmanuel, the Church run by one of out students, Stembiso Ndlovo.

Also sadly, I have spoken at two funeral services, so January has been extremely busy for me.

Listen to J. Wesley:

"If you believe in the fire of hell, then you cannot regard missions as a casual option or an occasional hobby – it is No. 1 PRIORITY".



#### This is the route of my journey on this trip.





#### PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for emphatic Biblical teaching in the churches that will, in turn, impact other spheres of society (i.e. poverty, witchcraft, radical Islam).
- Pray for trained, mature Christian leaders who will be able to evangelize the unreached in a predominantly rural nation.
- Pray for more effective Bible translation teams and initiatives.

#### **SUMMARY**

The Republic of Tanzania on the east coast of Africa has a strong sense of nationalism that has enabled its people to live peacefully for over 20 years. Historical and cultural factors, the dominant Swahili language, and a successful political plan for independence have contributed to its stability. Bordered by eight countries including Kenya to the north and Mozambique to the south, Tanzania has the highest peak in Africa, Mt. Kilimanjaro, and it shares three of Africa's largest lakes. The abundant wildlife in the Serengeti attracts many tourists as well. The "spice islands" of the Zanzibar archipelago off the eastern coast brought a strong Arabic influence to Tanzania as the republic was formed in 1964.

Attempts to socialize the mostly agricultural economy after independence met with little success. With 80% of the workforce in farming and 85% of Tanzania's exports from agriculture, the economy suffered, and over one-third of the population now lives below the poverty line. Tanzania has one of the smallest industrial sectors in Africa with aging transportation, communication, and power infrastructures inhibiting growth as well. HIV/AIDS and an influx of refugees fleeing conflicts in neighboring countries have both negatively impacted the economy. Recovery is slow, but revenues continue to grow from gold mining and tourists visiting Tanzania's beautiful natural attractions.

Religious freedom is thought to be one of the motivating factors in Tanzania's peaceful history. With over one half of the population Christian and one third Muslim (99 % in Zanzibar), actively religious communities have existed with little conflict. This is changing with increased internal Muslim conflicts, which have also prompted conflicts with Christians. Witchcraft, the occult, and superstitious spiritual practices are becoming part of even the mainline religions. Many churches lack the trained mature leaders needed to shepherd and teach sound Biblical truths - exposing syncretism and heresy - to both established and newly planted Christian communities.



#### PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for the end of government corruption that continues to broaden the gap between rich and poor.
- Pray for foreign agencies and missionaries to transition from leadership to consulting for growing national organizations.
- Pray for fresh Holy Spirit fire among the majority, though nominal, Christian population.

#### **SUMMARY**

Kenya has been described as having a little bit of all of Africa in one country. Fertile plateaus, mountains, deserts, rain forests, and beaches along the Indian Ocean form the varied landscape of Africa's eighth largest country. Over forty different ethnic groups, including Africa's three major socio-linguistic groups, the Bantu, Nilotic, and Cushitic, combine to give Kenya a diverse population.

Once a British colony, Kenya received its independence in 1963. Under moderate leadership, Kenya transitioned into a stable country with one of the best economies in East Africa. In more recent years, corruption and political changes have tested that stability. Almost eighty percent of Kenya's population lives in rural areas where their income is dependent on agriculture. Environmental problems, high birth rates, corruption, unemployment, and 1.5 million living with HIV/AIDS have resulted in half of the 41 million Kenyans living in poverty. This is compounded by a lack of governmental social welfare programs, though the government has developed strategies to address these challenges and others in its Vision 2030 plan.

In a country where nearly fifty percent of the population considers themselves to be evangelical, it is not surprising that many Kenyan Christians are engaged in church planting and sending missionaries to other countries. Eighty-three percent of Kenyans are now estimated to be Christian. Churches are being challenged by nominalism, ethnic cultural practices mixed with biblical truths, and the need for trained leaders in the 80,000 congregations. Islam and traditional tribal religions comprise most of the other seventeen percent of the population. Kenya continues to attract many regional and continental mission organizations.



PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for restoration and healing after years of war and conflict.
- Pray for the Church and its leaders to be rooted in truth and unswayed by false teachings and cultural sins.
- Pray for a Biblical perspective on marriage and sexuality.

#### **SUMMARY**

The name Idi Amin may sound familiar. It is infamously linked to the nation of Uganda, which underwent a brutal 8-year period of violence under his presidency in the 1970's. It is estimated that roughly 300,000 may have died under his reign of terror. Life in Uganda has not been easy even since then.

Two military coups in the mid-1980's have been followed by the 23-year rule of President Museveni, who has done much to rebuild the Ugandan economy. Peace, however, has yet to firmly take hold in the nation.

For the past 23 years, Uganda has struggled against the brutal Lord's Resistance Army, a rebel group based in Sudan. An estimated 30,000 children have been abducted to serve as child solders or sex slaves. Up to 1.8 million people in northern Uganda have been displaced due to violence and the fear of child abduction.

Despite all of this, the church in Uganda is large and the response to the gospel has been substantial. Yet the church also battles against widespread nominalism, false teaching and corruption. We need to pray for the restoration of a country left riddled by years of war and terror, and also for the revival of a church so badly needed to shine the pure light of the gospel.



# THURSDAY, 23RD FEBRUARY



I always remind myself of what Dietrich Bonhoeffer once wrote:

"Because I am a Christian, therefore, every day in which I do not penetrate more deeply into the knowledge of God's Word in the Bible is a LOST DAY for me. I can only move forward with certainty upon the firm ground of the Word of God."

So let me begin an exciting new day by reading the Bible. My Bible readings following Robert Murray McCheyne's programme continued in Exodus, Job, Luke and 1 Corinthians. After which it was time to pray. During this time I was able to remember especially another of the unreached people groups, the Banjar people who live in Indonesia. The

Joshua Project.net does a marvelous job in drawing all this information to our attention for prayer. But then after prayer it was time for my mentor Oswald Chambers to teach me from my UTMOST FOR HIS HIGHEST. Listen to what he wrote this morning:



"According to Jesus Christ we are called to be the DOORMAT OF OTHER MEN, their spiritual leaders but never their superior. If we are devoted to the cause of humanity, we will soon be crushed and broken-hearted, for we shall often meet with more ingratitude from men than we would from a dog. BUT if our motive is love to God then no ingratitude can hinder us from serving our fellow man."

So with a full heart I flew out from Pietermaritzburg to Johannesburg and from there on to the Julius Nyerere Airport in Dar es Salaam in Tanzania where my dear friend and colleague Alex Mukwabi was waiting for me.

I had booked an air ticket for him to fly from Entebbe Airport in Uganda in order to share these three conferences with me. By God's grace, we form an excellent team and seem to compliment one another well.



After the normal routine of going through customs and exchanging money, Pastor Albano took us to Bagamoyo, which is a four-hour drive from the Airport. About half way, we stopped at the home of Pastor Daniel, who I had met on my previous visit and his wife provided us with a wonderful meal. Their love and their hospitality are very humbling. Slowly the sun sinks into the warm tropical waters of the Indian Ocean as the growing flow of traffic slowly creeps through bustling downtown Dar es Salaam. Bedraggled side streets start to clear of MAMA-LISHES, translated as "mothers who feed"; who sell their maize cobs and mandazi, which are sweet donuts, sold in plastic packets. The jampacked dala-aalas created extra lanes beside the sidewalks hooting almost continually announcing their presence .... Welcome to Mama Africa. Once we reached Bagamoyo, I was taken to my little room, which will be my home for the next few days, very basic but clean and comfortable.



It is now very late but at the end of every day of this trip, I am going to share with you some key principles from the lives of the missionaries in the past.



"Well do I remember, as in unreserved consecration, I put myself, my life, my friends, my all upon the altar, the deep solemnity that came over my soul with the assurance that my offering was accepted. The presence of God became unutterably real, stretching myself on the ground and lying there before Him with unspeakable awe and joy, a deep consciousness that I was not my own took hold of me and it has never left me."

What a challenge that is as I now begin my 47<sup>th</sup> trip into Africa ... unreserved consecration must be in place. And so I will fall asleep in Bagamoyo, so blessed to be here teaching the Bible the very place where David Livingstone visited while on his trips into Central Africa and where his servants kept his body for the night before taking it to Zanzibar and then to England for his burial. It is wonderful to be here.

## FRIDAY, 24 FEBRUARY

With the sun beginning to rise over Tanzania let me go into the Missionary Workshop for my time with the Lord. My Bible readings continued in Exodus, Job, Luke and 1 Corinthians. After which time I was able to spend time in prayer. This of course is critical as <u>Samuel Zwemer</u> used to say, "The history of Missions is the history of answered prayer". This morning I was able to pray for the Kanuri people in Nigeria, another unreached people group. <u>Oswald Chambers</u> then wrote on the DELIGHT OF SACRIFICE:



"The delight of sacrifice is that I lay down my life for my friend, not fling it away, but deliberately lay down my life out for Him and His interests in other people, not for a cause."

I can now go and teach at our first Pastor's Conference which will last for the next three days, after enjoying a wash and a cold water shave and a Tanzanian breakfast which consists of a piece of bread and a cup of African tea. Today I want to pour out my life for these dear pastors. Being so close to the Equator means that it is unbelievably hot up here. But the Conference got off to a brilliant start. There were twice as many people as there were on my first visit in 2015. In my two morning sessions, I spoke on:

- 2 Timothy Chapter 1 "The Making of a Christian Leader"
- 2 Timothy Chapter 2 "The Characteristics of a Christian Leader"

Then in the afternoon, I gave them an overview of the Old Testament for an hour. In this full church with corrugated iron sheeting for a roof it was unbearable, so drenched I sent them home at 4:00pm to head back to my little room for an ice-cold wash.



The ladies were amazing in cooking a lovely lunch for everyone in the hot sun over their fires. They constantly amaze me how they do it so well without all our modern appliances. With the sun beginning to set in Bagamoyo it was time to read and prepare for tomorrow and to enjoy a time of fellowship with Alex Mukwabi before ending the day with a slice of bread and some African tea.

After a wonderful day of teaching the Bible, Hudson Taylor will now give us another key principle for life.



"The Lord is prospering us and the work is steadily growing, especially in that most important department of training the local Chinese. The helpers themselves need much help, much care and instruction, but they are becoming more efficient as well as more numerous and so the future hope for China lies IN THEM. I look on foreign missionaries as the scaffold around a rising building, the sooner it can be dispensed with the better, or rather the sooner it can be transferred to another place to serve the same temporary purpose."

That is amazing insight; please pray for me as I seek to train Africans for Africa to become pastors and missionaries. This year by the grace of God, KMBC is full which is thrilling for us but now we must pray that each of our students will be loved, trained and sent out with the Gospel. I cannot thank you my dear friends enough for supporting this work over the last thirty years; it is now very late and time to try to fall asleep in this heat!

## SATURDAY, 25 FEBRUARY

Another beautiful morning greets us in Tanzania and I look forward to going into the "Workshop". Ernest Hemmingway once wrote:

"I never knew of a morning in Africa when I woke up that I was not happy."

That is so true, I love being here. My Bible readings continued with Exodus, Job, Luke

and 1 Corinthians. After I had listened to "God's Heart in God's Word", as Bishop Moule calls the Bible, I was able to again spend time in prayer. Today I remembered the KAJAK people in China and asked the Lord to thrust out workers to them, but then it was time for Oswald Chambers to teach me, and this is what he wrote:



"Natural love expects some return, but Paul says, I do not care whether you love me or not, I am willing to destitute myself completely, not merely for your sakes, but that I may get you to God. The real test of a saint is not preaching the Gospel but washing disciple's feet, that is, doing things that do not count in the actual estimate of men but count everything in the estimate of God."

So after another wash and shave, and my breakfast I set out for the Conference longing to carry out what I have just read and to wash the disciple's feet.

The Conference has really gone well; they seem to love the teaching. In my two morning sessions, I spoke on:

- 2 Timothy Chapter 3 "The Preacher and his Bible"
- 2 Timothy Chapter 4 "The Picture of a Gospel Preacher"

It is tiring preaching for two hours in this heat, but then it was time to enjoy the lunch prepared by the ladies and to dive into a local tuck shop in order to buy myself an icecold coke. The lunch today was exactly the same as yesterday, lots and lots of rice, beans, spinach and a little bit of chicken – just perfect!!!

After lunch, I then spoke on "How to Prepare your Sermon", followed by a final session on the different options of study at KMBC. There was a phenomenal response, but we can only wait and see who will finally get here.



Pastor Powell, a new student coming

The Bajaj

After the Conference, it was time for me to go back to Dar es Salaam. I was taken to the local Bus Terminus at Bagamoyo while Pastor Alex remained behind. I set off with Pastor Albano in a dala-dala, which is small bus. It was absolutely jam packed with a commentary on the local soccer derby taking place. It was an amazing experience.

Just when I thought we were overloaded in comes a few more gogo's with all their goods and squeezed in. I ended up with a young lady sitting on my lap and I said

to myself "thank goodness nobody knows me here"!! But by God's grace, we got to Tegeta where I will spend the next two nights. I was able to buy some African tea and then set off to enjoy the evening in reading my books and feeling very privileged. At the end of another brilliant day Hudson Taylor will give us another key principle:



"The mission had no paid helpers, but God led VOLUNTEERS without pre-arrangement, to come in from day to day to write from dictation and so the letters were answered and the work was done."

He paid no salaries to all the missionaries who later joined him in China, and so this man of indomitable faith and great personal devotion carried out the missionary work into the heart of China and ensured its continuance by recruiting volunteers. Since I started this College in 1986, I have tried to follow his example. To all our lecturers who give so much of their time we pay no salaries. Everyone from me down are volunteers sold out to training pastors for Africa. I believe this to be a magnificent principle perfect for Africa.

So with everyone around me fast asleep let me catch a few hours of sleep because tomorrow will be my last day in Tanzania. It has been a huge privilege and honour serving these pastors and leaders and pouring out my heart to them, eating their food, learning from their culture and trying to wash their feet.

## SUNDAY, 26 FEBRUARY

Today will be my final day in Tanzania and I have been given the privilege of preaching at Pastor Powell's church in Dar es Salaam. So before anything else let me go into the Missionary Workshop and prepare myself. My Bible readings continued in Exodus, Job, Luke and today I read 1 Corinthians Chapter 13, which is always such a challenge.

In my time of prayer, I remembered the MUONG people who are living in Vietnam. Then as always, it was time for Oswald Chambers to teach me:



"How many of us are willing to spend every ounce of nervous energy, of mental, moral and spiritual energy that we have for Christ. My life as a worker is the way I say "thank you' to God for His unspeakable salvation." So today as I go and preach, I want my preaching to be a thank you to Jesus, who in 1967 saved my life – 50 years ago this year. This evening I will be meeting again with Pastor Alex and Pastor Albano who will be coming from Bagamoyo.

After breakfast, I found another bajaj and was taken to the church in the area of Tegeta. These scooter taxis are cheap and they drop you off right outside the gate to where you are going, so they are brilliant in getting around Dar es Salaam.

In my first service, I spoke on "The Church at Ephesus" and warned the people of the danger of losing their first love. In the second service, I preached on "The Church at Sardis" where Jesus spoke of the danger of having a wonderful reputation for being alive, when in fact you are spiritually dead. With the appeal after both services, the response was overwhelming, many responded to the Gospel. After nearly five hours, it was time for lunch, lovingly prepared by the Pastor's wife. After lunch, it was an opportunity for me to speak individually to those who want to study further at KMBC and the most amazing thing is that the Pastor himself is coming. Here is a cameo of photographs for you to enjoy.



Spending the day at this church was long, but thrilling. It was a brilliant African church. To supplement his income the Pastor has a large vegetable garden and a Tuck Shop, which his wife runs. The church was packed for both services and now the foundations are already in place to extend the church. What a privilege it was to "spend every once of nervous energy, of mental, moral and spiritual energy onto them." My friend who owned the Bajaj responded to my call and came to return me to my little home. It was a glorious day of ministry.

So my second visit to Tanzania draws to a close. By God's grace, it has been brilliant and now we need to pray that some of these pastors will come to us in the future to be trained. But saying goodbye to these dear



people is not easy, they have welcomed me into their homes and showed such unbelievable love and grace to me. So now Hudson Taylor will give us another key principle:

"I think it is very difficult to set our affections wholly on things above. I try to be a living Epistle of the Lord, but when I look within, I wonder many a time why He does not cast me off. I seek to subdue my Will to blend it with His and say and feel in all things "Thy Will be done". But even while I try, I can scarcely keep back the tears."

Please pray that I will be a living Epistle before the students at KMBC as well as on these trips as I teach the Bible across Africa. My time of equipping these dear pastors is now over and tomorrow I find a bus that will take me up to Nairobi. Pastor Albano will pick up Alex and I at four in the morning and together we will go in a Bajaj to the Bus Terminus and find a bus heading to Nairobi. This trip will take about sixteen hours, much longer than flying but cheaper and enabling me to identify more with the people I am seeking to encourage.

#### MONDAY, 27 FEBRUARY

Today is going to be a long day of travelling to Nairobi so it is important to get up extra early and spend time with the Lord in the "Workshop". My bible readings continued in

Exodus, Job, Luke and 1 Corinthians. Then it was time to pray. Today I was able to pray for the Nisu people who live in China, yet another unreached people group. Oswald Chambers then followed and continued to teach me as he has done for the past fifty years when I first began to read MY UTMOST FOR HIS HIGHEST.



"The reason some of us are such poor specimens of Christianity is because we have no almighty Christ. Beware of the satisfaction of sinking back and saying it can't be done, you know it can be done if you look to Jesus. The well of your incompleteness is very deep, but make every effort to look away to Him.

After a quick cup of African tea, Alex and I caught a dala-dala which took us as far as it could go and then we got into a Bajaj which took us to the Dar es Salaam bus depot where we boarded the bus bound for Nairobi. It was an amazing place; you could get a bus to anywhere in Africa. And so our sixteen-hour journey began ... anything for these people us here. It is an amazing experience travelling around Africa like this. As you can imagine the bus was packed and yet along the way they would stop and pick up a salesman who would come into the bus and try to persuade us to buy some of his goods. Later they would drop him off and pick up another man who was selling fruit and cool drinks – they truly are an amazing people. We stopped only three times for the cloakrooms and even then, the driver only gave us ten minutes. After nine hours of travelling, we reached Moshi and then two hours later, Arusha. We travelled through the magnificent Serengeti which we all have seen on T.V. Eventually we arrived in Nairobi after going through customs at the border, there the pastor was waiting for us. He was insistent that we must have something to eat after such a long trip, so off we went to McDonalds .....



Eventually two weary missionaries were taken to our rooms and after a short time of reading, I was able to fall asleep in the heart of Africa. Travelling like this is so much

better and a lot cheaper than flying. I often think how unbelievably blessed I am to be living the dream of my life. With KMBC full of students whom we can love and train, and now being able to travel all over Central Africa teaching the Bible, I realize how very blessed I am to be a missionary. So no one better could close off this day than Hudson Taylor with another key principle - THE MISSIONARY CALL:



"In great unrest of soul I went together with William Burns one evening to visit some friends from the Presbyterian Mission. After our tea, Mrs. Lowrie played the missionary call and it greatly affected me. Here it is"

'AND I WILL GO ....

I may no longer doubt to give up friends and idle hopes, and every tie that binds the heart. Henceforth then it matters not if storm or sunshine be my earthly lot, bitter or sweet my cup. I only pray, God make me holy and my spirit nerve for the stern hour of strife."

It is now way past midnight and tomorrow I will preach at the Conference in Dandoro.

# TUESDAY, 28 FEBRUARY

It is wonderful to be up here in Kenya, the very place where Peter Cameron-Scott came and opened the country to the Gospel. Sadly, he had a very short but effective ministry and as a result, the Africa Inland Church now thrives across the country. My Bible readings continued in Exodus, Job, Luke and 1 Corinthians and then I was able to pray. I prayed especially for the conference, which begins today, and for the Tanti people who live in India. It was then time for Oswald Chambers to give me a very crucial reminder:

"The process of being made broken bread and poured out wine means that you have to be the nourishment for others until they learn to feed on God. They will drain you to the dregs. Be careful therefore that you get your supply, or before long, you will be utterly exhausted. Be exhausted for God but remember that your supply comes from Him."

This is a critical lesson for every Christian and it is the reason why so many BURN OUT. They burn out simply because they do not get their daily supply from God and this means my time in the "Workshop" is so very important. So ... refreshed and charged I can now go and speak at our second Pastor's Conference. It will be my third visit to Kenya and I am looking forward to it immensely.

After my time of devotion, I went for a walk along the streets of Dandoro, already bustling with people at 06:00 in the morning with hundreds of busses and boda-bodas. You will notice a picture of the Guest House where I am staying as well as the little bookshop I found which functions out of a container.



I also came across a very colourful Matato with a picture of Desmond Tutu on the front. These originate from India and are a very cheap mode of transport up here in Kenya. They will get you anywhere at very little cost, but afterwards you need a few "Calmettes" and a change of .....

The Conference, by God's grace got off to a brilliant start. I was privileged to give three hours of teaching on:

- "Go In" A Study Of Hebrews Chapter 1 4
- "Go On" a study of Hebrews Chapter 5 -6
- "How To Grow Into Spiritual Maturity"

It was then time for Alex to speak and he spoke brilliantly on Leadership. He communicates magnificently with the people and I think that the two of us form a great team and we appear to compliment each other well. The ladies were again out of this world providing us with a lovely lunch, which was exactly the same as we received on the previous days!



When it was all over, the pastor took us back to our little home winding his way slowly through the Nairobi traffic. After a cup of African tea, it was time to relax, read and get ready for tomorrow. So now let <u>Hudson Taylor</u> close of a brilliant day of ministry in Kenya, as he describes his call to be a missionary:

"On Sunday the 25<sup>th</sup> June 1865 unable to bear the sight of a congregation of a thousand or more Christian people, rejoicing in their own security while millions were perishing for lack on knowledge, I wandered out on the sands alone, in great spiritual agony and there the Lord conquered my unbelief and I surrendered myself to God for His service. I told Him that all the responsibility as to the issues and consequences must rest of Him, that as his servant it was my mine to obey and follow Him. Need I say that peace at once flowed into my burdened heart."

While I know that I will never ever match up to Hudson Taylor, I can relate so much to that quote and remembered my time in the Cathedral in Lubumbashi where I told the Lord that I was now ready to give up everything and go full time into Missions. It has been the most unbelievable ride across Africa. But for now, it is time to sleep so very blessed to be up in Kenya.

## WEDNESDAY, 1 MARCH

One day <u>Count Nicolas Zinzendorff</u> was walking through an Art Gallery in Düsseldorf when he came across a painting by Domenico Feti which depicted the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ called ECCE HOMO. At the bottom of the painting were written these words:



"This is what I have done for you, what are you doing for me?"

Zinzendorff was spellbound. For fifteen minutes, he just stood before the paining mesmerized and the realization came to him that in fact he was doing nothing for Christ. He went back home and he gave up his fortune and everything that he had and he became the father of the Moravian Movement which was to send out more missionaries in their first twenty years of existence than all the Protestant Churches around the world had sent in the previous two hundred years. One of those missionaries was George Schmidt who came to South Africa and established Genadendal. With this mind, I went into the "Missionary Workshop" to spend time with the Lord. My Bible readings continued in Fuedure. Tab. Luke and 1 Conjuthians. but there it was time to

in Exodus, Job, Luke and 1 Corinthians, but then it was time to pray. In my time of prayer, I was able to pray for the Gujarati people who live up here in Tanzania. It was wonderful to be able to pray for them and this lovely country. But then as always Oswald Chambers reminded me:



"We need to rely on the resurrection life of Jesus much deeper down, to get into the habit of steadily referring everything back to Him. Instead of this we make our common sense decisions and then we ask God to bless them."

Sadly, this happens all too often. Decisions are made but then we just ask God to bless our own decisions instead of relying on the resurrection life of Jesus. So after my wash, shave and breakfast I headed off to the conference where I will preach for three hours after which they have asked me to speak about KMBC and the different study options, which are available to them .... It should be a great morning.

I continued with my studies in the book of Hebrews, and we studied Chapter 7 to Chapter 12 entitled "Go Up". The pastors seemed to be very encouraged and found it helpful. After another lovely lunch provided by the ladies it was Alex's turn to speak and he continued his lectures on Leadership, which were brilliant.



After speaking on the different options at KMBC there was a huge response, all my leaflets were distributed and many want to come and study, but of course we can only pray and wait and see who will finally make it down to us. If only I had millions there is no doubt I would establish a Bible College up here, the need is huge for good, solid evangelical, verse by verse exposition of the Bible.

After we had finished the pastor kindly brought us back to our little home where I was able to continue with my reading and finish my preparation for my final talk on Hebrews, and of course ..... to enjoy a mug of African tea.

So as another day draws to a close and with everyone fast asleep, let me remind you of another of Hudson Taylor's key principles: THE DAILY QUIET TIME.

Another missionary who served with Hudson Taylor, by the name of BEAUCHAMP wrote these words about Taylor"

"He would invariably get his quiet time an hour before dawn, and then possibly sleep again. When I awoke to feed the animals, I always found him reading the Bible with the light of his candle. No matter what the surroundings or noise in those dirty Inns, he never neglected this. He used to pray on such journeys lying down and he used to spend hours in prayer because to kneel for so many hours was too exhausting."

This shows us how critical it is to spend time with the Lord each day in order to keep our relationship with God on fire and to add unction to our work. Today you can buy a book entitled "One Minute Devotions" .... wow, I do not want that. In fact that book is banned from the Shack, because like Hudson Taylor I want to learn and I want to teach my students how to spend time with the Lord every morning in order to receive fresh life, light and love from above. (As George Whitefield used to say) "This will enable us never to grow cold or to become luke warm or to burn out, or to settle down into a mediocre lifestyle", but to become as David Platt urges us to become – radical for Jesus. The realization of how privileged I am to be up here teaching the Bible with Alex Mukwabi came home with great force and I am very grateful.

### THURSDAY, 2 MARCH

Andrew Fuller was the man who held the home base together while his friend William Carey went to India. He was a remarkable servanthearted man and I love what he wrote:



"I have found that the more I do for Christ the better it is for me. I never enjoyed so much the pleasures of religion as I have within the last two years, especially since we have engaged in the mission business."

And so at the beginning of another beautiful morning up here in Kenya let me get into the "Workshop" conscious that there are Andrew Fullers holding the rope for me back home. My readings continued in Exodus, Job and Luke and I finished 1 Corinthians. In my time of prayer, I had the joy of praying for the SHUWA people who live in Chad. Then I so enjoyed what Oswald Chambers wrote this morning"

"As workers for God we have to learn to make room for God, to give God elbow room. Always be in a state of expectancy and see that you leave room for God to come in as He likes."

So Alex and I, after our breakfast of two slices of bread and a cup of African tea went to the Pastor's Conference for our final morning. These men have been so very gracious and have loved Hebrews. My final study was in Chapter 11 - 13 "Go Out", which urges us to go out into the world and live for Christ. Sadly, up here almost all the churches have no interest in Missions, so I hope that this study would have been like a rocket for them and that they will go out.



By God's grace the conference has gone extremely well and the book of Hebrews was a real hit. But now after lunch we need to leave and go to the bus terminus in order to find transport, which will take us to Uganda, an overnight trip of about eleven hours. We should get to our drop-off point by 05:00 in the morning. From there we will be going on to Tororo where I will speak at our third and final Pastor's Conference at 10:00am. As you can see, the schedule has been packed – punishing at times but the most wonderful experience possible.

Life is not always easy in Dandoro, Kenya. I have taken some photographs to show you of an attack, which took place last year, which ended up in a shoot-out resulting in the death of six of its members.



So as another exciting day draws to a close Hudson Taylor will give us another key principle. This is a quote from a letter which he wrote Emily Blatchley on the first day of January 1873.

"Ask for me more simple trust in Him and boldness to attempt great things. I am aiming at such organization of our forces as will enable us to do more work but with fewer foreign missionaries. I hope I may be able, before the year closes to start a Bible College for the training of our Chinese helpers. Long desired, there seems more probability of our attaining this than before."

It seems incredible that in some small way I relate so much to Hudson Taylor and to Oswald Smith's thinking. In 1986, I was able to open our Bible College - KwaZulu-Natal Missionary & Bible College for the training of Africans for Africa. The Lord has directed and blessed the College more than I ever could have imagined. Not only do we have a beautiful Campus, but we have wonderful lecturers and administrative helpers, but more importantly over three hundred men and women have been loved, trained, equipped and sent into Africa, especially to plant churches. By God's grace over one hundred new churches have now been planted. It has been a glorious thirty years and now as we enter our thirty first year, sadly other Bible Colleges and Christian organizations have closed down. Thank you my very dear friends for your amazing love and support. You hold the rope as I seek to go ... ASANTE ... THANK YOU. It is now very late and everything is quiet in the bus except for Alex who is snoring his head off, but let me try and catch a few hours of sleep, so privileged to be following in the footsteps of Peter Cameron-Scott in Kenya.

### FRIDAY, 3 MARCH

This morning we arrived at the border of Uganda at 05:00 am after a long trip during the night from Nairobi. Because we will go to the Conference soon I did my Bible readings on the bus and continued in Exodus, Job, Luke and I started 2 Corinthians, which I enjoyed reading because I am lecturing on that book at KMBC at the moment. In my short time of prayer, I prayed not only for our third conference but also for the Nara people who live in the war-torn country of Eritrea. Oswald Chambers was brilliant this morning:

"Peter realized now with the revelation of the Lord's hurting question that he does love Jesus. But then comes the point SPEND IT OUT. Don't testify how much you love me, don't profess about marvelous revelations you have had but FEED MY SHEEP."

Last year by God's grace I had the privilege of speaking over one thousand times, but this year is going to be more. SPEND IT OUT is what I long to do across Africa.

So here I am on my fourth visit to Uganda. It is fantastic being up here; you experience things that you would never experience back home. After the bus had dropped us off at the turn-off, just as the sun was beginning to rise, we waited only for a few moments on the side of the road for a taxi. It was amazing because almost immediately about twenty-four baboons, common sights up here, surrounded us. From there the taxi took us into the centre of the town called Tororo. From there we got onto a borda-borda and went to the Benedictine Monastery where I will be staying for two nights. I had such a laugh when we were welcomed by the monks because in their Welcome Brochure they were advertising their own wine which they had made. I bought a bottle to take home and keep in my office, together with all my other mementos, but sadly a corrupt official would not allow me to go through customs with the bottle ....



After a quick shower, we were onto a borda-borda taking us to our third conference. My first talk was on The Marks Of A Good Minister from Titus Chapter 2, and then after lunch I spoke on The Call Of Isaiah from Isaiah Chapter 6. The local Bishop then concluded our time together in prayer and it was a very moving thing to see how many of the Pastors came to the front, knelt down at the altar to make themselves available for the Lord to send anywhere. It was a beautiful thing to see. A huge cloudburst then exploded which meant that we had to take a taxi home, as we would have got drenched on a borda-borda.



After a long and challenging day of travelling and teaching across Africa, it was such a blessing to be able to settle down to my reading. A book which I have recently read is worth selling your bed for; it is brilliant, entitled WOMEN OF FAITH AND COURAGE by Vance Christie. In this book, Christie gives us biographical sketches of Catherine Booth, Fanny Crosby, Corrie Ten Boom, Suzanna Wesley and Mary Slessor. The section on Mary Slessor was particularly riveting reading.



The exploration and missionary work of David Livingstone and Henry Morton Stanley inspired thousands to embark on a missionary career into Africa. Men as well as women. Most of the women, most surprisingly, carried out their ministries sheltered within the confines of an established mission station, such as Kuruman where Mary Moffat spent most of her life. Exploration and

pioneer work was not even an option for a single female missionary ... at least not until Mary Slessor arrived. The story of Mary Slessor has sometimes been romanticized beyond recognition. The image of her as a Victorian lady dressed in her high-necked, ankle length dresses escorted through the African bush is not a true picture. Instead, there was a red-haired working class woman who lived African style in a mud hovel, often without her false teeth. Yet her success as a missionary was unbelievable and the oneness she felt for the Africans has been equaled by very few.

After another amazing day in Africa my bed calls with the mosquitoes buzzing around ... I just hope there are no holes in my net, but I am so exhausted that I should sleep like a log.

## SATURDAY, 4 MARCH

Uganda is an amazing place to visit. There are always thousands and thousands of people milling around with shops all along the road from Kampala to Entebbe, the music is blaring, its alive and the pace is hectic, together with thousands of borda-bordas darting in and out of the traffic. Sadly, not a day goes by when a borda-borda rider is not killed. BUT the Lord is at work up here and I have been given the huge privilege of encouraging some of the pastors and leaders. I constantly think of how Alexander McKay and James Hannington would be amazed to see how the Gospel has flourished across Uganda. They were amazing missionaries and are my heroes. So let me follow their example and get into the "Missionary Workshop" where my Bible readings continued in Exodus, Job, Luke and 2 Corinthians. In my time of prayer, I was able to pray for the SONGHIL-HAMBURRI people who live in Burkeno-Faso. Oswald Chambers as you know once a principal of a Bible College and a missionary to Cairo issued this strong warning this morning:

"It is easier to serve God without a vision. Easier to work for God without a call, because then you are not bothered with what God requires. Paul says he counted his life dear only in order that he might fulfill the ministry he had received; he refused to use his energy for any other thing. Practical work may be a competition against abandonment to God."

Today that is a huge temptation and sadly, many missionaries have allowed practical work to compete against their total abandonment to God. At this Benedictine Monastery where the monks are part of a missionary order, my room is clean the food is excellent and this morning I asked for permission to join them at 06:00 for their Benedictine Eucharistic service. It was beautiful.

To hear those twenty monks without any musical instruments, chanting as they followed the same pattern that the Benedictine Monks have followed since the fourth century, was moving. There was a short message by their Father, entitled "Jesus the Friend of Sinners" and one of their hymns was "I will sing the Wondrous Story". There is a part of me that loves the liturgy and order.

After leaving the Chapel there was a CRANE to meet us, the national bird of Uganda. You can see from the photo that I got lucky with my cheapie camera from Game.



After breakfast, we headed back to the conference on our borda-borda, holding on for dear life. I was privileged to preach on the Ministry of Jesus, focusing on his three main priorities in life. Taken from Mark Chapter 1:v35 - 41. Alex then continued to speak brilliantly on Leadership. By God's grace the conference has gone well, they loved the teaching, and while it was not as well attended as the other ones, there was a lovely spirit among the pastors and some of them would love to come and study at KMBC. And so with a very grateful heart, my friend took me back to the Monastery on his bordaborda where I was able to finish reading my book "The Challenge of Missions" by Oswald Smith. I have read this book often before, it is one of our text books, but everyone time I read it; I learn something more about Missions.

Another wonderful day draws to a close and surely no one better than Alexander McKay that amazing missionary who opened up Uganda for the Gospel, can close off for us:



"My heart burns for the deliverance of Africa, and if you can send me to any one of the regions which David Livingstone found to be groaning under the curse of the slavehunters, I shall be very glad. It is no sacrifice as some think to come here as a pioneer for the Gospel I WOULD NOT GIVE MY POSITION HERE FOR ALL THE WORLD. A powerful people has to be won from the darkness into the light and they had to be taught to love God and their neighbour. Who would not willingly engage in such a work and consider it the highest honour on earth to be called to it."



That is an amazing view from McKay and to think that the Lord has even given to me "THE HIGHEST HONOUR ON EARTH', is humbling but very, very thrilling. It is late and everyone is asleep but as I go I too like McKay, would not give up my position for all the world.

# SUNDAY, 5 MARCH



Donald McClure, a missionary to Africa for over 50 years before he was killed by terrorists wrote:

"I am filled with an undying ambition to do something worthwhile in the great land of Africa."

So with this undying ambition in my heart to teach these dear pastors in Uganda, I head off into the "Workshop" to spend time with the Lord. My readings in the Bible continued with Exodus, Job, Luke and 2 Corinthians, after which is was time to pray. This morning I prayed for the BEDIRA people from the Sudan as well as all the other missionaries in that sad country who work in such extremely difficult conditions. Oswald Chambers then reminded me of something important:

"Joy means the perfect fulfillment of that for which I was created and regenerated, not the successful doing of a thing." I now will be preaching the precious Word of God for the last time on this trip but doing

it as the happiest man around. But first, I was drawn back to the Benedictine Monks and was given permission to join them for their Eucharist and to listen to them singing the prayers for the last time. It was magnificent. Being a missionary order means that they are doing the most amazing work all over the world in fifty countries.

Here in Tororo they are teaching the people to farm, do woodwork, masonry, they run an Eye Clinic, a Day Clinic, a Hospital, a School as well as a Seminary and the Guest House.



After the service, the Father kindly agreed to pose for a photograph with me.



It was then time to preach again and by God's grace, I preached on Mark 16v15 "The Supreme Task Of The Church". The words shall be condemned are chilling and after the sermon there was a wonderful response to the Gospel. The people would not let us go before providing us with a lovely lunch. Afterwards we caught a taxi to Kampala, a trip lasting just over six hours, so we arrived at our accommodation just after 10:00pm. Two weary missionaries ended the most amazing two weeks imaginable, travelling from Johannesburg to Dar es Salaam, to Bagamoyo to Nairobi, onto to Dandora to Tororo and finally into Kampala. No words can fully express our gratitude to God for the privilege of teaching the Bible, encouraging the Pastors and bringing precious souls to Christ.

During one of the devotions on this trip, Oswald Chambers exhorted me to SPEND IT OUT. By God's grace, I have done that across Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda. Now <u>Alexandra McKay</u> will close off a beautiful day:

"You sons of England, here is a field for your energies. Bring with you your highest education and greatest talents. You men of God who have resolved to devote your lives to the cure of souls, here is the field for you. It is not to win numbers to a church, but to win people to the Saviour, who otherwise would 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 which is now white to the harvest." I feel that I have poured out everything in my soul and my body, and now tomorrow I will fly home and begin with my lectures on Tuesday morning at KMBC training men and women for Africa.

### MONDAY, 6 MARCH

Today is my last morning up here in Kampala where I have been following in the footsteps of Alexander McKay and James Hannington. But before everything else let me go for the last time into the "Workshop". My Bible readings continued in Exodus, Job, Luke and 2 Corinthians and then it was time to pray. Today I was able to pray especially

for the MIMYAK people who live in China as well as giving thanks to the Lord for blessing these Conferences and for granting us journey mercies over thousands of kilometers. Oswald Chambers then issued a very strong warning:



"Ask God to keep the eyes of your spirit open to the risen Christ and it will be impossible for drudgery to dampen you."

How tragic it must be for a Christian to wake up every morning and not look forward to the day, and more so for a missionary to slide into drudgery. This of course means that it is critical everyday to spend time with the Lord.

"If you love what you do, it becomes your life and can't be divided into week-end and work time. It is all consuming."

We need to leave early in the morning in order to avoid the dreaded Kampala gridlocks. So Alex came to fetch me and we drove all the way to Entebbe, setting off when it was still dark. Along the road long-horned cattle blundered onto the road but we could not see them until the headlights bounced off their eyes. Cars coming in the other direction sometimes had no lights at all. But brother Alex hit the accelerator and swerved when necessary. He got more speed out of his Toyota than I would have thought possible. He overtook on blind corners. I looked the other way, but dear brother Alex got me to the airport. To say goodbye to such a dear colleague and brother is difficult, too choked up.



I was early which meant I had time to read and write up my Journal of this amazing trip. From Entebbe Airport, I flew down to Johannesburg, spent the night at the Airport and then flew out to Pietermaritzburg on the first flight on Tuesday morning. Perhaps <u>Nicolas Zinzendorff</u> could best close off with what we have preached over these last two weeks:



"Our method of proclaiming salvation is this ... to point out to every heart THE LOVING LAMB who died for us, who by the preaching of his blood and never to digress from the LOVING LAMB. To preach no commandment except faith in him, no other justification but that he atoned for us, no other sanctification but the privilege to sin no more. No other happiness but to be near him, to think of him and do his pleasure, no other self- denial but to be deprived of him and his blessings, no other calamity but to displease him, no other life but in him."

When Alex and I originally planned this trip, it seemed a bit beyond me, too ambitious, too demanding and too much crammed into such a short time. BUT by the grace of God, it is now done and accomplished.

- My pen is now empty
- My books are now read
- My body is tired, it has been pushed to the limit
- My leaflets are all distributed
- My wallet is empty, having to cover the costs of everything. The airfares, transport, accommodation, the conferences and everything.
- My clothes are filthy

#### BUT

My spirit is singing, it has been the most exhilarating two weeks of travelling across Central Africa preaching the Bible putting first things first. Oswald Smith put it so well when he said:



"What then is the most important work of the hour? It is to carry out our Lord's last orders. That my friends is more important than anything else. Go into all the world and preach the Gospel. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned. By this and this alone, we must judge all spirituality, all Bible knowledge, all Doctrinal and Theological discussion. If we are truly spiritual, if we are real Bible students, if our Doctrines are scriptural, we will put Evangelism first. We will give liberally to Missions. All our Bible knowledge, all our spirituality, all our doctrinal beliefs are nothing, but make believe unless we are putting first things first. Turn from everything else. Bend every effort to send out the Gospel. This and this alone is the most important work of the hour."



# LOOKING BACK

As I look back over this trip, here are some of the highlights and challenges for me.

- 1. After all these years, I at last have found out where Peter Cameron-Scott is buried. At our Conference in Nairobi, Bishop Abednigo came and explained to me that he is buried near his village and that he would love to take me there. Peter Cameron-Scot had sailed to the Congo with his brother John in November 1980 where he served for two years. During that time, he buried his brother and nearly died from Malaria, which necessitated his return to America. He was carried out of the Congo unconscious. But during his slow recovery, he visited England and Westminster Abbey where David Livingstone is buried. Kneeling beside the tomb of David Livingstone he was gripped by the words "Other sheep I have, also them I must bring" In that moment his plans for East Africa became clear and the Africa Inland Mission was conceived.
  - 2. Travelling thousands of kilometers in busses, muttatos, borda-bordas, dala dalas and the bajaj's has been amazing – I nearly fell off only once! But it gave me a taste of how the people of Africa get around.
  - 3. All this fades away compared to the thrill of preaching at the Conferences and in the churches. My heart reaches out to the thousands of Pastors who are doing the work of ministry with no training. Floyd McClung put it perfectly when he 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." This is what I want to give the remaining years of my life for.



- 4. Listening to those Benedictine Monks singing and chanting the prayers was beautiful. It gave me a sense of reverence, which one does not often find in Churches today.
- 5. Enjoying the friendship of Alex Mukwabi is a privilege given to few.
- 6. Walking in the footsteps of David Livingstone in Bagamoyo was wonderful for me, following Peter Cameron- Scott in Kenya was thrilling and then following Alexander McKay across Uganda was moving for me. These were amazing pioneer missionaries who opened up Central Africa for the Gospel

It has been an incredible experience, but now I lookforward to getting back to KMBC and lecturing again.

I have two weeks of lectures left and then the students begin their exams, which means I can fly up to Rwanda and assist Dr. Friesen who has an amazing vision of training 90% of all the rural pastors in Rwanda over the next ten years.

Many years after her work in the Congo was over, Dr. Helen Roseveare went back and this is what she said:

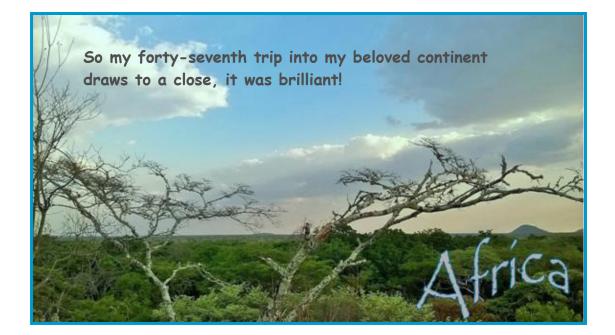


"You no longer want Jesus only, but Jesus plus, plus respect, popularity, public opinion, success and pride. You want to go out with all the trumpets blaring, from a farewell do that was organized for you with photographs and recordings to play at home, just to show others what you have achieved. You wanted to feel needed and respected. You wanted the other missionaries to be worried how they will every carry on after you have gone. You would like letters when you go home to tell you how much they now realize they owe to you, how much they miss you. All this and more - Jesus plus. NO. You can't have it, it either must be Jesus only or you will find you have no Jesus. You will substitute Helen Roseveare.

As always, I cannot thank you all enough my dear, dear friends for your prayers, your love and generous financial support. Siyabonga ....you made this trip possible.



I think that perhaps even David Livingstone would have been proud of me!

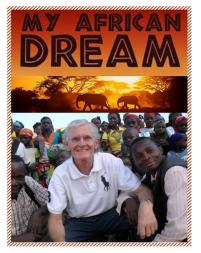


If you would like to share in, or support my work into Africa, I would value your partnership. Perhaps you may like to consider one the followings avenues:

- Pray for one of the countries and the past students who are working there
- Sponsor one of these men to come and train
- $\square$  Contribute to supply the pastors with resources for their work
- Contribute towards my missionary trips into Africa
- ☑ General support

l always so enjoy and look forward to your comments and feedback on my Journals.

# Yours for Africa, *Warwick*



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