

# MY MISSION TRIP TO MALAWI



JUNE 2022





## UPDATE *Operation world prayer*

Malawi remains a stable and peaceful land in a region troubled by wars and violence. The people have a peaceful and rural nature, the democracy is healthy, and the president speaks out against corruption. Praise God for the peace that allows Christian ministry and national development to continue. The country still faces complex challenges of poverty combined with high population growth, HIV/AIDS, unemployment, and migration of many people into and through Malawi. Most leaders in Malawi are church members. Pray God would help them act with wisdom, humility, and long-term plans based on biblical principles. Pray that churches might be better equipped to face HIV/AIDS with helpful ministries.

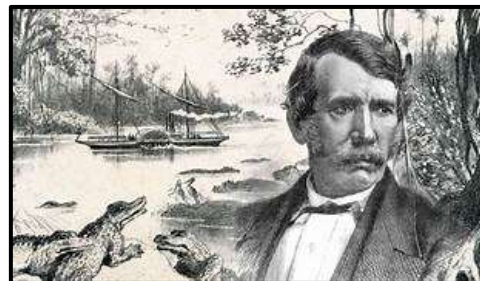


Malawi faces serious challenges in the future, such as the combination of poverty, high population growth and increasing pressure on agricultural land. High levels of national debt, AIDS and unemployment, when added to the aforementioned economic factors, produce challenges that will require wisdom, long-term planning and proactive policies by the government. The grip of poverty hampers development not only in the financial sense but also in terms of education, AIDS prevention, family life and even effective ministry and discipleship. Pray for leaders in Malawi, most of whom are church members, to act with wisdom, humility and long-term planning on biblical principles.



The increasing activity of Islam is a significant issue in Malawi. Over 80% of the Yao are Muslim, and make up the largest block of Muslims in Malawi. The Qur'an has been translated into Chichewa. Malawi has a great influx of funds via the Africa Muslim Agency. These extend Islam's influence through primary education, scholarships for tertiary students to go to Muslim nations, aid distribution, drilling wells, medical aid, mosque building and many other means. Although the impact of these has thus far been quite limited, pray for awareness and training for the equipping of Christians to meet this challenge. Pray also for a persistent, loving witness to Muslims throughout Malawi.

The CCAP (Church of Central Africa, Presbyterian) is the largest Protestant denomination and **the direct fruit of the vision of 19th Century explorer David Livingstone**. It is a union of the churches planted by the South African Dutch Reformed Church, the Church of Scotland and the Free Church of Scotland. Pray for revival as nominalism and the influence of African traditional religion are commonplace, yet there are also many strong evangelical leaders and congregations.



## INTRODUCTION

It was in 2019 when I last visited the village in Malawi, a place called NAMBIRO, an area which is very much on my heart. You all may remember how my son Jon, just before he died, raised a large sum of money to put in a Borehole for the community, which has transformed the village. They now drink lovely, clear, fresh cool water; cook and wash regularly and stay healthy. It is moving to watch, that borehole works around the clock. In addition, a simple multi-purpose hall was erected which doubles up for church services and community meetings. It has been three years and I am so looking forward to seeing the two men from this village, that KMBC trained. Lenard Gowa came for our three- year Diploma; and his son Daniel Chisakeni Gowa was trained in our Missions programme. We will be visiting the churches that Daniel has planted around TENGANI, CHIDIDI and NSANGWE, in true mission's style.



Due to all the political problems in Mozambique, my trip there has been cancelled, sorry my friends no “dug-out” experience to share! This was very sad because I was so looking forward to visiting Daniel’s church plants in the remote areas of Mozambique, but Daniel felt it would not be wise to go ... Travelling across Africa is not easy at the moment, especially when one goes into the poorer and outlying areas where my heart is. I have just finished re-reading a biography on **DAVID BRAINERD**, that incredible missionary. Listen to what he wrote, it touched my heart deeply. “Farewell”, he says to all earthly comforts and his longing to spend his life advancing the Kingdom of Christ.



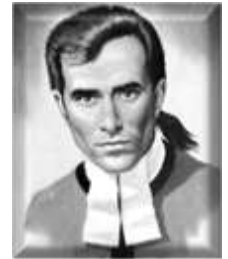
Falling on his knees in presence of this disappointment he once more utterly resigns himself and all that he counts dear to the will of God. ‘Farewell! He cries, farewell friends and earthly comforts, the dearest of them all, the very dearest, if the Lords calls for it; adieu, adieu, I will spend my life to my latest moments in caves and dens of the earth if the kingdom of Christ may be thereby advanced.”

This will be my 13<sup>th</sup> visit to Malawi, the warm heart of Africa. How I long to follow Brainerd and spend my life to my last moments working mainly among the poor communities in Africa, teaching them the Bible and leading souls to Christ. Then of course, as I meet with all the new churches, I will be able to promote KMBC and pray that some of their leaders may come and study at my college

next year. That would be wonderful and I will work hard to get them here, but it may cost me an arm and a leg ...

Brainerd also wrote these words, words which I am afraid so describe my life at the moment ... but who better to follow than **David Brainerd**.

"I am in one continual, perpetual, and uninterrupted hurry, and Divine providence throws so much upon me that I do not see that it will ever be otherwise. May I obtain mercy to be faithful unto death! I cannot say I am weary of my hurry; I only want strength and grace to do more for God than I have ever yet done".

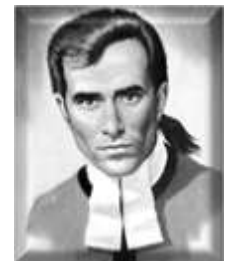


I sometimes feel like that, living a life of continual, perpetual and uninterrupted HURRY ... but ... I would want nothing else. That amazing Bible commentator, **Matthew Henry** wrote so beautifully on the most pleasant life anyone can live ... a life spent in the service of God.



"When he was on his deathbed, Matthew Henry said to a friend, 'You have been asked to take notice of the sayings of dying men – this is mine: that a life spent in the service of God and communion with Him, is the most pleasant life that anyone can live in this world.'"

So, I am off on my 69<sup>th</sup> trip into Africa, since it all began way back when I went to Ondangwa in 1980. I have my Malaria pills, some candles so that I can read my books at night, my Covid documents and then to live in my own little mission house, which they have built for me called ILALA. I have not seen this mission house so I can't wait to be there. I want you to read another quote from **Brainerd**, it really pulls the heart strings!! This perfectly sets the tone for this trip for me.



All things here below vanished, and there appeared to be nothing of any considerable importance to me but holiness of heart and life, and the conversion of the heathen to God. All my cares, fears, and desires which might be said to be of a worldly nature disappeared, and were, in my esteem of little more importance than a puff of wind. I exceedingly longed that God would get to Himself a name among these heathen and I appealed to Him, with the greatest freedom, that He knew I preferred Him above my chief joy. Indeed, I had no notion of joy for this world, I care not where I go, or how I live, or what I endure so that I may save souls. When I sleep, I dream of them; when I awake, they are first in my thoughts. "As long as I see anything to be done for God, life is worth having; but O how vain and unworthy it is to live for any lower end!"

Wow ... that says it all ... to gain souls for Christ, everything else a puff of wind.

## WEDNESDAY, 15 JUNE 2022

I struggled to fall asleep last night, my mind was in overdrive as I thought over this upcoming trip to Malawi, the warm heart of Africa. But as the sun rises over Pietermaritzburg let me begin the day in the “Missionary workshop” as Oswald Chambers calls it, and there spend time reading the Bible and in prayer. My Bible readings, following Robert Murray McCheyne were from Daniel, Psalms, Isaiah and Revelation. **George Mueller** wrote this:



“The most important thing I had to do was to read the Word of God and to meditate on it. Thus, my heart might be comforted, encouraged, warned, reprov'd and instructed.”

Then it was time to pray and this morning following Joshua Project, I remembered the GAWAMAA people living in the Sudan. At the moment I am re-reading for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time, **John Piper's** amazing book on missions “*Let the Nations be glad*”. Listen to what he wrote on why so many Christians spend so little time in prayer, especially for missions.



We cannot know what prayer is for until we know that life is war.

“Life is war. That’s not all it is. But it is always that. Our weakness in prayer is owing largely to our neglect of this truth. Prayer is primarily a wartime walkie-talkie for the mission of the church as it advances against the powers of darkness and unbelief. It is not surprising that prayer malfunctions when we try to make it a domestic intercom to call upstairs for more comforts in the den. God has given us prayer as a wartime walkie-talkie so that we can call headquarters for everything we need as the kingdom of Christ advances in the world. Prayer gives us the significance of frontline forces and gives God the glory of a limitless Provider. The one who gives the power gets the glory. Thus, prayer safeguards the supremacy of God in missions while linking us with endless grace for every need.”

That is phenomenal writing ... we are in a war and that prayer is a war-time walkie-talkie, not a domestic intercom to call upstairs for more comforts.

Then my mentor of 55 years, **Oswald Chambers** disciples me and this is what he wrote on ‘GET MOVING’

“You have inherited the Divine nature, now screw your attention down and form habits, give diligence, concentrate. ADD means all that character means.”



Today I want to screw down everything and develop a godlier character, and a **war-time mentality**, following in the footsteps of Chambers and Piper and **GET MOVING**.

From Pietermaritzburg I flew up to Johannesburg and then on to Blantyre, landing at the CHILEKA airport. It felt fantastic to be back after three years. After clearing Customs, cashing some money, I then had to find a taxi and a room for the night, so that early tomorrow morning I can head down the escarpment to Nsange, into the village to Ilala, my little home, and then preach my heart out in Malawi. I have been waiting for this for two years!

While I was in Alice earlier this year visiting the Lovedale Mission of **James Stewart**, I read this quote from Stewart, he put it all into perspective for me.



"CENTRAL AFRICA was to me what Arabia was to Paul, a retreat on which I examined my own heart, revised my life, developed the self-reliance which is based upon the reliance of faith and sought complete consecration to Christ and His service. Again, and again the longing comes over me to get back to Africa".

That is me ... I have pined for this day to be back in Central Africa, it is my Arabia.



After boarding, I was able to spend time with my "lovers", my books as Oswald Chambers calls them, and so enjoyed reading what Spurgeon wrote regarding the apostle Paul's love for his books. **Charles Spurgeon** had a marvellous comment on Paul's request:



"He is inspired, yet he wants books! He has been preaching at least for 30 years, yet he wants books. He has seen the Lord, and yet he wants books! He has had a wider experience than most men, yet he wants books! He had been caught up into the third heaven, and had heard things which it is unlawful for a man to utter, yet he wants books! He had written the major part of the New Testament, yet he wants books!"

How different Spurgeon's was to George Mueller's library, which consisted of a Hebrew Bible, 3 Greek testaments, a Greek concordance, half a dozen different versions of the Bible and copies of the best translations in several languages. These constituted his ENTIRE Library!

But Blantyre, so rich in missionary history calls, so I was off. My first port of call was to the St. Paul's Cathedral where Bishop Charles Fredrich McKenzie is buried under the altar. In response to a call from David Livingstone, he went up to Malawi as a missionary but sadly Bishop McKenzie contracted Malaria and the Fever and died here soon afterwards. His ministry was cut short but what an incredible legacy he left for us and today Malawi honours him. I knelt down at the altar and asked the Lord for grace to follow in McKenzie's footsteps, truly an exceptional man of God and a model for me. There is also a plaque to Bishop Maples, who drowned in Malawi before he even started his work.



Walking down Livingstone Street it was fabulous to enjoy the vibe and people of Blantyre and slowly I found my way back in time for supper. I am so very privileged to be here, a missionary to Africa, and I count myself the most blessed man on the planet. Now to fall asleep in the warm heart of Africa, with Maples and McKenzie fresh in my mind. I loved reading above the entrance **'LEST WE FORGET'**.

## THURSDAY, 16 JUNE

It felt wonderful to wake up here in Malawi, but now before anything else I need to spend time in the "Missionary Workshop". This is critical if I am to be a missionary teaching the Bible across Africa, training up pastors and missionaries. **Piper** again was magnificent when he reminded me of this fact, that worship is the fuel and goal of missions.



Missions is not the ultimate goal of the church. Worship is. Missions exists because worship doesn't. Worship is ultimate, not missions, because God is ultimate, not man. When this age is over, and the countless millions of the redeemed fall on their faces before the throne of God, missions will be no more. It is a temporary necessity. But worship abides forever.<sup>1</sup>

Worship, therefore, is the fuel and goal of missions. It's the goal of missions because in missions we simply aim to bring the nations into the white-hot enjoyment of God's glory. The goal of missions is the gladness of the peoples in the greatness of God. "The LORD reigns, let the earth *rejoice*; let the many coastlands *be glad*!" (Ps. 97:1). "Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you! Let the nations *be glad and sing for joy*!" (Ps. 67:3-4).

My Bible readings continued in Daniel, Psalms, Isaiah and Revelation, saturating my mind and heart with the Word of God. In my time of prayer not only did I pray for a safe trip in an overloaded taxi, all the way down to Nsangwe, but also for the BOBO MADARE people living in Burkina Faso.

Then **Oswald Chambers** closes off my devotions and this is what he wrote in "My Utmost for His Highest" on "Will you lay down your life?"



"If I am a friend of Jesus I must deliberately and carefully lay down my life for Him"

Yes ... I am willing to lay down my life for King Jesus, following Maples and McKenzie.

After some breakfast, I took a Boda-boda to the Roman Catholic Institute from there I will find a mini-bus which was going all the way down to NSANJE where hopefully Daniel will be waiting for me on the side of the road. I was back in Africa ... jam packed with twenty-two other passengers in the mini-bus, the music blaring, mothers breast feeding their babies, chickens were screeching and there was even a goat ... and one little white man. As we left Blantyre we passed by the Livingstone Tree where David Livingstone is reputed to have rested after his long walk from the Shire River.

We passed the graves of those missionary heroes who were buried on the banks of the Shire River; Dickenson, Scudermore and Thornton.





We sped past Majete, Njalo and eventually got to Nsangwe after three hours. There was Daniel waiting for “the bishop” on the side of the road. It was wonderful to see him again and he appeared to be so happy to see me. From there I got onto a bicycle taxi which took me to the village of NYAMBIRO, where everyone was waiting for the “bishop”.

It was wonderful to be back with these dear people and it was very moving for me. After greeting everyone I was ushered to my little home, *Ilala* and it was incredible to see ... wow ... it blew me away. We enjoyed some tea together in my new home, but I wanted to get to the Borehole, such a very emotional time for me to remember Jon.



It is never easy for me to go there, even though it has been nine years since Jon went home to Jesus. The children looked so happy and there was fresh, cold, beautiful water flowing. Jon would have loved to see this. As the tears rolled down my face, I thanked God for such a precious son, so passionate for missions. It would have been wonderful to have him beside me to see his amazing work. Now enjoy some pictures of my home and the borehole.





*My bedroom*



*Lounge*



*Ilala veranda*



*Jon's Borehole, always busy pumping fresh cold water*

From there I went to greet all my old friends, the tailor, the butcher, Lenard and his wife and then just to spend time with Daniel, who is so precious to me in the Lord. It has been magnificent today, more than I could ever wish for, but now to enjoy some tea and bread for supper and sleep the first night in my little home, Ilala, thank you Jesus ... but oh boy the floor is rock hard ... David Livingstone at least had a sheep skin to sleep on!!



*Tailor at his sewing machine*



*Lenard & his wife*



*JCE Hall*

## **FRIDAY, 17 JUNE**

Wow ... the most magnificent sunrise greeted us this morning in the village. I could see the cattle being taken out to pasture, the women making their way to Jon's borehole and life in the village starting a new day.

All the fires are being started so let me go into the “Missionary Workshop” and there spend time with the Lord. My Bible readings continued in Daniel, Psalms, Isaiah and Revelation, so glorious to saturate my mind and heart with the Word of God. In my prayer time, not only did I pray for all our meetings today, all the travelling but also, I remembered another unreached people group, the SERI people living in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Then it was time for **Oswald Chambers** to disciple me and this is what he wrote on criticizing others, such a strong challenge to us all.

#### **BEWARE OF CRITICIZING OTHERS**

**Judge not, that you may not be judged” (Matthew 7:1)**

**Jesus’ instructions with regard to judging others is very simply put; He says, “Don’t.” The average Christian is the most piercingly critical individual known. Criticism is one of the ordinary activities of people, but in the spiritual realm nothing is accomplished by it. The effect of criticism is the dividing up of the strengths of the one being criticized. The Holy Spirit is the only one in the proper position to criticize, and He alone is able to show what is wrong without hurting and wounding.”**



*Village coming to life*



The ladies will bring me a bucket of warm water they have heated over the fire, so I will be able to enjoy a shave and a wash, then some breakfast of bread and tea.

We left to preach our hearts out, visiting the churches which Daniel has planted around Chididi.

Wow ... nothing quite prepared me for today, it was unbelievable.



The three motor bikes arrived at 05:30 am to take us to Nsangwa from where we will get into a mini-bus taxi and travel all the way to Bangula. When we arrived, there were four scrambler motorbikes waiting to take us to the village of Mbang-Ombe, high up in the mountains. It was hair-raising stuff, across rivers, up horrendous dust tracks into the mountains, eventually arriving at the village an hour later. There these dear people were waiting for “the bishop”. After some bread and a coke, we went into the service under the tree. I felt like a genuine missionary to Africa, with every bone in my body creaking and bruised!

The Lord was so very gracious as I preached from Hebrews 9:27-28. I was so moved to see an amazing response to the Gospel, not only from the people but also some of the pastors ... and the Chief ... the sight of souls being saved moved me to tears of gratitude. The village then gave me the most amazing lunch of goat's meat and shima and then ... the one hour's safari through the bush back to Tengani where we will visit Daniel's home. I'm sure David Livingstone would have approved of my work today ... except that he walked ... **BUT** you won't believe what happened. These dirt roads were so treacherous in places that each of our four scramblers broke down! **One with a broken chain; one whose spokes snapped and the wheel buckled; two got punctures...**

This meant we were stranded, in the hot sun as we waited for some replacements to come and collect us. Nothing quite like working in Africa!! Eventually we arrived back in Tengani, but now the sun was setting so we thought it wiser to spend the night in Daniel's home, rather than travel all the way back to Ilala, my little home.

What a day, what an experience; a day never to be forgotten, but it was worth all the challenges just to see those pastors and the Chief surrendering their lives to Christ. (Just for your interest the cost of all these mini-buses, the bikes to get us to the village was MKW 55,000)

They made up a bed for me and “I died” - it has been an exhausting day, but so wonderfully worthwhile. Now to fall asleep in Mwasalapa with my mind in overdrive and my bones creaking and my old body bruised, **BUT** my heart is on fire!



*Daniel's new house*



*Koko enjoying his bath*



*Ladies preparing our water*

## SATURDAY, 18 JUNE

What a lovely sleep I enjoyed and woke up to another magnificent morning here in Malawi. I love the sounds of the village, the cattle bellowing on their way to pasture, the chickens scratching for some food, the goats darting all over the place, the ladies talking non-stop on their way to get water.



It is fantastic to be here. But I must first go into the “Missionary Workshop” and there read the Word of God and spend time in prayer.

Following McCheyne, I continued to read from Daniel, Psalms, Isaiah and Revelation. I remember reading what **MARTIN NIEMOLLER** wrote about his reading the Bible while imprisoned in Dachau.



“What did this Book mean to me during the long and weary years of solitary confinement and then for the last four years at Dachau? The Word of God was simply everything to me – comfort and strength, guidance and hope, master of my days and companion of my nights, the bread which kept me from starvation and the water of life that refreshed my soul.”

Wow ... such beautiful writing. After my time in the Word, it was time to pray. Again, a busy day lies ahead of travelling and preaching so I need to pray much, but then for another unreached people in the world. Today I remembered the Worodougou people living in Cote d’Ivoire.

Then, **Oswald Chambers** was brilliant this morning, writing on ‘Keep Recognising.’

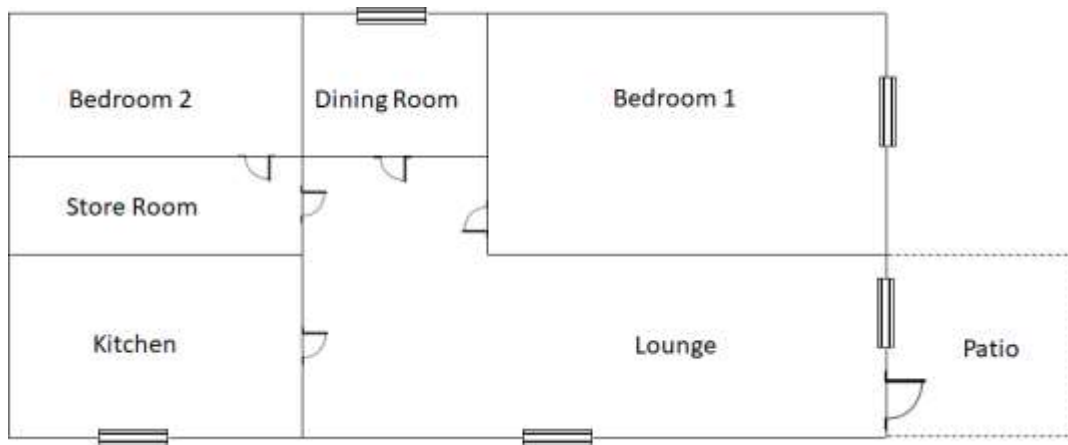


### KEEP RECOGNIZING JESUS

"And Peter . . . walked on the water to go to Jesus. But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid." Matthew 14:29-30. The wind was actually boisterous, the waves were actual y high, but Peter did not see them at first. He did not reckon with them, he simply recognized his Lord and stepped out in recognition of Him, and walked on the water. Then he began to reckon with the actual things, and down he went instantly. Why could not our Lord have enabled him to walk at the bottom of the waves as well as on the top of them? Neither could be done saving by recognition of the Lord Jesus.

We step right out on God over some things, then self-consideration enters in and down we go. If you are recognizing your Lord, you have no business with where He engineers your circumstances. The actual things are, but immediately you look at them you are overwhelmed, you cannot recognize Jesus, and the rebuke comes: "Wherefore didst thou doubt?" Let actual circumstances be what they may, keep recognizing Jesus, maintain complete reliance on Him.

The ladies are ready with my warm water, so after such a brilliant time in the "Missionary Workshop", let me enjoy my shave and wash, a light breakfast of bread and tea and then with Daniel go and preach my heart out. Life couldn't be any better than this. I just love my little home, just absolutely perfect for me and will greatly assist me in bringing trips here in the future. *My hut in Africa...* here is a diagram for you to see.



Now we are off to preach in TENGANI. After yesterday, today was normal and much easier. We arrived at the church and it was wonderful to recognise some of the people from my previous two visits. The singing was out of this world and I preached on 1 Corinthians 15: 3-6. By God's grace there was another amazing response to the Gospel as people, and some of the visiting pastors surrendered their lives to Jesus. After preaching, we laid hands on a Deacon who will assist Daniel in their work. The Lord was at work, so very encouraging.



*Daniel's church, which has enjoyed wonderful growth under his leadership*

I then asked if we could please go to the SHIRE RIVER. I really wanted to go on one of their dug-out canoes and paddle for a short distance up the river. The paddler promised that the crocodiles were resting, so I could follow in the footsteps of David Livingstone!!! It was a beautiful experience but then it was a long walk back to the church in the hot Malawian sun. But it was absolutely worthwhile.



Another never-to-be-forgotten day in Africa. After lunch, we caught another mini-bus taxi to my home, ILALA and was able to enjoy the most beautiful sunset.

Then a huge surprise for me was to have a visit from the CHIEF of the village. He thanked me for all we do for the village and it was great to spend some time with him.

## SUNDAY, 19 JUNE

Another beautiful sunrise greets us this morning in the village. After enjoying my last sleep in ILALA, it was top priority for me to go into the “Missionary Workshop” and begin the day with my devotions. Following McCheyne, I read from Daniel, Psalms, Isaiah and Revelation and then could pray especially for the unreached people of our world and so following the Joshua Project, I prayed for the HEDAREB BESA people living in Eritrea.

**Oswald Chambers** then reminded me of “the service of “passionate devotion” and listen to what he wrote, so very challenging for one to constantly remember.



### SERVICE OF PASSIONATE DEVOTION

"Lovest thou Me? . . . Feed My sheep." John 21:16

Jesus did not say - Make converts to your way of thinking, but look after My sheep, see that they get nourished in the knowledge of Me. We count as service what we do in the way of Christian work; Jesus Christ calls service what we are to Him, not what we do for Him. Discipleship is based on devotion to Jesus Christ, not on adherence to a belief or a creed. "If any man come to Me and hate not . . . , he cannot be My disciple." (Lk. 14:26). In this verse, there is no argument and no compulsion, but simply - If you would be My disciple, you be devoted to Me.

After my devotion, the ladies arrived with my bucket of warm water to let me enjoy a shave, wash and my breakfast of tea and bread and then I am ready for the day. Today I will be preaching in the JCE Hall for the village, so that should be a very emotional time for me. Hopefully even the village Chiefs will be there.



As I prepare to preach, I always remember what **PHILIP BROOKS** wrote:

**"It is essential to the preacher's success that he should thoroughly enjoy his work – its highest joy is in the great ambition that is set before it, the glorifying of the Lord and the saving of the souls of people. No other joy on earth compares with that."**

That says it all far better than I could ever put it. So now I will go and preach to the village, longing for the Lord to be glorified and for precious souls to be saved. That prince of preachers, **Charles Spurgeon**, also wrote in similar vein:

**"Spit on me, but oh repent. Laugh at me, but oh, believe in my Master. Make my body as the dirt of the streets, but damn not your own soul."**



It always saddens me that some Christians never lead souls to Christ, but are so self-centred in their lives and even their prayers.

It was wonderful to see the JCE Hall filled with people from the village, and even the chief came, which in their culture, is huge. I preached on the conversion of Paul from Philippians 3 and by the grace of God, we saw an incredible response to the Gospel as precious souls were saved. What a perfect end to this incredible trip.



*The Chief of the Village*

*Daniel and the pastors seeing me off on my way ... an emotional moment for us all*

After having lunch together, it was time to say goodbye. Oh boy... at my worst!! As I paid a last visit to the borehole and saw the queues of ladies coming for their water, I could not stop the tears from flowing. Jon would have been so very happy. Then to leave ILALA, my beautiful home was very emotional. Some of their leaders showed such amazing love and ushered me from the village to the main road where I boarded another minibus, as I gave Daniel my gift and all my clothes, he wept. We are true brothers and it's wonderful to experience. I hope you enjoyed the photos above of my final hours at the village.

One of the books I read '[The Letters of John Newtown](#)' was outstanding, living up to Marcus Leane's view that he was par excellence the letter-writer of the Evangelical Revival. This is part of the letter he wrote on '[the marks of a call to ministry.](#)'

"A warm and earnest desire to be employed in this service. I apprehend, the man who is once moved by the Spirit of God to this work, will prefer it, if attainable, to thousands of gold and silver; so that, though he is at times intimidated by a sense of its importance and difficulty, compared with his own great insufficiency (for it is to be presumed a call of this sort, if indeed from God, will be accompanied with humility and self-abasement), yet he cannot give it up. I hold it a good rule to inquire in this point, whether the desire to preach is most fervent in our most lively and spiritual frames, and when we are most laid in the dust before the Lord? If so, it is a good sign.



By God's grace, I will never stop or give up this work the Lord called me to, it's the greatest privilege on earth. But now to fall asleep in the warm heart of Malawi.

## MONDAY, 20 JUNE

After sleeping on hard cow dung floors out in the rural areas, it was out of this world to sleep on a mattress between clean sheets, although David Livingstone would hate me to say that. Even better was a hot shower which must have got clogged up with all the dust from my hair. But it felt fantastic. Now to get into the "Missionary Workshop" and spent lots of time in my devotions. My Bible readings continued in Daniel, Psalms, Revelation and Isaiah.



**John Calvin** once wrote on the importance of reading the Bible each day, this is what he said:

Unto a Christian man 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 mans duty. And there is no truth or doctrine necessary for our justification and eternal salvation, but that is, or may be drawn out of that 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 holy scripture; without which the which, they can neither sufficiently know God and his will, neither their office and duty. And, as drink is pleasant to them that be dry, and meat to them that be hungry; so is the reading, hearing, searching and studying of holy scripture to them that be desirous to know God, or themselves, and to do his will. And their stomachs only do loathe and abhor the heavenly knowledge and food of God's word, that be so drowned in worldly vanities, that they neither savour God, nor any godliness: for that is the cause why they desire such vanities, rather than the true knowledge of God...

In my time of prayer, I remembered especially the DENDI people who live in Benin, another of the 6000 unreached people groups. But I ended with a time of praise and thanksgiving. How extremely gracious the Lord has been to me on this trip - travelling on bicycles, boda-bodas, scramblers up the mountains to Mbang-Ombe, lots of crazy over crammed minibus taxis and not one accident. But far greater was to see souls being saved in each of the three preaching stations, amazingly even some of pastors and the one chief. Daniel was so encouraged with my visit and his leaders so very grateful. Thank-you Lord... now to hear from **Oswald Chambers**.



A pitiful, sickly, self-centred, kind of prayer, and a determined effort and selfish desire to be right with God are never found in the New Testament.

If you are not now receiving the "hundred-fold" which Jesus promised (Mt. 19:29), and not getting insight into God's Word, then start praying for your friends - enter into the ministry of the inner life. The Lord turned the captivity of Job when he prayed for his friends." The real business of your life as a saved soul is intercessory prayer. Wherever God puts you in circumstances, pray immediately, pray that His Atonement may be realized in other lives as it has been in yours. Pray for your friends *now*; pray for those with whom you come in contact *now*.

Oswald Chambers never allows one to get comfortable, but he pushes you on to maturity in Christ, to live a life sold out for Jesus. I am also so enjoying reading the autobiography of **George Mueller**. This is what he wrote, it was such encouragement to me:



"When I had not even one penny in for the needs of this day, 10 shillings were brought to me for the orphans. The enclosed note read, 'your Heavenly Father knows that you need these things.' This Word of our Lord is to me more valuable than many bank notes."

Phew... I can relate so much to that!! At times KMBC has not had a penny! Having spent such precious times with the Lord, now I am able to go into Blantyre and visit all the missionary sites of my heroes, men and women of whom the world was not worthy (enjoy the photos). I was in my little world, sold out for missions, visiting these amazing sites of the pioneer missionaries... can't be happier or more blessed.

So, I was off, and of course the first visit was to the **Church of St. Michael and All Angels**, built in **honour of David Livingstone** in 1881 and for the early Church of Scotland missionaries who came



out here to Malawi, packed all their belongings in a coffin, never to return home, but pour out their lives for the Gospel.



I just loved kneeling down that the altar, lost in love for Jesus and these amazing missionaries.

From there I made my way to the **memorial** built in honour of all the missionaries who gave their lives for Christ here in Malawi. They are our true heroes, not the people the world looks up to today.



Around the corner from the church was a cairn, which was also built in honour of our missionary heroes.



Hetherwick, one of the missionary heroes is also remembered in the HETHERWICK HOUSE, which is now a centre for teaching theology.



Slowly, I headed back along Livingstone Avenue in time for supper (goats' meat and shima) after enjoying another phenomenal day in search of my missionary heroes.

How better to end this missions' trip into Malawi than to quote from another of **John Newton's** letters, writing to a friend on the matter of 'How to keep close to God,' that surely is our greatest longing in life. Read it carefully:



There are, however, means to be observed on our part; and though you know them, I will repeat the principal, because you desire me. The first is Prayer; and here, above all things, we should pray for humility. It may be called both the guard of all other graces, and the soil in which they grow. The second, Attention to the Scripture. Your question is directly answered in Psalm cxix. 9. The precepts are our rule and delight, the promise our strength and encouragement; their miscarriages are as land-marks set up to warn us of the rocks and shoals which lie in the way of our passage.

Now to enjoy my final sleep in Malawi... in a bed with a mattress... bliss!

## TUESDAY 21 JUNE

Wow, after an action-packed time here in Malawi, I was exhausted, so last night I really 'died.' But, by God's grace, a new day dawns, I feel refreshed to now dive into the "Missionary Workshop". My Bible readings continued in Daniel, Psalms, Isaiah and we began in Matthew. As Martin Niemöller wrote, the Bible to him was his comfort and strength, guidance and hope, master of my days and companion of my nights. In my time of prayer, I remembered especially the BURAKUMIN people living in Japan.

On this trip, each morning, **Oswald Chambers** has challenged me deeply and so again this morning.



*By what right do we become "a royal priesthood"? By the right of the Atonement. Are we prepared to leave ourselves resolutely alone and to launch out into the priestly work of prayer? The continual grubbing on the inside to see whether we are what we ought to be generates a self-centred, morbid type of Christianity, not the robust, simple life of the child of God. Until we get into a right relationship to God, it is a case of hanging on by the skin of our teeth, and we say - What a wonderful victory I have got. There is nothing indicative of the miracle of Redemption in that. Launch out in reckless belief that the Redemption is complete, and then bother no more about yourself, but begin to do as Jesus Christ said - pray for the friend who comes to you at midnight, pray for the saints, pray for all men. Pray on the realization that you are only perfect in Christ Jesus, not on this plea - "O Lord, I have done my best, please hear me." How long is it going to take God to free us from the morbid habit of thinking about ourselves? We must get sick unto death of ourselves, until there is no longer any surprise at anything God can tell us about ourselves. We cannot touch the depths of meanness in ourselves. There is only one place where we are right, and that is in Christ Jesus. When we are there, then we have to pour out for al we are worth in this ministry of the interior.*

By God's grace, I want to pour out my life, for all that its worth, into this ministry of serving others in Africa and of training pastors and missionaries.

My 69<sup>th</sup> missions' trip has sadly come to a close. I have preached my heart out, souls have been saved, the churches been encouraged, and hopefully in the future we will see some of their leaders coming to train at KMBC. My books are all read and I especially enjoyed reading John Newton's letters and the biography of Thomas More. Again, I have given away every bit of clothing I brought with me, my pens are both empty and my money has all been spent, I have preached my heart out so I go back now with an empty rucksack having emptied myself of everything, except my heart which is overflowing with a sense of deep gratitude to the Lord for all His grace over this trip. I also know that my home in the village, **ILALA**, will be looked after for me until I can return, the borehole will continue to supply cold, fresh water to the village, the hall will continue to assist the church and the chief for all their meetings, but above all Daniel and Lenard will continue to teach the Bible. It's a beautiful picture unfolding and Jon would be so happy to see it all. This is what he wrote to me before he went to Glory.



***"The Lord in His mercy and peace, and the power of the Cross, has made me a nominal, casual Christian for so many years, into a child of God with a heart that burns for missions and for the poor and needy."***

Wow... his dream for missions and for helping the poor and needy is being fulfilled. The village has such a lovely plaque to Jon which reads"

***"Dedicated to a brave soldier of Jesus Christ whose love for missions and for the poor live on in this village of Malawi."***



One day I will bring his twins here, Joel and Grace, where they can see what a great legacy their dad has left and become as proud of him as I am of Jon (if that is possible).

As the plane roared down the runway, I was overcome with deep emotion and an overwhelming sense of gratitude came over me. Recently, at the Scottsville Baptist Missions Week, there were Mark and Dominic Fuller, our past students passionate for missions, Hugh and Julie Fowls now serving as missionaries in Cambodia, and then at the Christ Church Pietermaritzburg Missions Supper, to hear from Jinx & Dawn Reyneke, Greg & Yvonne Cameron, Mark Fynnes-Clinton... all who trained at my college. Then up here to know that Lenard, and Daniel, Theophilus, Hastings, Patrick and Amos are all our past students teaching the Bible across Malawi, all this is overwhelming for me. Also, to know they form part of 365 pastors and missionaries sent out from KMBC, is so very gratifying and thrilling.

**Thank you, Jesus, to you be all the glory.**



Tomorrow morning at 6:00am I will be back at my desk marking all the exams which our students have written while I have been away. So, as David Brainerd wrote: "life is a perpetual, uninterrupted hurry," but I love it like that. My 69<sup>th</sup> mission into Africa is accomplished and who better than **Donald McClure**, missionary to Africa for over 50 years before he was shot, and the father of modern missions, **William Carey** to close off:



*"I would not abandon this mission for all the fellowships and finest homes in England. My greatest calamity would be separation from this mission. May I be useful in laying the foundation of Christ's work here in India (me in Africa). I desire no greater reward, nor can conceive any higher honour."*

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***"I am filled with an undying ambition to do something worthwhile in this great land of AFRICA."***

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*Don McClure*

thank you!

I only wish there were words that I could express which would adequately say thank you, my dear friends and sponsors. I am so grateful to you all for your love, prayers and financial support.

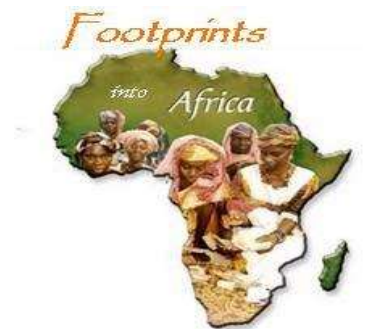
Your love makes trips like this, and the work at my College possible, and without you, the work would stop. A trip like this is very expensive, but thank you from the bottom of my heart for making it possible. May this journal, as weak as it is, be a huge encouragement to you all.



## **GOD BLESS AFRICA**

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
- ☑ Contribute to supply the pastors with resources for their work
- ☑ Contribute towards my missionary trips into Africa
- ☑ General support



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

Yours for Africa,  
Warwick

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