

ED LACY MINISTRIES, INC.

P.O. BOX 9062

MOBILE, AL 36691

(251) 660-8942



DOING GOD’S WORK, GOD’S WAY, FOR GOD’S GLORY

EDLACYMINISTRIES@CS.COM

(251) 660-8942

WWW.EDLACYMINISTRIES.ORG

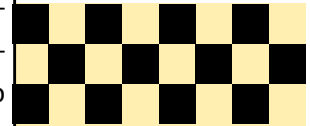
UGANDA OUTREACH

As I landed in Uganda’s famous Entebbe airport, and was reunited with pastors Frederick, Albert and Julius from Kenya, as well as pastors from Uganda, my body was completely exhausted, but my heart was filled with joy and anticipation. We still had to drive a few hours from Entebbe to the location of the ‘Christ-centered Evangelism conference’ that would be held in the interior of Uganda. What a tremendous opportunity to plant the biblical truths of what it means to do “God’s Work; God’s Way; for God’s glory”, in the lives and ministries of 500 pastors and approximately 150 of their wives, from this amazing country.

As we left the airport to head toward the city of Jinja, I was in an attitude of secret prayer. Having already walked through near death experiences on the primitive African roads in Kenya, I was very aware of my need to pray for our travel. I knew that we would face similar circumstances, every day that we were in Uganda. I was also praying for the man that would be my interpreter; the one who would translate the teaching into the language of Luganda, which is the most frequently used indigenous tongue. His name was Pastor Dawson. Pastor Dawson and I had never met, which also makes for a great temptation to be anxious. I was asking the Holy Spirit to remove any obstacles and to make us of one heart, one mind, one spirit and one purpose. As each day of the conference progressed, we rejoiced that God truly answered all of these prayers, in a manner that was far above, all that we could have asked or thought! Of course, most of all, we were praying that the truths of God’s Word would come into the hearts and minds of these spiritual leaders, in personal revelation, personal application, personal renovation and personal transformation.

Not only has the continent of Africa been saturated with much false teaching, especially concerning the prosperity gospel; but also, there would be pastors from 30 different denominations in attendance. So needless to say, it was going to take a miraculous work of God, if the doctrinal lies were going to be exposed, as well as forsaken; and the truth of God was going to triumph! However, as I prayed and prepared, it was so reassuring to know that the same Lord, who has moved mightily in the hearts and lives of pastors who have attended this conference in other nations, is the same Lord who is able to transform the minds and ministries of the Ugandan pastors.

SEPTEMBER 2008



Upcoming Schedule

September 18-20

Winn Correctional—Prison Crusade—LA

September 21

Quitman Baptist, LA

October 3-4

Waterfront Rescue—Pensacola, FL

October 5-8

**Olivet Baptist— Ocala, FL
Christ-centered Evangelism**

October 19-22

**First Baptist Killen, AL
Beatitude Conference**

October 26-29

**Fellowship Baptist—
Stenihatchee, FL
Prayer Conference**

November 2-12

Russia Outreach

December 8-15

Cuba Outreach

THE RECENT HISTORY OF GREAT NATIONAL TRAGEDY

Many of you are well aware of Uganda's history and the brutal dictatorship of Idi Amin. Not too many years ago, (1970's), thousands of believers were martyred by this demonic dictator. This evil leader was known as "The Butcher of Uganda", as he used his tyrannical reign to torture and kill over 300,000 people, many of whom were Christian believers and leaders. At that time the religion of Islam was forced on the people of Uganda. Presently this religion now numbers close to 20% of their population. There was an Islamic Mosque was next door to the church where we were holding the conference. But, it is not only the false teaching of the Muslim faith that is the major issue, there are also many cultic churches that flourish in the nation of Uganda. This has resulted in many people becoming religious without a true knowledge of the Lord. Then Uganda, along with other African nations, have deep roots in witch-craft practices, which run rampant throughout the interior of the nation. False gods and false religions are the norm of the day. But even within the true church, the message and methods of evangelism have been severely corrupted by false doctrines, that have chiefly come from England and America.

Psalm 138:1-3

I will praise **You** with my whole heart; before the gods I will sing praises to **You**.

I will worship toward **You** holy temple, and praise **Your** name for **Your** lovingkindness and **Your** truth; for **You** have magnified **Your** word above all **Your** name.

In the day when I cried out, **You** answered me, and made me bold with strength in my soul.

These were the challenges that were before my mind and in my heart, the evening before the conference began, as I sat in my hotel room, located on the banks of the Nile River. I was about to stand before pastors from over 500 congregations, from all over this nation, and call them back to God's instruction manual, God's true message and God's authentic methods. As I begin to unpack my suitcase, the Lord encouraged me greatly with a note that Dianne had packed away for me to open, upon my arrival in Uganda. She had written out Psalms 138:1-3, along with a note which was reminding me that she would be praying these very things to the Lord, during my stay in Uganda. My heart was not only challenged and exhorted, but overwhelmed with gratefulness for the Lord, for His promises, and for the wife that He

has given to me.

NOT IN WORD ONLY BUT ALSO IN POWER

Each morning my driver, Pastor Zephaniah and I drove for 1 1/2 hours, through extremely primitive areas, to the conference site. The roads were filled with potholes, cars, buses, vans, trucks, motorbikes and thousands of people. Every day was a "wild ride" of dodging potholes, vehicles and the throngs of people. As we drove through these lawless towns, my white complexion made it obvious that I was a foreigner. It was very comforting to know that my Lord is in sovereign control of every situation that was lying ahead. As we traveled, Zephaniah shared the story of his conversion and his calling to be a pastor. He was deserted by his parents, as a very young child. His grandmother raised him until her death, which occurred when he was only 14 years old. From that point, he lived on the streets of Jinja. A Christian pastor took him into their family and raised him as one of their own. He was gloriously converted; and later he was called to be a church planter. Through his years of ministry, God has used Zephaniah to plant 30 different village churches. All 30 are growing and thriving under local pastors, which were converted under his ministry. He told an interesting story of a certain conversion of a very evil man, a local witch-doctor. When Zephaniah preached in this town, the witch-doctor informed him that he had placed a curse upon him and that Zephaniah had only 3 days to get out of town, or else he would die. Zephaniah did not heed his commands and on the 3rd day, he did not perish. However, on that 3rd day, the witch-doctor was gloriously converted. He even changed his name; he is now called **JOHN**. John is now a pastor of a growing congregation. He was one of the pastors who attended the evangelism conference. I had the joy of meeting John and sharing a time of fellowship with him. What a story of God's amazing grace!

From the beginning of the conference, there was great power and liberty to preach the Word. The Holy Spirit was planting these doctrinal foundational truths into the lives of these men, who had not known these essential spiritual realities. I knew in my heart, that the Word of God was flowing into the hearts and lives of these people, not in word only but in a demonstration of Holy Spirit's power and deep conviction. As we studied these truths, many of these men were seeing and grasping the absolute necessity of using God's means to carry out God's mission. Each day, systematically, we planted these truths into the lives of these leaders. They were seeing how they had adopted methods and messages that were not truly in God's instructional manual for Biblical, God-honoring evangelism. But not only were we exposing and demolishing man's methods to attempt to carry out God's missions, we were infusing God's means to carry out God's mission. They began to grasp that the 'inventions of men' that they were using to carry out their evangelism had produced a large harvest of "Ishmaels" and very few "Issacs". By the time we studied the practical application section of the workbook, there appeared to be an insatiable appetite for a 'Christ-centered Gospel Presentation'. When we had reached the final exhortations of the week, we were all witnesses of how the Spirit of God had mightily taken His true methods and message and absolutely transformed their minds and their ministry, that will effect their future.

As always I would like to share some of the pastor's testimonies from the conference.

Paul, a 70 year old evangelist and associate pastor testifies, "I was under a great woe of conviction for the first 2 days of the conference. God was showing me personally, that I had been deceived by many false doctrines and methods concerning evangelism. But I have thoroughly repented of my false message and methods; and I have committed to do God's Work, God's Way; for God's Glory, the rest of my life and ministry. I am returning to my home church to teach these essential truths immediately!"

One pastor said, "We have been spiritually blind in our methods and message. We have been preaching the wrong message and getting people to do things that God did not tell us to do. But we are sincerely asking God to forgive us for 'doing His work in our own ways'. I have been witnessing to many people, but the outcome has been poor. We would see people make professions of faith, but we would never see them again. But in this conference I realized the problem. I have been crossing over the line and trying to step into God's territory, by attempting to do WHAT ONLY HE CAN DO. I have been leading sinners to make hypocritical prayers of confessions. But my message, my methods and my motives have been transformed this week."

A Pastor writes, "I will never forget this conference, because it has changed my ways of evangelizing. I have been equipped properly to do God's work, God's way, for God's glory. I cannot express the highest gratitude for great spiritual achievements for these days. The Holy Spirit of God has used you to produce a life-transforming message in us. I have been challenged and encouraged in wonderful ways in these days. There are many things that I was doing that were not lining up with God's Word. I was only doing them because I saw other leaders doing them. But my eyes have been opened to see that God has called me to do His Work, using His ways, for His Glory. Please return to us, for we need this kind of sound teaching in Uganda."

Another pastor shares his heart, "Here in Uganda there are so many false teachers and false prophets. There are so many who are not preaching, because they want to do God's will, but they are doing it for selfish material desires. Their God is their appetites. They have changed the message of the gospel of Christ into a curse. But God has filled my heart to see what the true message should be and how it should be spread to the whole of Uganda. This conference is going to help the church of Jesus come back to their true foundations. I have been doing the work

of a pastor for 5 years. But I feel like I have been transformed afresh this week. This has been a tremendous challenge. From this day forward, I have committed to do God's work in His Way! I must teach all of my congregation the truths from this manual. Through discovering these biblical truths, there is great hope to transform the church leaders of Uganda. I don't have the words in English to truly give you the appreciation from my heart."

A church planter writes, "Thanks so very much for your mission to this country. The body of Christ was so blessed through your teachings, which are so anointed and full of wisdom. All of the pastors from my home city of Jinja, have been speaking about your sound doctrine to the pastors. The pastors in Jinja are approaching me to ask if you can teach them again next year. Bro. Ed, I am asking them to pray for your coming to us again, to plant these much needed truths."

My interpreter, Pastor Dawson writes, "Listening to what God was speaking through you, was not just listening to another preacher from America, but, it was a divine connection. Every word you were speaking was resonating in my spirit, as when Mary greeted Elizabeth. During the conference, as you taught, I had no question about what the Lord wanted us to do as a church. This was an answer which is going to bring about a divine impact in our region, (specifically, in the place where we are operating, because it is 80% Islam). It came out so clear that intercession and the harvest move hand in hand. This issue of producing Ishmaels instead of Issacs is still ringing in my ears. As for me and the church, the Lord laid a burden on my heart that we should dedicate the next 4 months to teach 'Christ-centered Evangelism'. I will teach the church every Sunday in both the services and we will be interceding each Wednesday. And we shall be going out to share the Christ-centered message every Saturday. I have also conceived the idea of adopting 'Christ-centered Evangelism' into our school of ministry. My request is that you send me the notes as soon as possible, so that I can implement these truths into the lives of our people. I know that when you send me all these materials I will be equipped for the work of evangelism."

(Just a note to share with you that we have already sent Pastor Dawson all the material and he is already incorporating the things he spoke about.)

YOU ARE ON A MISSION!

We love to share these testimonies with you. We are hoping that you too can catch a glimpse of the work that is being done through your partnership with us. We have the privilege to be the mouth piece that is used to spread these glorious truths of our Lord and Savior. The Lord has allowed us to be a vehicle, to travel through these awesome and wonderful doors of opportunity. However, we are acutely aware that the Lord uses your prayers and financial support to be the driving force that not only gets us there, but holds us up while we are there. We have different and varying duties, but our mission and our purpose are the same. Dianne and I want to once again say, **"Thank You"** for your heart of love, not only for us, but for the great commission. Your prayers and financial support are invaluable to all that the Lord has called us to do.

Not only are you a tremendous blessing and encouragement to us, but you are such a great treasure to the body of Christ, in every nation in which I minister. They are overwhelmed that you would pray for them and give financially, in order that they may reap the benefits of God's Word. They always want me to convey to you, how appreciative they are, that their brothers and sisters in Christ care for them and their countrymen.

Please continue to pray for our dear friends and fellow believers in Cuba. Many of the towns where we minister were hit hard by Hurricane Ike. We have heard from some of the pastors. They have shared that many of the villages outside the cities were really devastated. Many of their homes, churches and crops suffered greatly. As of now, we still plan on returning in December. We will have to wait and see if we will be able to enter into the country, for the 23rd time.

Oh, my dear brother and sister in the faith, it is no secret that our own nation is facing serious and difficult challenges. We are approaching issues and choices that could very possibly be the total change of our nation's history. It is more important than ever, that we have a determined resolve, that the name of Jesus be high and lifted up, that His name be exalted among the nations. We desperately need the Lord to do a mighty work in our country, and in our churches. Many of our pastors need to be called back to the doctrinal truths of God's Word. Many believers need to return to their first love. Many church members need to see that they are religious, but lost. Please pray along with us, that the Lord would revive His body and awaken this nation!

Again, our hearts are filled to overflowing with love and gratitude for you and what you mean to the work, which God has called us to.

II Corinthians 5:9

Ed and Dianne Lacy