

# MOZAMBIQUE LEADERS CONFERENCE

1–12 April and 27 May–7 June 2009

INSTITUTE FOR MINISTRY DEVELOPMENT



## Leaders Conference April 09

Dear Family and Friends

During 1 – 12 April I did my second ministry trip to Mozambique for 2009. The time was divided into three parts:

### 1. Leadership conference at Ligongola

On our previous visit we decided to use Ligongola as our venue as it is central in the Southern part of the ministry area. The conference was attended by the regular leaders and three new leaders (one of which, Juanking, is an old fashioned potter) added themselves to the group. We conducted this conference in a workshop style where the leaders discussed the material and came up with their own solutions to some of the challenges that they face.

During the conference we discussed:

- Jesus: the one who changed the world forever
- Loving God and our neighbor (which also includes our enemy)
- The gift of the Holy Spirit
- The Lord's Supper
- Pray and study God's Word
- Giving joyfully
- Making disciples for Christ



I knew that this conference was fruitful when one of the leaders (Noah Mabunda) joined me for the second conference and he started teaching those leaders and even corrected their wrong thinking.

The second day of the conference was interrupted by a lady who came to ask us to pray for her lost son. The boy (2 years old) followed a friend (also 2 years old) into the bush in an unsupervised moment. His

mother started looking for them but was unsuccessful before night fell. The friend managed to find his own home the next morning, about 2km away, but the small boy was still lost. The family resumed the search early the next morning, and came to us out of desperation. We prayed for the family and the boy and then joined the search through tall grass (infested with millions of ticks), a clump of fever trees where big Yellow Orb spiders and a big python live, a river bed and a maize field before the small adventurer was found under a Marula tree 1.5km from his house. He only wore a shirt and slippers, which he used as a pillow. He was badly bitten by mosquitoes but everybody was very happy and relieved to see him. We had another prayer meeting and thanked God for His guidance and protection.

### 2. Evangelism

After the Ligongola conference we moved our camp about 30 km north to Mangalan, where we did 'house to house' evangelism and we encouraged village leaders to attend the conference that started later in that week. The people were very receptive to the Gospel but totally ignorant to the truths that will set them free. Very few people can read. During the evenings we showed the 'Matthew' DVD where Johannes did a good job of translating the movie as it played. This DVD was powerful as it is a word for word account of the Gospel of Matthew and the people could watch and hear the Word of God. We preached to the crowd that gathered and many of them indicated that they wanted to receive Jesus Christ as their Saviour and Lord.

### 3. Leadership conference at Mangalan

At Mangalan there is a big need for discipleship training. Some of the most prominent leaders are unable to read properly and confessed that they do not read their



Bibles, let alone understand it. There is only a Roman Catholic priest that operates in the area that seems to enjoy a following. We also struggled to get the leaders gathered for this conference as elephants broke out of the Sabie Game Park and raided the village's maize and vegetable fields. All the people were feverishly harvesting their crops as the elephants were destroying entire fields of crops by night.

During this conference we worked hard to establish the truth about the Gospel of Jesus in the opposition of traditional religions, animism and superstitions. We discussed:

- The importance to repent and believe in Jesus Christ
  - To be baptized
  - Love God first and your neighbor as yourself
  - Feed on the Word of God and pray daily
- Please pray with us that the seed that we sow there will yield good fruit. I believe that God will rise up these leaders to follow God wholeheartedly and continue the 'discipleship cycle': "... what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also." 2 Timothy 2:2

I will be returning to the same area during 27 May – 8 June 2009.

Thank you:

- For all who continually pray for us
- To those who contribute financially towards the Mozambique ministry.
- For the support from the Sabie Game Park staff while I am in their area
- To Johannes Monkwe who faithfully serve with me in Mozambique as my translator

May God bless you.

David Frew for the IMD Africa team.

## Leaders Conference May 09

Dear Family and Friends

*"Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance."*

**Matthew 3:8**

*"A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruits, nor can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit."*

**Matthew 7:18**

During 27 May to 7 June we had our third ministry trip to Mozambique for this year. It was a blessing to have Berdine with me. She picked up a good deal of the Tsonga language, made friends with some of the girls, did our washing in the river, was introduced to the Shangaan food menu, stayed up to date with her schoolwork and was a huge help with the setting up of the media equipment for the evening film outreaches.

I am also excited as Noah Mabunda is joining us when we go to the different areas. He is recognized as a spiritual leader wherever we go. This also gives us more time to disciple him. In my absence he visits the different churches and builds relationship with the leaders and also coordinates our meetings ahead of time.

To reach more of the leaders we conducted conferences in three different areas during this time:



### Chavanne

The leaders took initiative to arrange a central venue to reach Ligongola, Chavanne and Kabok. Some of these leaders show more stability and maturity as they are growing through the teachings.

At Chavanne we discussed the following topics: Developing Godly character, Bearing fruit so that God will be glorified, The House Church, The Holy Trinity, Turning Temptations into Triumphs, and How to Pray.

During the evenings the 'Jesus' film was well attended. The life and redemptive work of Jesus still shakes the world because Jesus is the only way to have restored fellowship with God. People are born again by the grace of God and through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

We visited Solomon Nyalungu, the most respected and influential pastor in this area who is in his mid 80s. He was very glad to see us and gave us an open invitation to teach the young leaders to lead their people as long as God allows us. He was born again in 1937 and testifies of God's unchanging character and the Bible's consistency through all the ages for all people. He gave praise to God for his full life and abundant blessings. He expressed his wish that the leaders will have a vision to teach the next generation of disciples so that a powerful cycle of discipleship will operate from that area.



### Muqacaza

From Chavanne we moved to Muqacaza. Muqacaza is located 75km to the north of Chavanne and was used as a military base

during the war. Until recently relationships between these people and people from Southern part were filled with hate and suspicion because of many atrocities that happened during the war.

The conference was attended by 10 people, who represented two churches. We started with talking about salvation and although this is a very basic truth, we had to deal with a few misconceptions and even superstitions.

The people responded with surprising interest. One woman Yatala, received Jesus as Saviour for the first time. We had a long discussion with her before she understood what salvation means. We could literally see how the 'Light' came into her soul. The revelation of Jesus Christ became a reality to her. She also confessed to having a problem with alcohol and realized how this problem was destroying her family. We prayed with her and believe that God gave the victory.

Other teaching that flowed from salvation was Baptism, Blood sacrifices (Jesus was the last and only perfect sacrifice before God), the Seven Commands of Jesus Christ, and The Work of the Holy Spirit.

Despite very cold weather the evening film ministry was well attended. The response to the 'Jesus' film was good and many people responded to the Gospel.

In this remote place, it is expected to have a small shop with very limited stock of sugar, rice, beans, coffee, tea, soap etc. But the availability and variety of liquor is shocking. We spoke to the leaders to take a stand in their community against this evil and to educate their people to use their money wisely and care for their families rather than waste their money on this destructive addiction.



Ndindiza

From Muqacaza we moved to Ndindiza. Again we were welcomed with friendly hospitality.

A small group of leaders gathered and we started teaching on The Authority of the Bible. We urged them to live according to the Bible. At this suggestion they asked a very honest question: "How do we do that?" This question started a very productive conference. We started the 'Following the Lord Jesus Christ' study. Many of these people have never heard the Gospel and were amazed at the wonderful work of Jesus Christ for people that didn't love Him. Some pleaded with God for mercy, repented of sin and placed their faith in Jesus. We saw true joy among them. Praise Jesus for redeeming us. This area was very much on the receiving side of war atrocities and deep scars still remain. We spoke about forgiveness and love especially towards our enemies – a topic that was very hard to swallow.

Spiritual darkness has been prevalent here for many years and where we saw



*Isaak and Yatala*

repentance and faith in Jesus during the conference, the opposite was true during the evening evangelism. We trust God for a strong church to arise that will be light and salt in this needy area.

Thank you for your continual prayer for us, the Sabie province in Mozambique, the churches and leaders and many people that have little hope.

**May God's kingdom come, His will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.**

David Frew on behalf of the IMD Team

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