

Evangelism Partners INTERNATIONAL



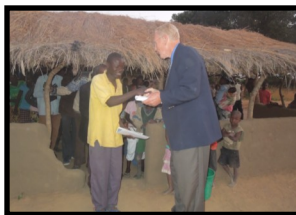
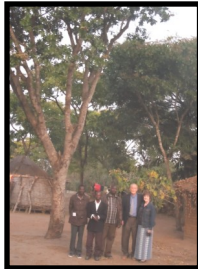
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John and Sharon Booker

BIRTH OF A CHURCH



The birth of a church happens in many phases. Of-

ten when a church is planted the only place to meet is under a tree, as was the case in Kam-bauwva Village. After the showing the Jesus film and the preaching the gospel, many made decisions for Christ. At the conclusion of the service a decision was made to plant a church. The church was named, Discipleship Baptist Church and Elder Coster Mwamba was appointed to oversee the church. That was in the Fall of 2014. On our recent visit, less than a year later, we learned how the church had struggled to survive. It began with only a few committed individuals no place to meet. The tree in the centre of the village provided the shade needed. The small gathering grew larger weekly. Since they met in such a prominent location, it disrupted the flow of the village life. The church decided to move to a less central location, the local water well. It continued to show spurts of growth until the rains came. As is the case with many of our churches that have no building or structure in which to meet during the rainy season, they faced a crisis. Changes were made which produced a sense of discouragement. Unwilling for the church to fail, one member offered his hut as a temporary meeting place. While meeting in the hut, the village headman came to faith in Christ. A short time later, God put it on his heart to give some land to the church on which to build a temporary meeting place. Within a few short weeks the temporary building was erected and once again the church was growing. Many have come to faith in Christ and the gospel continues to be shared. Recently the church broke ground for their new building. The foundation has been dug and the membership is working on forming the bricks to build the walls. Soon, Discipleship Baptist Church will have its permanent building finished where it will continue to proclaim the gospel message to a village without any other evangelical church. While making our way across the village, we ran into a grandmother who was beaming from ear to ear. She had come to faith in Christ when Discipleship Baptist Church was planted and because of her changed life, her two grandsons have also professed Christ as Savoir, being baptized earlier that afternoon. Proudly displaying their Baptismal Certificates we took their pictures to celebrate with them this significant decision and their new-found faith in Christ. EPI has planted 97 churches in eastern Zambia and western Mozambique. Each church is unique with every church member having a unique story to tell of the saving grace of God. Before meeting Christ their lives were difficult and hopeless and now God's grace has transformed every difficulty into the blessed hope of being with Him forever.

2015 Projects

- January— Zambia *
- February—Zambia *
- March—Zambia *
- April— Zambia*
- May— Zambia*
- June-Zambia*
- July-Zambia*
- August-Zambia
- September-Zambia
- October-Mozambique
- November-Zambia
- December-Zambia

July 2015 Project

Total Audience— 14,465
Total Decisions— 12,804
Total Venues— 40

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LIVES OF INFLUENCE AND INSPIRATION

Julius Nyobvan, 46 years old has never known what it was like to walk. With deformed feet, his family had no resources with which to get him medical help. Limited in mobility, he stayed home where he learned to sew. Frustrated with his handicap



he became discouraged with life. He felt trapped and hopeless, he began to drink. Soon he was consumed by alcohol, he spent most days drinking the pain away. One night, with the help of family and friends he attended the Jesus Film Show in his village. He identified with the man on the screen who was carried to Jesus by his friends. Looking up at the screen that night, he felt as if Jesus was speaking to him. Just like the man, he was brought to the show by those who loved and cared for him and met Jesus; he was changed. When Harvest Baptist Church was planted, he committed to be a part of it. After meeting Jesus, Julius is no longer a drunkard and now provides for his family. Last Spring, EPI interfaced with TWAM (Tools with a Mission) from the UK. We purchased a crate filled with various refurbished tools and items. In that crate were two pieces of equipment that have helped Julius' make changes in his life: a wheelchair and a sewing machine. Just like the paralyzed man brought to Jesus, Julius received healing spiritually and reinstatement into his community. Because he is now born again, he is no longer a slave to sin and everyday his life is a tribute to God's mercy and grace. He is a constant reminder of God's ability to change a life.

Mambo Nanje is a great friend to the ministry of EPI. She rules the eastern region with great love and concern for her people. It is no easy thing to have the weight of so many riding on your shoulders. Her greatest prayer need is always for the needs of her people. She knows the heartbeat of



each village under her jurisdiction. Since Zambia still recognizes tribal government, the national government works alongside the 8 provinces in the country to help make it a safe and stable nation. The Mambo has been a great part of the inner workings of that stabilization. We have had the great privilege to meet with her, pray for her, and enjoy fellowship with her on a number of occasions. On our recent trip she was recovering from a grave illness. She had requested we come though we did not linger long. She granted us permission to pray for her. John took her outstretched hand while I wrapped my arm around her shoulders. We asked God to restore her strength and extend her years of life. Before leaving we were given permission to take pictures. Once again, I sat down next to her and wrapped my arm around her shoulder. To my surprise and everyone else's, she threw her arm around me! We were all surprised that she allowed herself to be so demonstrative. She called Iwell later thanking us for the gifts we brought. She also said, "Please tell my friends, I feel much better. I wish we could spend a whole day together touching one another." In order to understand that statement you need to know, that **NO ONE** touches the king. My heart hurt for her. I told Iwell, everyone, even kings are made with the desire for the human touch. I was encouraged to know, that God had provided us a rare privilege.... to be His outstretched hand..

EPI YARD SALE SEPTEMBER 10-12.....GOAL \$10,000

We plan to move Raphael Zulu to Chama in August 2015. Our goal is to move David Njobvu to Lundazi in October (before the rains come). The proceeds from the yard sale will make this possible. Anything that you would donate to Goodwill we can use. Please leave clothing on hangers. If you do not have a way to bring your larger items, we can arrange to pick them up. We are accepting donations NOW. Cash donations are gladly accepted and we will need those in order to reach our goal! Contact information below:

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(from church... west on Glenview to Melinda St. on right)

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EACH HOME MISSIONARY NEEDS:

- 1) House (they will build it).....\$1800
- 2) Solar powered Jesus Film System.....\$3500
- 3) Motorcycle LG 250cc 4-stroke..... \$2000
- 4) 12 months support (\$100 mo.).....\$1200
- 5) Seed and fertilizer for first crop..... \$800
- 6) Bible School and travel for one year.....\$560
- 7) TOTAL FOR FIRST YEAR.....\$9860