

Evangelism Partners International



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PASTOR IWELL PHIRI

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John and Mumtaz



Mumtaz - Jesus Film



House Church- Pakistan

“How shall they call on the one in whom they have not believed, and how shall they believe in the one in whom they have not heard, and how shall they hear without a preacher, and how shall they preach unless they are sent?” Romans 10: 14-15

DEAR FRIENDS AND FAMILY,

It is always a joy to share with you the reports we receive from around the world through our missionaries. We are amazed that God has graciously invited us to partner with Him, the God of all creation, to reach the lost of the world. Mark 10:21 is a reminder of the enormity of His love. *“Then looking at him, Jesus loved him...”* He knew the heart of the rich young ruler yet, He loved him unconditionally. It is a compelling message even today. His love is unconditional and extends to all whom He has created. **WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US** in coming alongside these indigenous missionaries who carry the gospel to the **UTTERMOST**.

We are excited to report to you how God is at work extending His love through the EPI missionaries and church planters. The following testimony of another life touched by God came from Pastor Mumtaz Mukhtar in Pakistan.

“My name is Saima. I have served five years as a school custodian (sweeper) in a village school near Faisalabad, Pakistan. The school is Muslim and every day the teachers would talk to me about converting to Islam. I called myself a Christian but their argument for Islam was so compelling. I knew if I converted to Islam it would be beneficial since my nation is a country created for the Islamic faith. I had almost decided to convert when Pastor Mumtaz came to my village one evening to show the Jesus Film. I was very drawn to this man Jesus. He was different from the men in my society who mistreat women. Jesus demonstrated a love for women and treated them with kindness and respect. Since I am illiterate, watching and hearing the film in my native language, touched my heart. I had a difficult time understanding how he could love me. I was humbled to think he was willing to suffer and die for me. The film stirred a longing in my heart to know Him. During the movie I felt as if he was looking right at me and extending a personal invitation for me to come to him. I stepped out of the crowd that night to say “yes” to Jesus. In that moment, my life was changed! When I returned to work the next day, the teachers picked up where they had left off in trying to convert me to Islam. I told them, ‘Jesus Christ paid the price for my sins and I will not embrace Islam.’ From the night I met Jesus, God has made me strong in faith. I now attend one of the house churches in my village that was planted by the missionaries working with Pastor Mumtaz. The missionaries gave the leader of my church a special card for her phone and now we can hear the Bible in our language and watch the Jesus Film on her cell phone. We invite people in our neighborhood to come to our church and hear about Jesus.”



Baptismal Uniforms



Lunch for the Ladies



Iwell with John & Sharon

“Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.” 2 Timothy 2:15

Iwell Phiri, EPI Director of African ministry, doesn't waste a day. He is like the energizer bunny, but unlike the bunny he draws his energy and strength from the true power source, the Holy Spirit of God. Recently Iwell did a series of conferences coordinating 25 to 35 churches. In the rural area this is no small feat to accomplish.

The first conference was a women's conference with 400 women attending. They didn't come in buses or cars, they walked long distances to attend. The conference was a three-day event beginning in the early morning with prayer and lasting well into each evening. Participants did not have accommodations in a nice hotel. Rather they came carrying their bedrolls, eating utensils, and sometimes one or two small children on their backs and bound to their chests. But they came! They were not concerned about what they would wear or if they had the latest style. The women came with only what they could carry. Their greatest concern was getting to the conference. It was like a lifeline to them. The women came eager to learn all they could about their new-found faith. Can you imagine the excitement, knowing they would be with other women who would share the same intensity and desire to learn? Many who came were illiterate, yet, they hungered to know more about Christ and the hope found in Him. A large number of women attending were the first in their families to come to know Christ. The fellowship of Christian sisters was essential in their growth. During the conference they learned stories from the Bible. Through music they learned hymns of faith. The women began to understand how to pray and how to approach God with a pure heart. They learned how to deal with difficult home situations, how to train and discipline their children, and how to be an influence in their village for Christ as they love and serve others in their community. God is growing His church through these women who have come to faith in Christ. Their hearts are ripe for love and God's love knows no boundaries. .

Just a few weeks later, Pastor Iwell organized a three-day all-church conference for 35 churches. The conference was an opportunity to train church leaders and also a time to meet some physical needs as well. Iwell arranged for doctors and nurses to come from Lusaka to teach about health and hygiene. They also screened for BP, Diabetes, HIV, and AIDS. 4,000 people attended the conference. 235 women were given their baptismal uniforms, 210 new believers were baptized. 2,893 were tested by the doctors and nurses. Twenty-five new members were added to Victory Baptist Church which also serves as the EPI Training Center. The people of the rural areas of the eastern region of Zambia experienced the love of God. Pray for Iwell as he continues to give leadership to the evangelical and humanitarian work in the name of Jesus.

“The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much” James 5:16b

PRAYER NEEDS

- Shipping cost for TWAM (tools with a mission) CONTAINER (donated tools/equip).....\$1200
- 20 cases of BIBLES (10 per case) in Chechewa and Tumbuka.....\$2000
- 500 SD cards for cell phones (loaded with J.F.- Audio Bible - Teaching) needed for October Project.....\$2500
- 15 Church Planters waiting for motorcycle and Jesus Film Projector.....\$4500 ea.

FOR EVERY DOLLAR GIVEN.....THREE PEOPLE HEAR THE GOSPEL.....TWO PEOPLE RECEIVE CHRIST

