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YOUTH ON FIRE

by Mike Jones

When the youth choir stood up, so did the “excitement level”. As they danced and sang, it went “through the roof”! Whether young or old, the liveliest place to be is by far the church. Experiencing about forty-five teenagers worshipping God exuberantly warms the coldest heart. This church is about eight miles from any paved road, and an hour and a half drive from the nearest town. Forty-five people was probably the average church size when I came to Zambia. The “Jesus People Movement” swept through north-eastern North Carolina when I was a teenager, similar to what’s happening here and now. The big difference is, the churches in the 70’s didn’t know what to do with the long hair, very casual dress, instruments other than piano and organ, and other behavior that wasn’t traditional. Today, the adults, even older adults, get out of their seats, dance up front to join the youth in praise and worship of God Almighty.

It’s easy to preach, even when the temperature reaches 100f inside, following the youth choir. These people get up early to haul

water, make fire for cooking, etc.. They are sitting on hard wooden benches with no backs in the heat, yet no one is dosing. The pastor invited those wanting prayer to come for me to pray for them. Some were taking twelfth grade exams, which literally de-



termines what the graduate can do in Zambia. Some needed God’s healing touch. Others came with problems in their families. All of them told me they

knew God had “touched” them. I’m already excited to hear the testimonies next time I see them.

October 24th, 1964 is Independence Day in Zambia. They were freed from the same “whites” we Americans were freed from, the Red Coats (British), one hundred and eighty-eight years later. My wife sewed independence outfits for our children (orphans). They were excited to wear them. All of our children (orphans) bless me with their big smiles of joy and eagerness to jump on me for a big hug.

We received a wonderful surprise, a sixteen-month-old baby! The mother died months ago. The grandmother and aunt (having her own nine month old child) took in the baby. He is very small, about the size of a five-month-old child, which may be the result of drought. Little Lawrence looks happy, although he doesn’t make sounds, and can’t walk or hold up his head. Your prayers joined in agreement with ours will, no doubt, raise Lawrence up, in Jesus’ name.

CONTINUED **from front**

Signs of rain coming are prevalent, which is hugely encouraging. Man made Lake Kariba is down to about 4% of capacity, providing electricity for Zambia only a very few hours every day. Our water well at the House of Faith children's home in Mapampi, where finding water is a challenge, is taking us through the drought just fine. We have a small glimpse of what it must have been like in Biblical times to go several years back-to-back without rain. Miraculously, I haven't heard of anyone starving to death, but we have helped many mothers with baby milk, which is too expensive for the average person around here. It's a couple of weeks before good rains normally come, but my wife "felt"

the Lord's leading to plant forty-four pounds of maize (white corn) during the week I was out teaching Bible School (MOT-MOT) in Chifusa. Chabota plowed with oxen and she planted (by hand) in the dry and dusty ground. Three days later we got about two thirds of an inch of wonderful gentle rain. God is so very good! Pray with us for good rains in good time for this rainy season that normally falls on us approximately four months per year.



The elections in America caused me to reflect on the School of Ministry (MOT-MOT) and the hundreds (if not thousands) of churches they represent. God is recognized openly and purposely everywhere I go. Human life is sacred, meaning no one is openly advocating for the elimination of any baby, or human being. The church is the center of everything. Children respect and obey their parents. Schools allow and schedule

Christian programs for the whole school. Of course, sin can be found everywhere, but it lurks in darkness, because society knows and accepts Biblical right and wrong. Your prayers and support are not simply changing people in church, but has actually turned African culture toward God. MOT-MOT students are teaching Biblical values now, and will teach future generations how to live the abundant life through Christ Jesus. **Remain Faithful,**

Prayer

For baby Lawrence to grow, function well.
 For farmers to catch up after drought.
 For believing 12th graders' future in this world.

Praises

For us able to provide good home for baby.
 For the Biblical world view in Zambia.
 For the great revival and youth turning to Him.

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