



Dear friends,

Around 7 months (231 days) have gone by in Africa and we'd like to give a short account of what happened there during our missionary action.

What to man may seem impossible, to God nothing is impossible. God,... that Entity Who created everything yet so ignored in this day and age.

This commission was at times felt as a waste of time and resources, given the limited mobility which I still have to deal with. But, to be coherent with the motto "To stop is to Die," I went!

The initial months were spent adjusting to a new reality, that of not being physically able to join the work force and literally push with the rest.

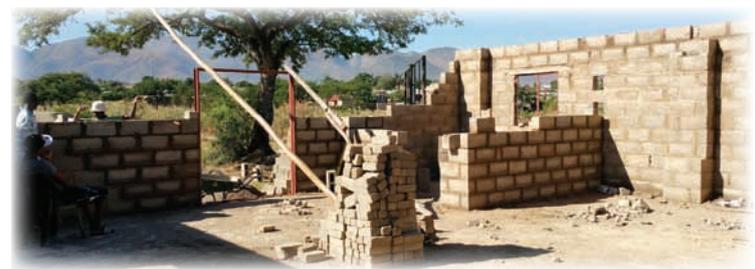
However, when something stops working 100%, God is faithful to cover that shortage by greatly enhancing other faculties, if we keep that positive binocular view which helps us to see beyond the obstacles.

Therefore I have felt improvement in my communication skills and added faith, and peace which goes beyond all understanding. In that context, the awesome wonder which happened during this time, was that of seeing the matter of the KIWCC building resolved! It was an unfinished task which took the major part of my prayers and concern.

After several meetings with the KIWCC Pastor and the initial sponsors who had cut the sponsorship due to misunderstandings, I was ingratiated with the enormous joy of seeing these efforts pay off in terms of partnership reestablishment and continuation of the works.

As one can see from the photos, the building is now complete in its planned 200 square meters, now only missing the plastering, doors, some window frames and other interior and exterior details.

Hand in hand with the external sponsorship, since the beginning there has been an effort to motivate the local community to pitch





## Love Never Fails

(David Brandt Berg)

All the confession sessions in the world are not going to do it. All the introspection, analyzing, and agonizing are merely works of the flesh, which will have to be repeated next week. Battles never cease. "Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all" (Psalm 34:19).

Only God can do it. Our salvation is only by grace, never by works, confession sessions, or battling in the flesh with our sins. If God can't do it, nobody can. And if you're trying to attain some state of sinless perfection through some false doctrine of eradication, such as the holiness people strive to have, you're doomed to disappointment. You'll never make it.

Not even Paul counted himself to have attained (Philippians 3:12). He kept making mistakes for the rest of his life, and pulled the classic boner of all time by trying to appease the system church, which permanently cost him his freedom--and his head. (Acts 21.) Nevertheless, he was a good apostle, a faithful evangelist, and did a tremendous job in spite of all of his shortcomings, failures, sins, mistakes, and blunders.

If you think the time's coming when you'll no longer have to fight self, sin, and the "old man," you're mistaken. I'm still at it. How about you? That's why we have so many victories: we have so many battles, and so much to fight against--mostly our own selves.

God knows, we should be growing, and making some progress, and passing a few tests, and surviving a few trials and having a few triumphs and testimonies. But if you think you're going to make sinless saints, overnight wonders, out of new converts, I'm afraid you have another thing coming.

I have a hard time bawling out other people for the same things I'm guilty of myself, and of which most of us are guilty, even worse. So about all I can do is confess what a hell of a mess I made along the same line, weep a little, cry a little, sympathize a little, and take each other in each other's arms, forgive each other, and try again.

"For if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father in heaven forgive you your trespasses" (Matthew 6:15). And you've got plenty of them--bigger and even worse, because of the size of your job. "Seek not therefore to be teachers, for unto you is the greater condemnation" (James 3:1).

I think all of you are going to find out sooner or later that the "thorn in the flesh" God is going to use to keep you humble, even as He did with the great apostle Paul, is probably going to be some besetting sin that you'll have to fight for the rest of your life, which will take a lot of the grace of God to keep overcoming and keep battling (2 Corinthians 12:7-9).

This is what helps keep us in shape. There's no triumph without a trial, no testimony without a test, no victory without a battle, so keep fighting! You're bound to win sometimes, and when you lose, it'll help keep you humble, and help others to know you're only human, and give God all the glory.

I do not believe in the holiness doctrine of eradication, nor in the Baptist doctrine of suppression, but rather in the good old Bible doctrine of habitation, "Christ in you, the hope of glory" (Colossians 1:27; Ephesians 2:22).

"Without Me ye can do nothing" (John 15:5). Even Jesus said of Himself, "I can do nothing, but what the Father shows Me" (John 5:19-20). And it was later said of Him, "Even the Son learned obedience through the things which He suffered" (Hebrews 5:8). The so-called holiness doctrine can often be a pride trip of self-righteous, sanctimonious, holier-than-thou hypocrisy.

You might as well face it: You can't get the victory. It's impossible for you to get the victory. Only Christ can. Let go and let God! You can't do it yourself. "Not of works, lest any man should boast" (Ephesians 2:9). "For by grace are ye saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God" (Ephesians 2:8). Only God can give it. You can't earn it, work for it, work it up, pray it down, pray it through, and become so wholly sanctified that you're some kind of sinless saint.

You haven't got anybody's righteousness except Christ's, and He's the only one that can give it to you. Your own righteousness stinks! It's "filthy rags" (Isaiah 64:6). So quit trying. Let God do it. Let the light in, and the darkness will flee of itself.

Get so full of the Spirit and the Word, you don't have time to worry about yourself or how bad you are. Of course you're bad! So are all the rest of us. Only Jesus is good. So let's talk about Jesus, amen? I gave up on myself a long time ago--like Paul did in Romans 7:17-25: "O wretched man that I am! Who shall deliver me from the body of this death? I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord." Hallelujah. He's the only one who can do it. All the confession sessions in the world aren't going to do it.

You're glorifying self when you talk about your faults, because you're talking about yourself instead of Jesus. I just can't do the subject justice! As the man who was noted for his cursing said when they found him sitting silently looking at his overturned load of apples, "I just can't do the subject justice."

You just can't possibly tell people how bad you are, so quit trying. Let's talk about Jesus. And let's quit judging people so severely and so harshly for little blunders of the mind, rather than the heart. Let's forgive one another, as God, for Christ's sake, has forgiven us (Ephesians 4:32).

You need to apply to yourself what Jesus said to the self-righteous, hypocritical religious leaders of His day, "You need to learn what it means: 'I will have mercy and not sacrifice'" (Matthew 9:13). You need to learn what that means. For God's sake, let's remember that only Jesus can do it, and quit trying to legislate righteousness. It's a gift of God. Let God do it. Love never fails. Jesus never fails.

What everybody needs is love!

in as well, although we knew from the start that possibilities from each party are not comparable. This motivation however has revealed necessary and positive, not only in the project but also in the building of strong relationships and cooperation, extremely important for the present african reality.

The networking with pastoral denominations of the area was equally strengthened, one of the fruits being the exchange of resources on behalf of the local communities. Some 31.000 pieces of Christian literature in Portuguese were given for distribution in Mozambique, in areas



where social peace is shaky, something never before accomplished even when the legs were fully functional!

I arrived in Portugal last 2016.05.26 to continue physiotherapy treatment. I hope to be able soon to go around visiting our friends and elaborate more on the results of this last missionary action in Africa, personally plead for any available help, which in the end makes it possible to go forward, and the reenforcement of friendship.

God bless!

João Rodrigues  
Clara Collaço

TM (PT): 934864214  
Cell (RSA): 0793457241  
info@amaurora.org

TM (PT): 918939297



Caixa Geral de Depósitos  
**Projecto Tchuma Tchato**  
IBAN: PT50003503280001865113049  
BIC SWIFT: CGDIPTPL