



MOZNEWS

MOZAMBIQUE OUTREACH NEWS



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Greg spent most of March in Mozambique. Much of the central part of the country is still deep under water and people crowd into heavily populated refugee camps with little food and water. We had our first Faith pastors' conference, started our Bible College, planted our second church, commenced documentation for our preschool, leased a property for our Mozambique headquarters, negotiated for a Christian radio station in Beira and many other things. It has been a big month. Read on.

From Greg in Mozambique *"The rain here is unbelievable. On the first day of our pastors' conference, it poured. I headed off in the morning for the conference in the Mozmobile. As I travelled down a familiar dirt road, I drove into what looked like a river flowing across it. I entered it thinking*

it was quite shallow, but it continued to get deeper and deeper the further I went in until it washed up over the hood when I hit a dip. The exhaust was completely covered and the Mozmobile stalled. A couple of strong men



Not a creek - a road in Manga

assisted and we finally got her out after about 15 minutes. (The Mozmobile is a little Toyota 2-wheel drive with a low wheel clearance – definitely not the vehicle for work here, but it just keeps going on and on, through rain and through bog.)

Flooding Still

Fifteen-thousand people crowded together in the makeshift camp at Chupanga, in central Mozambique, after the terrible flooding caused by the release of millions of litres of water from the Cabora Bassa Dam (see picture).

"The Zambezi River is still overflowing onto huge areas of land that are normally farms and villages. Rain comes and goes daily, and the river is still rising. About 400,000 people are displaced or cut off from food and necessary supplies. Chupanga camp is right at the edge of the flood. It's beautiful and tranquil and dangerous. One lady and her baby were eaten by a crocodile in her hut along the river near Marromeu while we were there. Clean water is scarce, and the river water is undrinkable. Everyone tries to gather firewood, and cooking the raw, unmilled maize that comes in limited quantities by

tractor is difficult." Rolland Baker - Iris Ministries." Mozambicans huddled in the camps trying to stay dry, with disease and hunger rampant. One doctor told me that she had gone there expecting the absolute worst, but came away 'shattered' at the way the people were living. Thankfully, the people are receiving food and clothing and medical supplies. The gospel is also being preached, and thousands are being saved and healed. Heidi from Iris ministries said that when they prayed for a lady who was blind and deaf, she was totally healed. Heidi had to be flown out because of a huge thunderstorm looming over Chipanga, threatening everything, including their light aircraft.

See more photos on our photo webpage www.mozoutreach.com/april2001.htm

Prison

It was incredible to be back 'inside' after such a long time away. As I drove around the corner to the prison, men with their hands hanging out the window were shouting "Mozambique Outreach – Mozambique Outreach".

135 men and women praised and celebrated Jesus, dancing and laughing and singing. As they sang "The blood of Jesus never loses its power", many were on their knees crying. I am staggered at how the Holy Spirit continually moves here amongst these beautiful people, transforming and restoring them. A hush came over the meeting as we became aware of the presence of God around us. I was compelled to get down on my knees and just worship the Lord alongside my jailed brothers and sisters.

I preached on the return of Jesus – lesson 10 in our new Christians' class, and 30 new prisoners knelt before the Master on the concrete floor to receive Him – followed by 60 prisoners who were Christians, but felt they needed to get their hearts right before Him.

Even the guards have been saved and attend our meetings. On one occasion, while the guards were at our meeting praising the Lord alongside the prisoners, three prisoners escaped. Consequently we have had to move our meetings to the weekend, when the unsaved guards are on duty!



"One lady and her baby were eaten by a crocodile in her hut along the river near Marromeu while we were there."

Rolland Baker talking about conditions in the flood camps in central Mozambique

Twenty six people graduated from our ten-week Foundation Course. They crowded together, proudly displaying their certificates, and sang, "When Jesus passed by here, everything changed".

Caetana's testimony

Caetana is married with 3 children. Her husband is a doctor of language in Maputo. She has served 8 months of a ten-year sentence for authorising loans to clients who did not repay on time. She was a bank

manager in Beira. (The clients have long since repaid the loans.)

Arone: Caetana is there anything about prison that you find difficult?

Caetana: *It has been very difficult in prison. I miss my family and the freedom of seeing them whenever I want to. I get very lonely. If I get sick, there is no family to care.*



Arone: Please tell me how you came to know Jesus.

Caetana: *I used to go to church for many years but was not saved. It was through the visiting missionaries in prison that I first really met Jesus. . When Mozambique Outreach first visited the prison, I could not pray without feeling sick. I would just feel like vomiting whenever I wanted to pray. But Mr Greg told me to kneel and pray. I was there for some time, and then he told me to get up again and said that I could go. I went from the meeting and was very sick. After I vomited, I felt free. Now I know there was a demon stopping me praying.*

Now I love to pray and read the Bible.

Another thing, Mozambique Outreach teaching is in steps, which is so easy to understand. I now understand God's Word and I am teaching it to other ladies in prison.

Arone: Is there anything you would like to see in prison?

Caetana: *I would like a ladies' meeting in prison. The ladies really need a woman to come and teach us.*

Arone: Is there anything else you would like to say?

Caetana: *Yes, I would like to thank Mozambique Outreach leaders for praying for my daughter. She had asthma but now she is healed and strong. My family wanted her to go to a traditional ceremony to be dedicated into witchcraft, but because I now love Jesus I have said no.*

Caetana has now begun teaching the Bible to her fellow female cell mates each day. She gathers them together and teaches New Christian Classes, Foundation Classes, and reads the gospel to them.

Pre-school

We are starting our first pre-school in our church building in the next few weeks. Luisa has been training with "Little Seeds" to develop a course for pre-school children between the ages of four and six. She will be taking twenty-five children from the local district to start our first class. Our aim is to have educational facilities available for children of all ages, employing Christian teachers; and ultimately to extend this schooling throughout the country within the next ten years. The availability of education is improving, but the average person cannot afford the \$2 per month to keep each child at school. We want to help.

Moz Outreach New Compound - Base Camp - Headquarters

We have commenced renovation on our newly-acquired compound property. It is an excellent site with about 5 acres of irrigated land, plentiful fruit trees and



Our New Headquarters in Beira

two houses that need work. We are leasing the property over five years. This will become our base for our work in Mozambique with plenty of room for storing containers, housing long term and short term missionaries, and training our pastors. Our offices there will be complete next month and Arone will be moving to live there to oversee the work.

March 2001 Faith Pastors' Conference

The theme of our Conference this year was 'Faith'. Over eighty pastors attended the four impacting days. Greg spoke in eight sessions on many aspects of faith, interspersed with sessions by pastors from other ministries, including Pastor Anacleto, a powerful man of God and intercessor.



Greg speaking at the Moz Outreach 'Faith' Conference in Beira

"My family wanted my daughter to go to a traditional ceremony to be dedicated into witchcraft, but because I now love Jesus I have said no."

Caetana - female prisoner in central prison Beira

What often happens at conferences in this country is that refreshments and lunch are offered to entice pastors to attend. However, our intent was to teach the Word of God, and see who was keen enough to come, even though no food was offered. Over eighty pastors arrived, despite the terrible weather conditions. One pastor walked over 25 kilometres in total each day, to attend the conference.

Another man (pictured) came in his underwear with his suit, tie and shoes in a plastic bag, so he didn't have to sit for several hours in wet clothes.



Many pastors were challenged in their faith, and several were baptised in the Holy Spirit.

The conference cemented our relationships with leaders from different denominations, including the key spiritual men in Beira.

From this conference we have selected ten of the strongest and most dedicated men to continue to train daily for the next three months in our full-time Bible College.

Conference Testimonies

Vernigo, one of our young leaders testifies to God's goodness.

"When I left to go to church, there was only a little bit of flour - not even enough to make porridge for a small meal. I went to church. I remembered what I learned from the conference. Phillipians 4:19, "My God shall supply all my need according to His riches in glory through Christ Jesus"; and I quoted it to

myself to build my faith because, as we learned, "Faith comes from hearing, and hearing from the Word of God". After church I went home with my two brothers. They said to me, "What are we going to eat today?" But I remembered the scripture and said to them, "Put the fire on and put the pot on with some water to boil". They said, "There's not enough flour for even one of us". I kept repeating, "I refuse to believe my circumstances. The Word of God says, 'My God shall supply my needs.....'" They put the small amount of flour into the pot, and as they stirred the miracle happened. The Lord increased the porridge. When it was cooked, we put it out on our plates and gave thanks for His great supply. And we all ate and were full. Praise the Lord. His Word is true."

Pastor Tom says that when visiting a fellow pastor he found that this man's wife was seriously ill. He suggested having her stay at his place so that his own wife could look after her, and they could pray for her. He came to the conference and heard about how faith comes from hearing, and hearing from the Word of God. He decided to act upon the teaching and began to declare over the woman that by Jesus' stripes she was healed, despite her obvious condition. If she said, "I am sick" he would respond: "No! By Jesus' stripes you were healed". Within a couple of days this very sick lady began to feel better, and a few days later went back to the doctor to confirm that she had been completely healed. She is now back at home again, strong and well.

Another leader had a similar experience, and saw a lady completely healed as he stood on God's Word rather than look at the circumstances. She said to him, "I don't want to go home, because being where you are is like medicine". He told her, "It is faith in God that has healed you".

Pastor Anacleto declares that he has seen three documented healings of 'aids'. One lady was so sick with the disease that she had said good bye to all her friends and went to stay at the home of her pastor expecting to die within a short period of time. (This is often the custom in Mozambique)



Pastor Anacleto

Anacleto went to see her and began to speak the Word of faith to her. Then he said, "According to the Word of God, Jesus has healed you; and if you are healed then you need to call all those people whom you have said goodbye to and say 'hello' again, and tell them that you are now staying. She did this and straight away she began to put on weight and feel better. Just days later she went to the doctor and had two separate tests, which confirmed that she had been healed. From then on she began to be about the Lord's work, seeing many people saved and healed - encouraging them to trust the Lord for healing in their bodies. To this day she is strong and well, and that was over two years ago.

New Bible College

Our Bible College commenced on 26th March with 16 men and women present. Many pastors in Mozambique

have a desire to preach the gospel but only possess a portion of a page of scripture or have only notes from a visiting ministry.

We are dedicated to train these pastors in leadership, faith, intercession, systematic theology,

preaching etc. The students are very willing to learn and despite the heat or rain, are on time each morning to start praying, praising and worshipping the Lord.



New Church

We are starting a new church in Massamba, which is a poor area in Beira. We have been training Ordananca and Regina for nearly a year

now. They've begun a weekly home meeting in their area, and are looking for a suitable place to build their church.

More New Churches

Pastor Manuel Gimo (Pastor Jim), a well respected spiritual leader in Beira, has asked if he could join with our ministry. Jim has five strong churches in three provinces. We will begin to train his pastors, along with ours, and supply the necessary training materials and Bibles to help build them into strong,



Pastor Jim

outreaching and discipling churches. Pastor Jim is a unique man; very intelligent and thoughtful, and passionate about Jesus and preaching the good news. We have asked him to also teach in our Bible College, as he has an uncommon grasp on the Word of God.

Hospitals and Medical Clinics

One thing that disturbs me is that when I ask people about their families, it is so common to hear, "I am married, and have had 11 children, but nine of them died". The rate of infant mortality here is so high (the highest in Africa), and people just accept it. That is why we've started the push towards Christian medical clinics and hospitals throughout Mozambique. This is a huge undertaking, but many doors are opening for us to get medical supplies into the country and out to the people. Our first priority in this area is to preach Jesus as the healer, and when necessary provide emergency relief. As the people's faith in Jesus increases, they are able to look to Him to supply their needs. We've begun teaching basic nursing techniques to our ladies to enable them to administer emergency drugs. The normal medical standards as we know them - clean hospitals with sufficient beds, friendly nursing staff, qualified doctors and stocks of excellent medical supplies seem only a dream here in Mozambique - even in Maputo the capital city. However, with the Lord's help we want to move towards making that dream a reality.

Radio

With a desire to see the gospel preached via every vehicle possible, we have considered radio as an effective means to do this as well as teach leaders in the

remote parts of the country. Greg had talks with former Australian United Christian Broadcasting boss Warren Route who was very excited about radio in Mozambique. They arranged a meeting with Christian Vision director Mike Edmonstone, who has a high-powered shortwave site in Zambia and discussed the possibilities of broadcasting in Portuguese - via shortwave or FM in Mozambique. It was a very encouraging meeting and now we are investigating legislation regarding starting a Christian radio station in Mozambique, most likely to commence in Beira

Another wonderful month in Mozambique. Never would it be possible without you, our partner in this work. Your gifts, your prayer and your desire to see the kingdom of God preached in this earth are what makes it all possible. Thank you so much

(I hired a solicitor in Mozambique to proceed with our adoption with Katie who is still in Maputo. The process looks very positive and God willing, we will have Katie with us in Australia after my next trip to Moz in June/July. Thanks for your prayers.

**God Bless you where you are
Thank you for your prayer and support
Greg, Jay, Kyal, David and Katie Cumming**



Greg and Arone - Conference in Beira

OUR DETAILS

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