

May, 2006



## Taking the Gospel to Africa

Hi, everyone,

I remember. Years ago that was the fear. If you became a Christian, God might send you to Africa as a missionary. Or, you would be witnessing to someone on the street and out of the blue they would try to divert your attention and hope to catch you off guard by asking, “But what about the heathen in Africa?”

Well, folks, there aren't so many heathen in Africa any more and the “dark continent” is shining with a lot more of the light of Jesus Christ these days. As to being sent there, yes, God just might send you to Africa. I'm now going back there for the third time. It'll be my third time in the Johannesburg airport, my third time enduring the 40 hours of long flights, my third time helping orphans and the children of AIDS parents in the poorest of nations. It's the same for Stephen, going with me, and the first time for Susan Smith, also going with me May 24<sup>th</sup> through June 2<sup>nd</sup>. We need your prayers “big time” and any financial help you can give.

**Why do we go?** Twelve years ago at a prayer meeting, God spoke to our group that night and said, “Every nation where you want to go and see God work, write that down.” 27 nations were called out. Wanda Barlow wrote them down on a steno pad. Mozambique is the 26<sup>th</sup> nation of those original 27 nations, and we're going there May 24<sup>th</sup> through June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mozambique will be the 60<sup>th</sup> nation where MCM has taken mission teams for high level spiritual warfare and area ministry, everything from worship services to conferences to seminars to large scale national worship gatherings to ministering to the river people on the Amazon River system. Teams have gone to every continent, including Antarctica. 28 people have been trained in spiritual warfare missions and participated in 31 mission trips, many more than once. Lives have been changed as people expand their vision to see the global impact of the gospel going to all peoples everywhere. It's exciting, adventurous, and challenging. It's encouraging to connect with Christian missionaries all over the planet. It's challenging to hear the testimonies of those who have left their comfort zones to obey the call of Christ. It's faith-building to see with your own eyes the gospel of Jesus transforming lives and cultures on every continent. (Yes, people live in Antarctica and they also need to hear the gospel of Jesus.)

On the home front, **a new Bible study is beginning 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup>**. I'll be starting a series, “**Looking for His Appearing: The Comings of the Lord Jesus Christ.**” This examination of scripture should prove thought provoking and encouraging to our faith. It's a good time to begin coming to Craighouse. The Bible study is followed by worship and ministry of the Holy Spirit. Many are healed, delivered, and drawn closer to the Lord in the powerful anointing at Craighouse.

Tuesday nights, 7:00-8:00 p.m. we pray over the many requests that come into MCM via mail, email, telephone, and

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personal requests. We pray over each one individually, not in a stack on the table. **Tuesday May 9<sup>th</sup>, I'll be starting a new series, "The Christian Mind."** In this study we will be exploring the paradigm of the Christian mind in conflict with the secular mind, how the Bible affects our frame of reference, how the Word of God contributes to current culture, thinking, and contemporary choices. For example, do you believe in the supernatural? Do you believe in the supremacy of God? Do you believe in the authority of Scripture as the Word of God? If so, how do you live out basic Christian beliefs in your day-to-day life? What do you value? What do you guard? What on earth do you do?

Evangelism: We started April 20<sup>th</sup>, but our Thursday nights with Attorney John Nyce and his wife Deborah aren't over yet. From 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. we've been motivated and we're moving out to share the gospel with others. I'm so happy about all who decided to experience the impact your life can have as you learn a defense of the faith and stomp the streets with the gospel. It's not too late to get in on this!

Barnabas Project – Under director David Patten, we will be helping either a Seminole Indian church in Hollywood reach out to the unsaved in their ethnic group by giving donations of clothing, toys, school supplies, children's books, Bibles, linens, etc. or helping poverty-stricken people in the Lake Worth area, perhaps as early as June 10<sup>th</sup> weekend. We'll keep you posted, as I know some of you enjoy our home mission days when we "do church" instead of "have church." No electrics, please. School supplies are especially wanted as we want to encourage the children to stay in school. We also want to emphasize the need for children's books and Bibles, coloring books, and Christian materials in English for the children.

**Sundays, 4:30-6:00 p.m. Craighouse.** Rev. Jim Craig continues his series on "**The Great Deliverance.**" After the worship service, you can ask Pastor Jim questions or have prayer with Dr. Mary Craig. Communion is served the first Sunday of each month.

We love you,

Pastors Jim and Mary Craig

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