



# OVERFLOWING WITH GOD'S BLESSINGS!

*a word of encouragement from Stephen Lungu*

Dear beloved in the Lord,

Once again I would like to share with you heart to heart. I have always wondered why God blessed Abraham with such great blessings in Genesis 12. The simple answer is that Abraham found favour in the eyes of God.

We know of course that God's favour is a result of His abundant grace to those who do not deserve it. This is not always easy to understand, but we are so thankful that through God's goodness and wisdom we too can experience His favour as His children. We also know that when God favours us, the blessings flow through us to others.

This is clearly illustrated when God blesses Abraham. The blessings God showered on Abraham were not to remain on him only, but these blessings were to be given or extended to others. "I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing." (Genesis 12:2)

God's promise to bless Abraham in this way amazes me. God is not stingy with His blessing, only reserving it for one individual. He extends it to generations to come. Abraham, when he was called by God, obeyed God, trusting that what God said was true. Abraham was called by God to leave his country and Lot his nephew followed him. All the blessings that were showered upon Abraham overflowed to Lot. As long as Lot remained with Abraham, there was protection and blessings from God.

We know that God doesn't need to give us promises like He gave to Abraham to make us a blessing to

others. There are a few examples in the Bible of people who were a great blessing to others even though they had very little. A widow blessed the prophet Elijah with the little she had and was in return blessed double by the Lord. It was not easy for her to bless Elijah, but she trusted that sharing with this man of God was more important than her own needs.

Much later, Jesus was approached by his disciples who brought a little boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish. They wanted to know how Jesus was going to feed so many people (John 6:9). What looked like a small gift in the hands of a little boy actually blessed five thousand people.

African Enterprise has been blessed by many wonderful people like you who prayed faithfully and gave sacrificially to this great ministry for the salvation of many souls. You really do not know how grateful we are in AE ministry for having you extend your blessings, whether you think they are big or small, to AE. A blessing is a blessing when it is given from the heart and with the love of Jesus. Thank you a million times for standing with us in this world economic recession.

Be assured your gifts are not in vain.

Stephen Lungu  
International Team Leader

# OUT OF AFRICA

NEWSLETTER  
JUNE 2009

**African Enterprise**  
*Building partnerships for Urban Outreach in Canada and Africa*

## GOD IS MEETING THE NEEDS OF LIBERIA (PHIL. 4:18-19)



The poverty in the city of Monrovia is almost overwhelming, and yet the people press on. There are young children everywhere, roaming the streets by themselves and helping with the family business. Although there is now peace in this city, there is certainly not prosperity for the vast majority.

The city is littered with the shells of gutted buildings, punctuated with bullet and shell holes and squatters have taken up residence in some. They create a bit of an eerie atmosphere, though it seems only the newcomer really notices them now. The NGO and UN presence is inescapable.

Monrovia is African Enterprise's major mission focus for 2009. In preparation for this mission, AE has been working alongside the church leaders in Monrovia, recently conducting a Healing and Reconciliation Consultation, in anticipation of the Pan African Mission (PAM) which will take place from 16th – 23rd November.

The Christian leaders we are working with are peaceful, joyful, warm and welcoming. They exhibit enthusiasm, strategic thinking and a passion for the Kingdom of God. This enthusiasm has consistently encouraged all involved in the African Enterprise PAM team. Many of them have significant influence, not just among local churches, but also amongst secular leadership. These leaders are good stewards; meticulous with resources, reliable and humble. They have been working together for months now. All of them have had experiences which, when recounted, leave you aching inside. But God is working His purpose out in Monrovia.

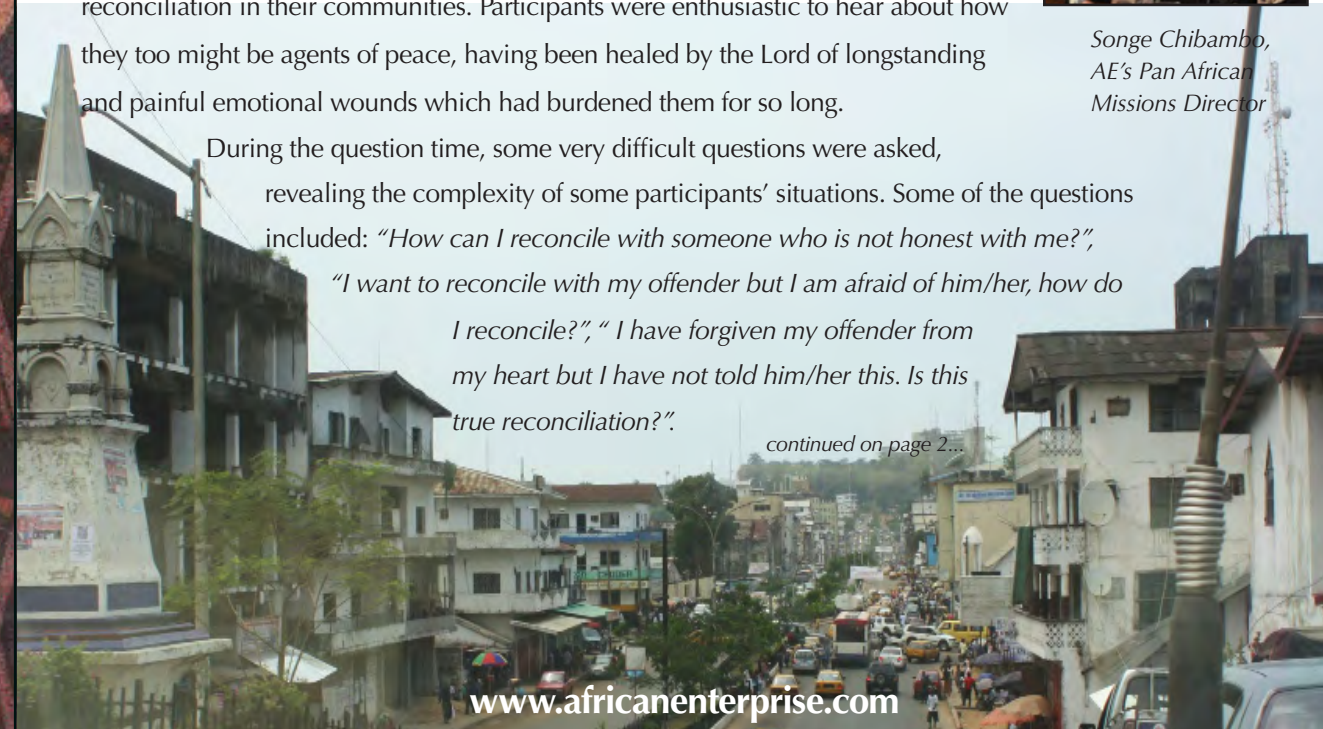
The Consultation focused on indications of trauma, receiving and extending forgiveness, and practical steps individuals and churches could take to implement reconciliation in their communities. Participants were enthusiastic to hear about how they too might be agents of peace, having been healed by the Lord of longstanding and painful emotional wounds which had burdened them for so long.

During the question time, some very difficult questions were asked, revealing the complexity of some participants' situations. Some of the questions included: "How can I reconcile with someone who is not honest with me?", "I want to reconcile with my offender but I am afraid of him/her, how do I reconcile?", "I have forgiven my offender from my heart but I have not told him/her this. Is this true reconciliation?"

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Songe Chibambo,  
AE's Pan African  
Missions Director



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## CHRISTIAN STUDENTS' DISCIPLESHIP PROGRAM ETHIOPIA

African Enterprise is passionately pursuing the objective of preparing the heart of the next generation for the Lord and building "Tomorrow's Church".

The churches in Ethiopia bring the gospel to many children through big evangelistic efforts. Yet, as in the physical world many are not properly taken care of (not disciplined). AEE is determined to stand in the gap.

The nationwide biblical training program that started in 2003 has two major components: discipleship and leadership development. The program's key goal is to reach out to and disciple all Christian students in each city throughout Ethiopia over a duration of five years.

The discipleship program is done in partnership with the church. The students are taught in classes (on church premises) with the aid of well written text books. It is an age graded, curriculum based and well structured biblical discipleship and spiritual empowerment program. The courses range from understanding basic Christianity to evangelism, Christian ethics and transformational servant leadership. It primarily focuses on the next-generation, Christian students of grade 5 and upwards to high school and university. The training is conducted by pastors and ministers in each locality.

In 2008 alone some 13,780 students were disciplined in 188 cities. The testimony of church leaders and students affirm the biblical soundness of the program. A female high school student said, "I never thought of abortion as unbiblical. I have watched many films where it happens and considered it a proper and modern way of living. But now I have learnt through the discipleship program that abortion is not God honouring".

The second component, the Christian leadership training, is offered at a national level for two weeks. It aims at revamping Christian values and developing Christian leaders for tomorrow's church.

Preparing next generation leaders is **guarding the Gospel that has been entrusted to us** and passing it on faithfully. The church remains healthier and the Gospel expands faster as we disciple the youth and develop tomorrow's Christian leaders, today.



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Overall the feedback from the week was extremely positive, with many participants calling for longer and more frequent consultations targeting not only church leaders, but also political and secular leaders, young people, members of the armed forces and other cities in Liberia known to be hot spots of revolution.

Life is still a daily struggle for many of these men and women as they pick up the shattered pieces of their life, community and city. However, their enthusiasm, love and willingness to sacrifice for our Lord sends a challenging message to the Western Church.

Please pray for the PAM team as they plan for and implement the mission set-up phase. A huge logistical undertaking, considering 700 events will take place throughout the city in the space of a week.

***"And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus."***  
***Philippians 4:18-19***



## WOMEN'S TAILORING PROJECT LILONGWE, MALAWI

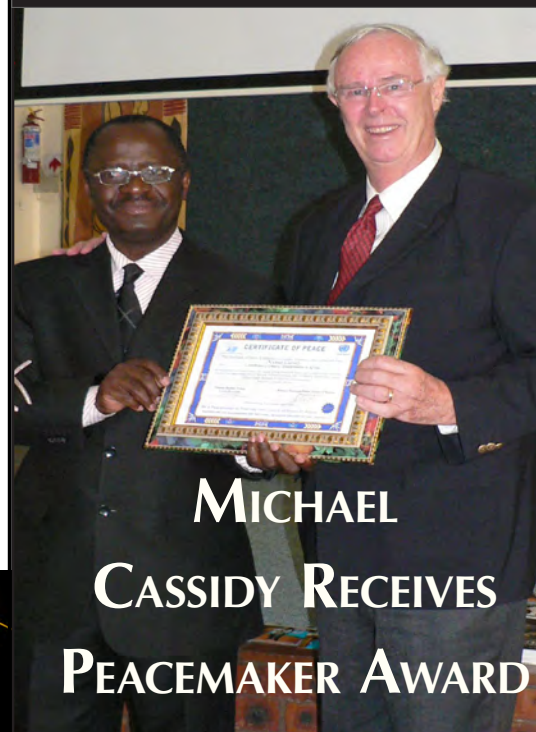
Poverty in Malawi is widespread, deep and severe. Educational and health services are few and of low standard, unemployment is high and the infrastructure is very inadequate.

Due to extreme poverty in the rural areas, many are forced to migrate to the capital, Lilongwe. In the capital, prostitutes, single mothers and widows are assessed as among the most vulnerable. On observing the predicament of many of the women in her country, Rachel Lungu (pictured right), the wife of African Enterprise's International Team Leader, was filled with compassion and reflected on how she could help them. In 2006 she secured some funds from Christian donors and opened a tailoring school for street women in the garage of her private residence. This was expanded in 2007 when funds became available from AE Australia to train 30 women in tailoring each year which enables them to generate income and become self-reliant.

The training program, which commences the day with bible study, includes tuition on how to design, cut and sew both children's and ladies clothing. AE Malawi provides free use of sewing machines and materials. The finished items are then sold, and the profits are utilised for materials and equipment.

The course, which takes a year to complete, has catered for 60 women to date. Many of them have subsequently started their own small dress making businesses. Nearly all of the trainees have testified that, as a consequence of the bible studies, their relationship with God has grown.

*Please remember these women in your prayers, and that through this project more women come into a relationship with the living God.*



**MICHAEL  
CASSIDY RECEIVES  
PEACEMAKER AWARD**

African Enterprise Founder, Michael Cassidy, received the Peacemaker Award from *Christians for Peace in Africa (CPA)*, an organisation dedicated to promoting the biblical values of peace, reconciliation and hope across the continent. Pastor Thomas-René Kitutu (pictured with Michael), CPA Founder and CEO, presented the award to Michael at the AE Centre in Pietermaritzburg on 26th March, 2009. He said that Michael's peace-making efforts both here in South Africa and across the wider continent, were very much appreciated and had borne much fruit, particularly in his home country of the DRC. He said that CPA wanted to bestow the award on Michael in recognition and appreciation of his faithful stewardship and commitment to see Africa transformed by the message of the Gospel and the power of the ultimate Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ.

In accepting the award, Michael paid tribute to the African Enterprise team which has worked alongside him to promote peace and bring reconciliation in many countries and conflict situations across Africa.