

February, 2010

Dear Friends,

More than 50,000 young South Africans in 64 schools have heard the Gospel of Jesus Christ this past year because of the enthusiastic commitment of our Foxfire youth evangelists. The four Foxfire Teams, based in Johannesburg, Cape Town, Port Elizabeth and Pietermaritzburg, minister in schools, universities and youth groups and target the nation's youth between the ages of 14 and 28. And their ministry is more vital than ever, as the young people of South Africa face greater challenges today than they have ever faced before.



Schoolchildren respond to the Foxfires' Gospel message

As in years past, HIV, AIDS, drug abuse, teenage pregnancy, suicide and violence are dreadful snares that beset many of our future leaders. But we have been troubled more recently to come across some young people involved in "games" of horrific rites involving rape and strangulation. As the Foxfires have taken their message of Christian hope around the country from school to school, they have been pained by what they have seen, but have also had the opportunity to bring the healing message of Christ's love and forgiveness into a rapidly evolving youth culture that is in itself a threat to the healthy development of our younger generation.



The Foxfires dance at Nanhleu Secondary School in KwaZulu-Natal

One of the reasons the Foxfire program has such an impact on the youth who are challenged by these issues, is that it is a peer program. Being young themselves, the Foxfires understand the challenges and issues faced by the youth and are able to relate to young people on a relevant and empathetic level, because they themselves have successfully dealt with the same challenges and issues. All of these issues are targeted and handled by the Foxfires with passion and care, and they definitely bring change and transformation through their engagement with their peers!

Foxfire evangelist Andrew Kroutz saw this firsthand as he counseled a student at a school in Johannesburg. He recalls that, "A young student, who is a very gifted artist, started out by drawing lovely pictures and paintings that depicted love, joy and hope. Suddenly, his art work took a different turn. He felt influenced by an evil force to draw and paint with evil motives and intentions. His work started depicting anger, murder and all sorts of violence. Every one of his paintings had blood smeared on them. He became angry at everyone around him. When he met the Foxfires, he spoke to us of his situation. After much prayer and counseling, he had a complete and drastic change in his heart and

mind. He now paints with joy and peace; he also encourages fellow students with the same message of hope, love, joy, peace and harmony.



The Pietermaritzburg Foxfires led a youth gathering in the KwaZulu-Natal province, prompting Malcolm Nair, an international youth ministry leader, to say, “Our youth gathering featured African Enterprise’s Foxfire youth team, who brought a message of reformation and hope to the 70 young people gathered that evening. The Foxfires used song, dance and drama to proclaim a message of reformation and hope in a world of chaos. Young people were challenged to live lives characterized by integrity and purity in a culture which promotes the mindset that ‘I want it and I want it now!’ At the end of the message almost half

of the young people present came forward weeping and seeking the Lord of forgiveness and restoration. As we prayed with these young people I couldn’t help but weep not only for the wasted years of their lives but for the thousands of other young people who are outside the faith, trapped by a culture of greed, lust, and individualism.”

Taking the Gospel out to the wider continent, ten Foxfires joined the AE Team in Liberia for two weeks near the end of 2009 for the citywide mission to Monrovia, which made use of the Foxfires’ expertise and influence with the youth of Liberia. Because of the profound impact the Foxfires made during their outreach, countless church pastors in Monrovia urged AE to consider setting up a permanent Foxfire Team there. We also had 5 Foxfires in Toronto last October to support my week of ministry. They stayed in Toronto for another 3 weeks with great impact!

Indeed, we find wherever we go in Africa that the ability to reach our continent’s young people is one of our most pressing needs. After seeing the Cape Town Foxfire Team in action, Pastor Peter John Peterson summed up what is obvious to anyone aware both of Africa’s current needs and the passion and abilities of our Foxfire evangelists: “The Foxfire Team is such a needed ministry, as the gap between the youth and the adults is fast growing wider. I salute the Foxfires for their commitment, love and sacrifices made for this trip. The Cape Town Foxfire team is an amazing team!”



Foxfire evangelists explain the Good News to students

Yes, friends, by the grace of God the Foxfires truly are amazing and are bringing needy and hurting young people into Christ’s Kingdom all the time. With your prayers and generous financial support, we will continue to provide them with the support they need to keep rescuing their peers from an

often frightening youth culture and leading them into the peace and joy of a relationship with their Saviour.

Thank you for your partnership with us in this indispensable ministry.



Yours for the youth of Africa,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen Lungu".

Stephen Lungu
International Team Leader