

# The VINE & BRANCHES



The Newsletter of WORKERS TOGETHER WITH HIM, INC.

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*Jesus said, "For without Me, ye can do nothing."*

Greetings to you in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

As Christians around the world gather to commemorate the birth of the Savior Jesus Christ, I pray that this newsletter finds you "fight[ing] the good fight of faith" (1 Tim. 6:12) and "earnestly contend[ing] for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints" (Jd. 1:3)

I, along with my American traveling companions, returned from our trip to Tanzania just in time to celebrate the holiday we call Thanksgiving. This was especially meaningful to all of us this year, being reunited with family and friends after such a memorable experience. Much of this newsletter is devoted to reports about our mission, both with words from some of my traveling companions and special testimonies from Africa that witness how it came to pass that Workers Together With Him began to minister among the Maasai of Tanzania, East Africa. I believe these reports will both bless your soul and thrill your hearts.

September marked the sixth anniversary of Workers Together With Him. I praise God that He is able to do so much with so little. I am especially thankful for you who have stood with us from the start, partaking in our efforts via your prayers and financial gifts.

I am very pleased to report that this ministry is now an officially registered charity in the USA, the United Kingdom and very shortly, in Tanzania, East Africa.

This newsletter marks the first time I write to you from my new location in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. I thank God that, when it became time to relocate, He made it so clear where He wanted us to go. Living in Baton Rouge is great for my family and for the work of the ministry. Our house is only a short distance away from the home of Evan and Nancy Pyle, and we take part in the weekly church services that Evan pastors. One great benefit to moving here is that Jay Pearson has been able to assume the duties of Secretary Treasurer of this ministry. As the work of the ministry has grown, I am very thankful for the privilege of working with people like this, "like-minded, having the same love, being of

one accord, of one mind" (Phil. 2:2).

As much as there is to say about our Africa trip, I'd like to begin with heartfelt thanks to the Lord for making such adventures possible. I thank the Lord for men of God like Rev. Ans Mwambepo, who is a sterling example of selfless giving. I thank all the Maasai elders in the villages of Matabete, Mahongo and Mwanavala for their support and cooperation. I thank the team from Tukuuyu who helped in so many ways from morning until night. Finally, a special word of thanks for the people who helped us with the translation, Paulo Kurupas, Tetea Sinyagwa, Irene Kisota and Rev. George Ole Oripu.

Our work in Africa, as wonderful as it is, is not the only place where the message of The Weapons of Our Warfare has fallen on fertile soil. In September, I had the joy of teaching my seminar in Kappel am Albis, a small municipality in the Canton of Zurich, Switzerland. I'd like to thank the many people who helped with the organization and presentation, especially Daniel and Tresa Bucher, Tresa's sister Anita, Rudi Illavsky, and Beatrice Mantock. Thanks also to George Straub who arranged our evening tours. Finally, I thank Rev. Steve Monahan for officiating at a very special water baptism.

As James 4:15 admonishes us, "For that ye *ought* to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that." If the Lord will, we hope to be found faithfully serving Him "unto the uttermost part of the earth" (Acts 1:8) in 2006. Right now, plans are being solidified for a special presentation of The Weapons of Our Warfare for pastors in London, England beginning March 31st. Rev. Andrew Bailey and Rev. Jerome Lucas are organizing this event.

Finally, I'd like to wish you a very happy and prosperous New Year 2006. May we all take giant strides forward toward fulfilling our heavenly Father's greatest joy, "to hear that my children walk in truth" (3 Jo. 1:4).

In the Service of His Majesty, the King of kings,



## The Wise Men's Gifts

By Rev. Tim Sullivan



William Sydney Potter was born in Greensboro, North Carolina in 1862. When he was about 20 years old, he moved to Austin, Texas, where he was employed as a bank teller. He moved to Houston in 1884 and he began writing a humorous weekly he called "The Rolling Stone". When that publication failed, he was hired as a newspaper columnist for the Houston Post.

The next year, Potter was brought back to Austin on charges of embezzling money from the Austin bank. Fearing imprisonment, he fled to Honduras, and hid there for six months before finally surrendering to U.S. authorities. In 1897, he was tried, convicted, and sentenced to three years in an Ohio penitentiary.

While in prison, Potter began writing short stories. He adopted a pen-name, an instant cure for his ills, providing anonymity as well as a fresh start. He called himself "O. Henry."

Upon his release from prison, he moved to New York. In less than nine years, he had written and published over 250 stories. O. Henry was called "the master of the short story," famous for his surprise endings. But O. Henry's life was as full of twists and turns as the fiction he wrote. He died at the age of 39, a penniless alcoholic.

O. Henry is best remembered for "The Gift of the Magi," a story that takes place on Christmas Eve in New York City at the dawn of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. In this story, Jim and Della Young were a young couple struggling to make ends meet. When Della realized that she had no means to buy her husband a Christmas gift, she sacrificed her most beloved worldly possession — her luxurious knee-length hair — cutting it off and selling it to a wigmaker so she could buy her husband a chain for his prized gold watch. When Jim came home that evening, he was aghast to see his wife's shorn hair. It was not that her beauty had diminished in her husband's eyes. But Jim had also gone shopping, or rather, like his wife, he went trading. He had sold his watch to buy his wife some tortoise shell combs for her hair.

O. Henry concludes his story by saying, "The magi, as you know, were wise men—wonderfully wise men—

who brought gifts to the Babe in the manger. They invented the art of giving Christmas presents... And here I have lamely related to you the uneventful chronicle of two foolish children in a flat who most unwisely sacrificed for each other the greatest treasures of their house. But in a last word to the wise of these days let it be said that of all who give gifts these two were the wisest. Of all who give and receive gifts, such as they are wisest. Everywhere they are wisest. They are the magi."

There are many people who assert along with O. Henry that the tradition of giving gifts at Christmastime began with the wise men. Whether or not this is true is uncertain. Most of our Christmas traditions are mired in controversy, most especially amongst Christians themselves. But I would hope that, even amongst Christians, we will allow that wise men from the East came bearing gifts to the Christ child. This is the record found in the Gospel of Matthew.

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him... and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh. (Matt. 2:1-2, 9-11)

Most of what we propose to know about the "wise men from the east" is a matter of supposition and folklore. We sing Christmas carols about the "three kings of the Orient" without any real evidence that they were either kings or three. The only basis for such a proposal is that three costly gifts that were given, "gold, and frankincense, and myrrh." In the Middle Ages it was claimed that the bodies of the "three wise men" (Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar) had been found and entombed in a cathedral in Cologne, Germany.

Such "evidence" aside, neither the names nor the number of the wise men found its way into the Holy Scripture. There is something quite remarkable implied there, echoed in the words of Christ:

But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth: That thine alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly. (Matthew 6:3-4)

God prefers to see His servants labor in obscurity and

anonymity, void of the “self-congratulatory” spirit that mars so much Christian service. As Jesus said, “Every tree is known by his own fruit” (Lk. 6:44). Your work speaks for itself.

Let another man praise thee, and not thine own mouth; a stranger, and not thine own lips. (Proverbs 27:2)

Whether the “men from the east” were kings is not as important as the fact that they were wise. As a popular Christmas card says, “Wise men seek Him still.” These wise men did not come seeking recognition for themselves but to bring honor to their King.

They showed their adoration by the gifts they brought. They would not be guilty of presenting themselves before the King with empty hands. “They shall not appear before the LORD empty,” says Deuteronomy 16:16.

And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming. (1 John 2:28)

The gifts presented by the wise men of the East were not given absent-mindedly. Each gift was remarkably significant, given in recognition of a great truth concerning the promised Messiah.

The gift of gold was given in recognition of Christ’s right of succession to the throne of David.

He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: (Luke 1:32)

Of course, Jesus was not just a king. He is *the* King, the Emperor of all God’s creation, the “King of kings, and Lord of lords” (1 Tim. 6:15). “Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing,” says Revelation 5:12. Offerings were not made to a king to alleviate his lack. The king’s wealth far exceeded that of his people. Offerings were given as a tribute of respect. We give because He is worthy of our finest gifts.

The gift of myrrh was given to the Christ child in recognition of His impending sacrifice. This bitter herb, often used in embalming, was a reminder of the reason Christ was sent to the earth, to pay the penalty for our sins through His death. Later, when the prophet Simeon blessed the young boy Jesus at the Temple, he also reminded Mary of the reason her son was born, saying, “A sword shall pierce through thy own soul also, that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed” (Lk. 2:35). The grave reality of His mission never escaped the mind of Christ. You will recall how, soon after He had raised Lazarus from the dead, Christ proclaimed, “And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all *men* unto me” (Jn.

12:32). “This he said,” reads the next verse, “signifying what death he should die.” He gave Himself for us.

And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour. (Ephesians 5:2)

Frankincense was given in recognition of the worship and devotion that is due His holy name. Our praises waft to heaven like the sweet fragrance of incense.

Let my prayer be set forth before thee *as* incense; *and* the lifting up of my hands *as* the evening sacrifice. (Psalm 141:2)

We seek to praise Him with our entire being.

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is* your reasonable service. (Romans 12:1)

Part of our worship is our sacrifices made unto Him by our offerings and gifts of love.

But I have all, and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things *which were sent* from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God. (Philippians 4:18)

God showed us through the gift of His Son that true love demands sacrifice. We cannot honestly say we love the Lord if we only serve Him when it is convenient. We cannot say we love the work of His Church if we only give what we feel we can spare. We should not present our offerings to the King of kings with the same reluctant attitude as when we hand over spare change to a beggar. We don’t give because He needs it. We give because we know we need Him. We present our gifts to the Lord because it is the right thing to do.

...bring the sacrifice of praise into the house of the LORD. (Jeremiah 33:11B)

Most important, the gifts of the wise men remind us to whom our gift are directed. No matter who the immediate recipient may be, our gifts to God are tributes presented to His name and in His name.

For whosoever shall give you a cup of water to drink in my name, because ye belong to Christ, verily I say unto you, he shall not lose his reward. (Mark 9:41)

In the story told by O. Henry, the monetary value of the gifts presented by Jim and Della pales in comparison with the selfless love with which they were offered. This is the essence of perfect love, the sacrifice of love that the Bible calls “charity”. This is the kind of giving you can never “afford.” This is the kind of giving that can truly be called “Christian.”



## Old Paths

By Rev. Evan B. Pyle



Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways,  
and see, and ask for the old paths,  
where is the good way, and walk therein,  
and ye shall find rest for your souls.  
But they said, We will not walk therein.  
Jeremiah 6:16

In our era of moral relativism this cry from the prophet is especially fitting. The Western church, in particular, long ago abandoned the “old paths,” seeking to put forward a gospel that is relevant to modern life. But in so doing she has cut her moorings to the unchanging truths that serve as our anchor of the soul. And so the Church finds herself adrift, seeking an identity that was lost beyond the horizon. In seeking to remove restraints to the moving of the Holy Spirit, she has instead removed the rule of God and replaced it with doing what seems profitable, exciting and “now.” Instead of walking in godly freedom, the flock is led to walking in the false freedom of rebellion.

But chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness, and despise government. Presumptuous *are they*, selfwilled, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignities. (2 Peter 2:10)

The unfortunate state of the Church has led sincere individual Christians astray. They, too, have drifted from the old paths into something seemingly contemporary. Believers do not want to be restricted in their worship or in their personal relationship with God. And so they find themselves dictating the grounds and terms for having their personal relationship with the Almighty. Moses, though, walked in the old paths when he met with the Lord. In their relationship, it was the Lord who dictated the grounds and terms on which they would meet.

And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest *is* holy ground. (Exodus 3:5)

What are the “old paths” to which the prophet is calling us? It is that first love of the heart of every Christian. Do you remember the purity of how you began in the faith? You were free at last from the bondage of sin,

exhilarated by Jesus’ love and walking with your feet ten feet above the ground. As the hymn declares “All the world seemed to sing of a Savior and Lord when peace sweetly came to my heart.” Blessed peace! That elusive thing that always escaped you no matter how hard you tried, now flooded your being. Yet, in time, your feet returned to earth and over time, ever so gradually, your love for Jesus grew cold. Even though the Lord is just a prayer away, He somehow seems so far away and unreachable.

Jacob had an encounter with the Lord when he was in fear of meeting his brother Esau. The great change that God wrought in Jacob’s heart was indicated by the angel’s announcement. “And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed.” (Gen. 32:28). Yet, Jacob strayed from his calling. Through Jacob, the Bible paints a beautiful picture of returning to the old paths.

And God said unto Jacob, Arise, go up to Bethel, and dwell there: and make there an altar unto God, that appeared unto thee when thou fleddest from the face of Esau thy brother. Then Jacob said unto his household, and to all that *were* with him, Put away the strange gods that *are* among you, and be clean, and change your garments: And let us arise, and go up to Bethel; and I will make there an altar unto God, who answered me in the day of my distress, and was with me in the way which I went. And they gave unto Jacob all the strange gods which *were* in their hand, and *all their* earrings which *were* in their ears; and Jacob hid them under the oak which *was* by Shechem. (Gen. 35:1-4)

Returning to the old paths involves putting away those things that have stolen away our worship of God. It’s not too late to make the change now. Jacob had a personal encounter with the Lord, received a mighty call of God, yet his household had turned to worship other gods. Given Jacob’s history and his failure to live up to the call of God, one could easily conclude that he had thrown it all away and was no longer fit to serve the One True God. But like a Good Shepherd, the Lord knows those who are His and He patiently and insistently calls them back to the right way. Our challenge as Christians is how we are going to respond to this call. When Jacob returned, the first thing he did was to get rid of the unclean thing. He commanded his household to be clean and change their garments.

But we are all as an unclean *thing*, and all our righteousnesses *are* as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken

us away. (Isaiah 64:6)

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh *himself* with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth *herself* with her jewels. (Isaiah 61:10)

Adam and Eve attempted to make for themselves coverings or garments of their own hands. Though they were of fig leaves, to the Lord they were as filthy rags. Only by the hand of God and the shedding of blood can we be clothed in a robe of righteousness. God is constantly calling his own to repentance. To walk humbly before God, admitting our sins and seeking true cleansing for our sins is to return to the old paths.

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1: 8,9)

By confession and forgiveness must the saints of God be washed and properly clothed in Godly garments. Only then are we truly free to serve God fully out of the abundance of what He's given us. May we walk a walk of humble repentance, following those old paths that have been made clear by the steps of Jesus, Paul and many other saints who have gone on before us.



ONE SOLDIER SPEAKS:

## A Tree Full of Light

By F. Jay Pearson



The approach of the Christmas Season finds many scrambling to locate just the right tree and the lights to go on it. Many are searching for a tree that has the lights already on it. This saves time and saving time is important because there is so much to do: decorating the house, shopping for gifts, planning the festivities, etc. It's so easy just to assemble the tree, plug it in, and move on to the next task.

You know it seems the faster we go in this world the duller we become. In the blur of business we loose sight of the details. The slower we go the sharper our perceptions become to life and the living. I exhort you to slow down this Christmas season and reflect on the Tree of

Life and the Light that came into the world to lighten our path.

A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel. (Luke 2:32)

And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb *is* the light thereof. (Revelation 21:23)

Blessed *are* they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city. (Revelation 22:14)

The hustle and bustle of Christmas can dull our sense of purpose. The purpose of the celebration of Christmas is to glorify God and His Son, Jesus Christ who is born to us a savior. God's present to us is His only Son. You can't go to "Toys-R-Us" and buy one off the shelf. He is the one and only Son of God, a gift to you. There are many lookalikes and wannabe's, but only one Jesus Christ. He was born in a Manger, announced to Shepherds, worshipped by Wise Men, and presented to the world as Savior and King.

Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved. (Acts 4:12)

It is a blessing to give gifts and to receive them. I truly enjoy both, but this Christmas I don't want to be walking around with the short-sightedness of this joy. I want the awareness of Christ in my Christmas, of the Light, as He is the Light and the Tree of Life. Every time I see a Christmas tree I want to see my Lord. I want every light on housetop or tree to remind me of His Light.

I just returned from Africa where it was very dark at night. When I walked in the darkness it didn't matter how long I walked or how far I went, it was still dark. Not until someone turned on a flashlight, or torch as they are called there, did I walk in the light.

But *ye are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: (1 Peter 2:9)

Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated *us* into the kingdom of his dear Son: (Colossians 1:13)

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. (1 John 1:7)

God has delivered us from darkness by His light, Jesus Christ. Let us walk in His light this Christmas and praise God for His gift, the greatest gift of all time, Jesus Christ. Amen.

For Our Grandchildren  
**Happy Birthday**  
**Dear Jesus**

By Jerelyn Pearson  
 Baton Rouge, Louisiana



Soon we'll celebrate a very special birthday. At the end of December Brooklyn will be two years old. Not long after that, we will celebrate another special birthday. A new baby boy will be born into our family. Then before long, we'll celebrate Blake's birthday. He will be five years old in February. In June Jayden will be two years old and we'll celebrate his birthday. Then in July we look forward to Hunter's first birthday.

Each of us celebrates a birthday once a year. Each year you get one year older as you grow up. Your mom and your dad celebrate birthdays also. Even Pa Pa Jay and Gran Jerelyn have a birthday every year. We get one year older too.

Birthdays are very special days. Your friends and family celebrate with you. There's one birthday that's the most special of all. It's so special that all over the world people celebrate. This special birthday is the birthday of Jesus.

God loves the world so much that He decided to give us the best gift of all. He performed a miracle and His Son Jesus was born. Jesus' birthday was so special that the angels sang. God put a special star in the sky to lead the shepherds to the place where Jesus was born. Wise men brought Him special gifts.

Of course, Jesus didn't stay a baby. He grew up just like you are growing up. When He was a man, He had a very important job to do. His job was to make it possible for us to live with God forever. He went ahead to be with God and prepare a place for us to join Him.

Right now He lives with His Father in Heaven. Even though we can't see Him, He is always here with us too, especially at Christmas time when we celebrate His Birthday. He said "Where two or three people get together in My name, I am with them."

If you believe that He lived, and died, and was raised from the dead, and lives with God in Heaven; and you ask Him to be your Lord and Savior, He will live in your heart. And you will be able to live with Him forever.

*And that's a lot of birthdays!*

**Extravagant**  
**Giving**

By Dave Duris  
 Tallahassee, Florida USA



With all that God has blessed us with in all categories of our lives, we would certainly fall short in any effort to repay or give back enough in response to what He has so graciously given us. During His earthly ministry, Jesus Christ gave his life in service to others as he ministered to countless numbers of people. During this time the scriptures record two different accounts of women whose acts of giving prompted uniquely significant responses from Jesus Christ. From these records we can learn some penetrating truth concerning the heart of giving.

Now when Jesus was in Bethany, in the house of Simon the leper, There came unto him a woman having an alabaster box of very precious ointment, and poured it on his head, as he sat *at meat*. But when his disciples saw *it*, they had indignation, saying, To what purpose *is* this waste? For this ointment might have been sold for much, and given to the poor. When Jesus understood *it*, he said unto them, Why trouble ye the woman? for she hath wrought a good work upon me. For ye have the poor always with you; but me ye have not always. For in that she hath poured this ointment on my body, she did *it* for my burial. Verily I say unto you, Wheresoever this gospel shall be preached in the whole world, *there* shall also this, that this woman hath done, be told for a memorial of her. (Matthew 26: 6-13)

This same account is covered in the Gospel of Mark 14: 3-9, and it indicates that the very precious ointment might have been sold for more than 300 pence. Some scholars indicate that a single pence was worth a day's wages in those times. No wonder the disciples felt that this extravagant expression was wasteful! However, the Lord saw her action entirely differently when he said she wrought a good work upon Him and this act would be told for a memorial of her wherever this gospel would be preached in the whole world. I know of no action on the part of the disciples which received this type of recognition from Jesus Christ. It is interesting to note that she did not ask for opinions or permission to perform this most glorious act. In fact, when you consider that this precious ointment was in an alabaster box which was broken and poured out on Jesus Christ's head, you see

that this act was not partial, it was all or nothing. This act was extreme and it evoked completely different responses by Jesus Christ and the disciples.

In contrast to this generous expression of giving and love, the scriptures immediately follow this account with the darkest act of betrayal for a minimal price.

Then one of the twelve, called Judas Iscariot, went unto the chief priests, And said *unto them*, What will ye give me, and I will deliver him unto you? And they covenanted with him for thirty pieces of silver. And from that time he sought opportunity to betray him.

him. (Matthew 26:14-16)

Judas received 30 pieces of silver for delivering Jesus Christ to the chief priests. This amount was the lowest price for the worth of a slave, because in Exodus 21:32, this was the fine to be paid when a man's ox gored another man's servant in order to recompense the injury to the servant.

Considering these accounts, we can see that our good works for the sake of the Kingdom of God may not be understood or acknowledged by others. The world will always offer a reason to put limitations on our giving or offer a better cause for our efforts. The portion the woman gave and the amount Judas received were indicators of how much each valued the life of Jesus Christ, the Messiah.

In the Gospel of Mark, there is another account of extravagant giving:

And Jesus sat over against the treasury, and beheld how the people cast money into the treasury: and many that were rich cast in much. And there came a certain poor widow, and she threw in two mites, which make a farthing. And he called *unto him* his disciples, and saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, That this poor widow hath cast more in, than all they which have cast into the treasury: For all *they* did cast in of their abundance; but she of her want did cast in all that she had, *even* all her living. (Mark 12:41-44)

To the natural eye, one would not understand the mathematical system Jesus Christ was utilizing when he compared the money cast into the treasury by all the people and the poor widow's two mites which was worth a portion of a cent. What Jesus Christ saw was the source of the money. All those who cast money cast into the treasury prior to the widow's two mites gave from their abundance; they had money to spare. In contrast, the poor widow's giving was truly sacrificial because it was all she had to live on. Jesus Christ's estimation of all these events show that those two mites were worth more in God's economy than all the gifts of the others, which

lacked the element of sacrifice.

In the book of Acts, chapters 4 and 5, there is another account of extravagant giving, not by an individual only, but rather, an entire church. The believers in the first century church who were possessors of lands or houses sold them and brought the prices of the things that were sold and laid them at the apostles' feet. However, a couple named Ananias and Sapphira conspired to be partial in their giving and keep back a portion of the price of the land they sold, saying they gave all. The judgment that followed was swift and severe, and a line of separation was established between those whose intentions were pure, from those that were not. It is interesting that the first recorded confrontation and judgment in the first century church involved a heart issue concerning giving. The miracles that followed this event and the multitudes that were added to the church at that time were of dramatic proportions. These blessings which were an indicator of God's acceptance were extended to those precious believers who had great love and purity of heart.

In conclusion, the quality of giving demonstrated by the early church and the women highlighted in the Gospels of Matthew and Mark was extravagant. The heart of giving in these records truly emphasize the truth that Jesus Christ spoke as recorded in Acts 20:35, that "It is more blessed to give than to receive." Let us seek opportunities to give our utmost for to the one who gave his life for us.



**The Weapons Of Our  
Warfare Seminar  
in Switzerland**

By Beatrice Mantock  
Schuepfen, Switzerland



Once again we were a group of Christians from many different nations, spending a few precious days away from life's usual routine, this time in a beautiful place called "Haus der Stille und Besinnung" (House of Stillness and Contemplation), a former monastery founded in 1185 by Cistercian monks.

As always, there were many externals that could be extolled, many that could be lamented, depending on each individual's taste, opinion, and habits. For example, we all had mosquito-invaded bedrooms. For some people this was no reason to panic - inexplicable for me! Also, we all shared the constant sound of cow bells, which to me,

being Swiss and living in the countryside, is not unusual. So, however good or bad the circumstances - what made this class as successful as it was is due to God's amazing grace to teach us and our willingness to listen and learn.

The emphasis of the class was clear: In order to be soldiers that use the weapons of our warfare well we must concentrate on building and establishing true Christian character in our lives, in all humbleness and obedience.

Yea, all *of you* be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. (1 Peter 5:5B)

What is it if not pride when we decide for ourselves which of God's commandments suit us and which do not?

Another thing I took with me from the class: It is my responsibility, every day afresh, whom I make Lord over my life and what I do with my time. And if I choose Christ, Who *is* the Lord, I will surrender to Him in quiet trust, which means I don't need an explanation from Him for everything. Thank God, it is so simple, if we only have the right attitude of heart.

...Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God. (1 Corinthians 1:24B)

Thank God for His many, many blessings to us! The Almighty God Himself teaching us His Word, His statutes? Each of us individually, personally, lovingly? Praise the Lord!

In God will I praise *his* word: in the LORD will I praise *his* word. (Psalms 56:10)

To me, the week in Kappel was over much too quickly, the lessons were always too short, and the time to spend with the beloved brothers and sisters in the faith was not enough. "O what a foretaste of glory divine!"

Many put their back into the realization of this class (such as the teacher, the simultaneous translators, helpers, prayer supporters); three professed Christ their Lord through water baptism; some received soothing and healing.

When we parted, hopefully everybody left deeply enriched and encouraged, having an enlarged understanding of our calling not just as students but as *workers*, as workers *together*, as workers together with *Him*, our Saviour and King, the Lord Jesus Christ.





To see more photos from these and other classes,  
 please visit our webpage at  
[WWW.WORKERTOGETHERWITHHIM.ORG](http://WWW.WORKERTOGETHERWITHHIM.ORG)



**Good Tidings of  
 Great Joy**

By Rev. Ans Mwambepo  
 Tukuyu, Tanzania



Good tidings of Great Joy were brought to the Maasai through the Lord's Messengers (from Workers Together With Him).

To all Saints and Servants of God who love our Lord Jesus Christ: Peace, Mercy and Grace from above be with you all ever more. Amen.

I salute you in the Name above all names; Hallelujah! God bless you for the everlasting unity you have in the Lord to all saints working in the precious ministry of Workers Together With Him (WTWH).

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments; As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the LORD commanded the blessing, even life for evermore. (Psalm 133:1-3)

Thank you very much for your spiritual and financial contributions you made for the wonderful service we had with our Lord to the Pastoralists living in the Southern Highlands in Tanzania, East Africa. Your efforts made the ministry wonderful.

Although the servants of God will give you the actual, narrative report about the service, may I have this moment to say something to your heart about the calling of WTWH to the Maasai. I was asking our Master about the holy work to this tribe; and how the Lord was going to deal with the hungry and thirsty souls in this wonderful tribe. In my heart I received the revelation to read from Luke 2:8-14, about the holy proclamation to the shepherds at the time of the birth of our Lord Jesus, and about salvation to the lost. It was wonderful to me that within the country there were shepherds in the fields and those were the first ones to receive the Good News of our Savior's birth.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and

they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this *shall be* a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. (Luke 2:8-14)

This is how I understood that message: As it was during that time, so it has now come to pass. Just as the Angels were sent to inform the shepherds, it is true that servants of God in WTWH are the messengers sent to the Country of Tanzania to the Pastoralists (shepherds) – the Maasai – teaching the truth of the living God. What you read in verse 9 was the exact thing that happened during our class time in the Maasai. The coming of the servants of God, and their love, humbleness, and service to His people made the glory of our Lord Jesus shine around us.

It was wonderful when I saw good tidings of great joy during the class. Most of the attendants talked in new tongues for the first time, and some who were not part of the participants believed in Jesus and were able to be baptized and that service was done within the days of the class. Also we had a wonderful time when we spent one day at Matebete village, where the Weapons of Our Warfare class was taught last year. We had great joy when we met again with different fellows who were there with us. Praise God that we had a time of prayer in the house of Rev. Yohana Ole-Ngekee, the first Pastor in that tribe, before we left to Tukuyu Town. It was amazing to my soul that the servants of God were able to enter the house where I stay with my wife and our three children. They spent 3 ½ hours just comforting my family. I thank God for such wonderful hospitality.

Afterward, we went to the office of Workers Together With Him Tanzania for my ordination. Of this, I have nothing to witness except I glorify Our Master for changing and ordaining me in such holy way. I am sure the servants of God will bring it to your heart on how the service was.

After all this, the day came for the saints to return to their home countries. For all these things I glorify the mighty God who made these things come to pass. I thank you for your participation before and during that service. May the Lord have something special for your effort to His service.



## Tanzania '05 Report

By Rev. Evan B. Pyle

It hardly seems possible to me that this was our 6<sup>th</sup> trip to East Africa as well as our second to the Maasai people of Tanzania. Though I hear people comment on the hardships we must face on these trips, I can say that the difficulties seem as nothing compared to the glory that God reveals when, in faith, people dare to take Him at His word. I consider it the highest privilege to be allowed to travel and minister in Jesus' name, especially to a people that God has prepared and called to do great things for their own people and many others.

Our American contingent, consisting of Tim Sullivan, Steve Monahan, Jay Pearson and Dave Duris, and me, flew from New Orleans to Amsterdam, where we met up with our Swiss brothers David Mantock and Daniel Bucher. From there we flew on to Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. This time we took the train from Dar es Salaam west to Rujewa. In the past we've taken the bus for this part of the journey and always have started our ministry efforts quite exhausted. The twenty hour train ride allowed us to sleep overnight en route to our destination, which was a great blessing.

From Rujewa, we traveled out to Matebete, the Maasai village where Tim and I ministered last December. After a brief time of greetings, celebration and fellowship, we loaded up and made the trip out to Mohango, destination of Tim, Jay, Daniel and Dave. After greetings and a brief meeting, Steve, David and I loaded up for the long journey to our village, Mwanavala. This village is situated on a dry, windblown plateau in the Great Rift Valley. It quickly became apparent that the people of this village have a very tough situation as they have no water. Their one well has long been bad and the nearest water is an 8KM trek. This affected the schedule of the seminar since a group of warriors left at 4 each morning with donkeys and bicycles to fetch water. They did not return until at least 11 a.m. with a load of muddy water. In view of this, we generally had class at 11 a.m. and again at around 3:30 p.m. Most evenings we held a one hour lesson at around 9 p.m. under the light of a lone kerosene lantern. Through all these hardships and the demanding schedule there were never any complaints. These fine people wanted nothing more than the unadorned truth of the Bible, which they received with gladness. When it

came time to receive the gift of tongues, they received in simple faith and without hesitation.

Besides our group of three, we had with us, among others, Yohana Ole Ngekee, the pastor whom we met in Matabete last year. We also had as our interpreter Paulo Kurupas, son of Elyakim Kurupas, the now-retired chief of the Matabete village. Yohana actually grew up in the Mwanavala area but had to flee when he became a Christian many years ago. For decades he wandered the Great Rift Valley preaching and teaching the gospel to his own people without any visible means of support. Pastor Ngekee contributed valuable teaching during our seminar lessons. It was during our time together that the pastor told Paulo of Eliakim's faithful support through those difficult years. Elyakim was a wealthy man, but he secretly gave away his wealth supporting the propagation of the gospel among his people. Paulo was overwhelmed and wept to hear these stories of his own father.

Also particularly touching was Paulo's desire to receive the gift of tongues. After that lesson, he expressed that he wished he could be on "the other side" with the people receiving, though he knew he was needed for translation. That night, in our little dwelling, Rev. Monahan beautifully and lovingly led him to receive the gift. There was great rejoicing and thankfulness, as well as many tears, that night in that place! It was a joy and privilege to work with Paulo, whom I consider to be an honorable man of God.

The Maasai have a tightly organized society and exhibit great discipline. Their young men are trained warriors, called *Morani*, and they live their lives in service to their community, regardless of the task. They were the ones fetching water, pitching a tarp covering for our class site and herding cattle, among other tasks. It strikes me that God has reserved these people and this culture for such a time as this. While the Western world seemingly drowns in selfish consumption, the Maasai live in service to their families and community. To paraphrase Ans Mwambepo, "It is the Maasai. But not the Maasai; it is Tanzania. But not Tanzania; it is Africa. But not Africa; it is the world." This is the kind of vision I carry as we minister in this faraway place. This is much bigger than Bible teaching in a remote village in East Africa. This message is equipping a people *prepared by God* to make a huge impact in their own culture and far beyond. I sincerely believe the work we are doing among the Maasai will reverberate across the globe, calling people to repentance and to a life of self-sacrifice and service to the King of kings.

Ans came with a vehicle to pick us up at the end of the week. We had a particularly difficult trip back to Matabete, getting stuck several times. We finally managed to get there in the wee hours, thanks in part to some clever engineering by our own Steve and Dave. The next day was a time of celebration and worship and touring parts of the village we'd not seen before, including the medical dispensary and the primary school. That evening we had a lovely time of singing in the church. The beauty of the singing that night was almost overwhelming.

For me, the most significant event of the day was a time that Rev. Sullivan asked Pastor Ngekee to pray for us. We seven dropped to our knees and this great warrior of the Lord prayed a prayer that amounted to a commission to assume the mantle of his ministry to the Maasai people. It's safe to say that we were quite shaken up afterward. Our God does the unexpected at an unexpected time and place. People of God, let's be ready!

Early the next morning, the Lord favored Matabete with the most incredible sunrise and rainbow. Dwarfed by such majesty in such a place, I really felt that His favor was upon us. We loaded the van with 27 (yes, 27!) people and ambled off on the four-hour trip to Tukuyu for the ordination of Ans Mwambepo. It was a blessing to be accompanied by so many Maasai, who came along just to honor Ans, who has ministered so faithfully among them. An added blessing was that they filled the van with beautiful singing along the way. The ordination of Ans was a formal and solemn occasion. I know we all felt honored to be a part of the ordination of such a fine man to the Christian ministry. Ans has a vision for the message of Workers Together with Him and all praise belongs to God who arranged for our paths to cross and bring us together at this critical time. May we continue only as God directs and walk through those doors He opens to us.

Even our journey back to Dar es Salaam for the flights home was anything but routine. After passing a number of terrible wrecks I was reminded again that my every moment is in God's hands. There is nothing much I can do to preserve my life. So I must trust in the Lord to preserve me for the appointed days of my life.

Thanks to all of you who support Workers Together. You are giving support to a significant work that is poised to impact the world. And thanks to the brothers with whom I traveled and worked. And special thanks to Ans Mwambepo for organizing and arranging every aspect of this mission. It was very hard work that will bear much fruit in the future.



## Mwanavala Snapshots

By David Mantock  
Schuepfen, Switzerland



How can mere words describe the experience of a lifetime? They can't really, but they can at least give a picture, although limited. Tanzania was a time of great contrasts. There is the ruggedness and danger of the land contrasted against its great beauty. There is the ruggedness of the Maasai people, that contrasts not only with their outward beauty but also with the beauty of the love of God that is in their hearts. Our Maasai brethren are in a fierce battle every day, and that is how they make their living. It reminds me of the spiritual battle that we all face and how Jesus told us to combat it:

Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves. (Matthew 10:16)

What more can you say about a people that speak the Word of God to you without words. I was reminded of so many verses of Scripture just by being among the Maasai.

The next contrast I would like to mention is about us travelers and the One Who sent us. There is such a contrast between us unworthy sinners and our glorious Lord and Saviour:

What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him? (Psalms 8:4)

The LORD *is* high above all nations, *and* his glory above the heavens. (Psalms 113:4)

A telling moment for us was the clarion call to serve the King of kings. It was so inspired that it quickly brought me to tears, tears that flooded down in full realization of my total and utter dependence on Jesus my Lord. (From now on I will be more understanding when my wife Beatrice cries in Church.) The Lord loves us so much that despite our lowly state He would want to use us as labourers in His glorious kingdom. A Lord Who loves us so much He would confirm our calling to minister to the nations.

That thy way may be known upon earth, thy saving health among all nations. (Psalm 67:2)

We love you Lord. Thank you so much for loving us first.



## Mahongo Mission

By Dave Duris

I had the unique privilege to be a part of the latest mission trip to Tanzania, Africa, where the Weapons Of Our Warfare class was presented at two locations to the Maasai people. Rev. Evan Pyle, Rev. Steve Monahan, and David Mantock ministered in Mwanavala while Rev. Tim Sullivan, Daniel Bucher, Jay Pearson and myself were in Mahongo. One of the many things that deeply impacted me during the trip was the wonderful unity of the spirit that existed among our group. Despite the various challenges and levels of flexibility required during this trip, all of us worked together and seemed relatively unshaken by the ever changing schedule of events and obstacles presented. I also saw how each of us had a unique function and ministered and contributed at an appointed time, so that all that was done flowed together wonderfully and glorified God.

It was truly a testimony to the promise of God, that those who hunger and seek after righteousness shall be filled. To have access to a group of people who had virtually kept themselves separate from most Western influences was strange enough. To see the deep love and reverence for the Lord in them, coupled with a level of humility and meekness that is seldom seen in our culture, was especially significant. God had not only given us a wonderful entrance to the Maasai people, but good favor and blessings from their leaders. This type of door of opportunity to present God's Word was prepared before us by others. We were all deeply humbled to learn that many years prior to our arrival there was a faithful minister who laid the foundation by preaching the Words of Life to the Maasai people. Despite initial resistance and rejection, however, his faithfulness eventually opened up opportunities for the Word of God to take root in people's lives and paved the way for our entrance. To see this type of divine preparation made in people's hearts before the classes began truly was astounding. To be a witness of these events helped me understand that God is not only willing to orchestrate circumstances to bring people across several continents for a divine appointment, but that He is also active in preparing people's hearts to receive what He desires to impart.

On one of our final days in Tanzania, we all took part in the ordination service of our wonderful brother in

Christ, Rev. Ans Mwambepo. After spending time with Rev. Mwambepo, all my standards for a servant of the Lord were redefined. He touched all of our lives with his tireless efforts to oversee every aspect of our trip and serve us so humbly and graciously. The love relationship he had with the Maasai people was so evident that the ordination service almost felt like a wedding. It was a beautiful public declaration of the union of this loving minister to his congregation. Rev. Sullivan wonderfully orchestrated the event which also included the Blessing of the Lord over several members of the faithful believers who worked together with Rev. Mwambepo in that area in service to the Lord.

In all the events we took part in during our time in Tanzania, I was so deeply touched by the acts of sacrificial giving demonstrated by the Maasai people. It reminded me of the account in the scriptures where Jesus praised the widow woman for the sacrificial giving of her two mites into the treasury because it was all she had. It was evident that the resources available to these people were limited, yet all their gifts and expressions of love were extravagant.

I am so thankful to God for the life changing opportunity to be a part of this trip. I would also like to express thanks to the supporters of Workers Together With Him, whose prayers and giving made this opportunity available. May God continue to provide avenues where His Word can be proclaimed and embraced by people of such heart and meekness as the Maasai.



## My Life and Testimony

By Rev. Yohana Ole Ngekee  
Mbeya, Tanzania



My name is Yohana Ole Ngekee. I was born on April 28, 1941, at Mwanavala Village in East Tanzania. In my tribe I am from the family KELINGISHU, which means the prophetic family – Laiboni.

I am the fourth son of 22 children. My father had three wives. My mother gave birth to four children. She died when I was six years old. My grandmother looked after me for five years, until I was eleven years old. By that time I was brave in flock gathering, especially sheep.

In April of 1951, while I was keeping flock in the field, I saw a vision of a thunderstorm, and from it came a voice saying, “I have called thee.” A hand took me by my right hand and twisted me. But instead of being afraid, I said, “God is talking to me now.” From that time I received everlasting joy in my heart, which led me into silence all the time.

At that time, I had no education, for I was not sent to school. Then in 1957, a gentleman brought me a book. By a miracle, I learned how to read without a teacher. Soon after, my brother-in-law gave me a Holy Bible and I started to read it. It was such an inspiration to me and I realized sweetness and enlightenment in those words I was reading.

I felt guided to seek the prophetic books in the Bible rather than the other scriptures. I was most interested with the life of Elijah, and I took that name for myself.

As a young man, I became a Moran, a warrior. My father anointed me to be a Laibonian – a prophet to Laibon (the Maasai gods). I proved to be a very brave Moran, fighting lions two times. However, I turned away from reading the Bible.

In 1964 a second thunderstorm appeared to me in my sleep. I awoke to see a white cloud in front of my eyes. From within the cloud there came a voice which said to me three times, “Go to be baptized.”

At that time I knew nothing about church and I could not understand what it meant to “go to be baptized”. As I was thinking about the voice, I remembered a certain man I had read of in the Bible called John the Baptist. I reasoned that there was some relationship between the command “Go to be baptized” and this man. In my heart I thought, “I am no longer Elijah the prophet. Now I will be John the Baptist.” But at the same time I thought, “These things happened years ago. They cannot be meant for present times.”

In 1965 I became dreadfully sick. A relative brought me to the Mission hospital, and there a certain man came into the room to pray for the sick. After he finished that service, a neighboring patient told me that he was a Pastor who baptized people who believe. The next morning I asked that Pastor to baptize me. He taught me for six days and then he baptized me.

Two things happened: First I was born again and brought into God’s family. Second, I was rejected by my own family and chased away. All the privileges and wealth of my family was taken away. Still, my father advised me to stay faithful to the way that I had chosen.

For nine years I worshiped alone under the tree in

Mwanavala village. I preached the Gospel until the 10<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> years of my ministry before I found some that would believe. One of the reasons I was not accepted is because there were many reproaches concerning me due to my trust in Jesus. People said that I was the agent of the white man, sent to destroy the traditions of our tribe.

Later I began working in the Lutheran Church. During this time, I faced two more challenges: continued tribal rejection and a doctrinal crisis with the Lutherans. These two challenges hindered my ministry. I was not being treated well from either side. Neither the church nor the tribe cared for me. But I was comforted by my Master through different servants of God who joined me and revered me as a servant of God. This is happening now through my son in the faith, Ans Mwambepo who has shown great regard toward me, and through the team of WTWH – Hallelujah.

The Lord comforted me after the village of Matebete came to know the truth of Jesus and accepted Him as their personal Savior. They have completely forsaken their trust in Laibon and put their trust in Jesus alone. Glory to God that out of four regions where the Maasai live and I am ministering, Matebete is leading the way in believing and trusting in Christ Jesus only.

Moreover I thank God who sent His servant Ans to the tribe of Maasai, direct to the village of Matebete. By a wonder of God then came His servants from overseas who have nothing but the TRUTH of Jesus for my tribe.

Before you came I was like a bird walking and flying with one leg and one wing but now I have both. Glory to God! Your coming is like a farmer holding his tools with two hands. Now I come to understand that it is the Lord's harvest to most of my tribe people who still trust in Laibon. We definitely need your help to reach the lost people in my tribe, especially in Iringa, Morogoro, Dodoma and Tanga, where the powers of darkness are still strong at work. Therefore I believe that as Paul was called into Macedonia, so now it is to my tribe that you have been called to come to help us to know the truth.

It is my desire in the Lord that I might have the chance to meet and talk to your people in USA or elsewhere in the world about my burden to my people. In so doing I believe also I will have the chance to tell the people of those parts not to depend on human knowledge, and not to be satisfied with carnal wisdom, but to depend on Christ alone.

In my supplication I am awaiting the time that the Lord will provide for me so that before I die I may have that chance to visit other Continents for the Gospel – Amen!



## How the LORD brought Ans and WTWH to the Maasai

By Anna Kisota  
Matebete Village, Tanzania



Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:  
(Genesis 12:1-2)

In short, these are the words the Lord revealed to me verifying His call to me. Since that time, I met different servants of God such as Bishop Mameo Jacob, Bishop Francis, Yohana O'le Ngekee and Peter, who are also witnesses of my faith and calling.

When I was asked by the Servant of God, Ans, to present the history of how the Lord first brought him to our tribe, and through him, the miracle of receiving His truth to our tribe through the Servants of God in WTWH, I felt very humbled before God. I realized myself that I am weak to say anything about His servant to His servants. But I thank God who enabled me this day to say a few things about His Servant, Ans.

The first thing I want to say is that Ans is the servant of God sent by the Lord for the Maasai, and through him, the tribe is going to change for the Lord. There are other Saints of God who by one way or another were told by the Holy Spirit that there would come a time when the Lord would send His servant from another tribe to give light and life to our tribe. Those saints are Yohana O'le Ngekee and Bishop Francis O'le Sendeka.

My name is Anna Kisota. I am the founder of the church of Matebele which was founded in 5 February 1978, soon after my baptism on 1 January 1978. From my childhood, I had a chronic problem in my heart. For many years my parents struggled greatly to restore me to health. Then my father brought me to Church after he was advised by a Muslim teacher to do so. We traveled about 22 km to attend services.

After my baptism I had no human teacher for my spiritual life. The Holy Spirit was my only teacher. One day the Holy Ghost revealed to me that I should start services at Matebete. It also happened that a certain father presented me with the book of New Testament and a book of worship from the Lutheran Church.

As I was serving the Lord, there was progressive healing in me and finally I had a complete healing, a sign from the Lord of His Mercy and forgiveness toward me. Since 1981, I have labored in a healing ministry and some have become Christians through that holy service.

Since 1982, there have been a number of servants of God coming to Matabete to minister the Word, including some missionaries from the Lutheran denomination. I remember Missionary Mucky who had the burden to the Maasai, traveling to different parts within the Pastoralists until 1993 when his contract ended. He was the founder of the Evangelism project to our tribe. In 1993, we began the women's project for fundraising for the Gospel.

Since 1993 to 2002, everyone, including the church itself rejected me. For ten years, I was persecuted for my Lord. I had to pray with all supplication due to that destruction in the church. In 2002 I was filled with the Lord's Jealousy for His Work in the Church. I asked my Master to open the gates for His work. I shared my burden to Peter. Since the time I was chased away, there had been no growth in the Church.

Then in 2002, on November 22, at 8:30 PM, a boy from Chimala (Elkana) advised me to attend seminar at Brandt. When I went there, I was suffering from great frustration. Then, at 4:00 PM, the man of God ministering the Word began to pray for the deliverance of many people from their problems. The sick suddenly were healed. Then he asked for those who were backsliders to come forward. As I was sitting there, he commanded me to stand as if he knew me. I stood behind those who were in front. It was right then and there that I was restored.

The same night I was going back to my village of Matebete. There I testified of all the wonders found in my heart through the seminar, that I met a man of God who told me about all my need and how I was delivered. Everyone there started to ask Jesus if he could bring His servant (Ans) to our village and to the tribe at large.

It was April 2003. Our prayer group had gone to attend an Easter conference at a place called Matamba. There all of us were praying that the Lord might give the opportunity to have such meeting in our village so that our tribe could know Jesus. It was a wonderful conference to that village, but all of us from Matebete agreed that we would not attend another meeting until the Lord answered our prayers of bringing His servant to our tribe.

We planned to have a Seminar in our village in July 2003. At that time I was warned to keep quiet in the church, for the Lord was going to reveal Himself in the church. We arranged a seminar, but there was no orga-

nization. By that time, those who had been my persecutors come to repent. So nothing happened in July.

It happened that some of my fellows attended a Women's Meeting at Brandt and there met with the servant of God (Ans) as it happened to me. Then he asked why we had failed to fulfill our plan in July, talking in the Spirit as if he was there in our village when we were making the arrangements. (There it was the beginning of our spiritual relationship).

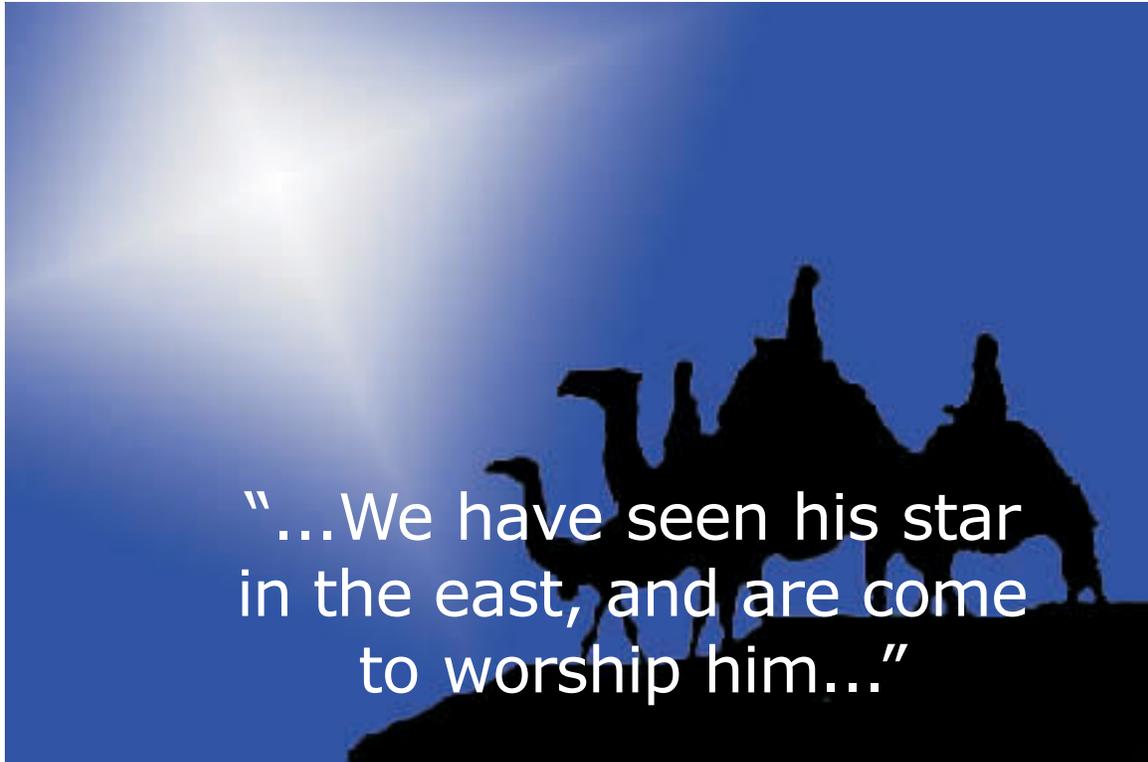
October 2003 was the first time for the servant of God to come in our village to teach the Word of God. After that wonderful service, we invited him for the first week of December. Later the church sent some of us to visit his home and Office in Tukuyu during Christmas. We had received the revelation from the Lord that Matebete would be the center (the mother) of the Lord's truth and that from there the truth would spread out to the other Pastoralist areas, and from there to the whole country.

Through the working of Lord through Ans, and then the ministers of WTWH, we have seen the vision come to pass. It true that everyone, from a little child to the eldest man, needs to listen to the Word of God through Ans. Many have been delivered and are now coming to Jesus.

The coming of WTWH at Matebete was another step formed in the ladder. There have been many different servants of God who ministered the word at Matebete, but there is a unique and very special seminar being presented by Ans and the servants of God in WTWH. The teachings are tangible and easy to grasp.

We know that in just a short time, there will be a reformation in the hearts of the Maasai. All this is due to their humbleness, and their desire to serve God. We have discovered that there are similarities between Ans and the servants of God in WTWH. It seemed as though Ans was sent to build the foundation and now they have come to build the house. (This is the amazing of the work of the Holy Spirit that Ans was found in the hearts of servants of God before they could know one another). Hallelujah! Misingai!

Lastly I say God has answered our prayers through Ans and WTWH. We see now His work has moved from Matebete to Mwanavala and Mahango. We are hoping that it will continue on through this ministry. Our tribe is now having their eyes opened to see the love of God. It is my prayer that these men of God will recognize the need of our tribe and that they will go further to minister and lift up our tribe to Christ through their teachings.



“...We have seen his star  
in the east, and are come  
to worship him...”

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