

The harvest is truly great: In 2023 it is estimated there are 8.1 billion people in the world. More than three billion are considered unreached with the gospel. That means they have little to no chance of ever hearing about Jesus, His sacrifice, and His free gift of salvation.

Labourers few: The Lord is willing to send labourers into the harvest but the labourers are not willing to go; less than 20% of born again Christians share their faith.

Therefore pray: Prayer is not in response to the harvest being truly great but the labourers being few. We are to pray that labourers will hear the Lord's call on their life and will respond faithfully going out into the harvest.



IMPACT AFRICA MISSION TRIP REPORT

Our last trip to South Africa was back in 2019 so what a thrill recently for us as a team of 22 to have the opportunity to go to Johannesburg to share Jesus throughout many communities. These included : prisons, children's holiday club x2, hospitals, mental health facilities and a visit to an orphanage. From day one each of us realised our total dependence on the Lord as we had no idea what to expect; even for those who have been many times before. It is so difficult to express in words what we have seen God do in and through each team member but we saw God's faithfulness each day as we stepped out into the unknown (Joshua 1:9). Again God brought together just the right combination of people and has begun a life-changing journey with each one. All God requires from us is our availability and surrender to His will.

We were stretched each day as we engaged in various ministries. Matthew 25:34-40 stands out as we visited the homeless on the streets to share Jesus; as we visited hospitals and mental health clinics where people were left and forgotten; as we visited prisons and shared with men and women the wonderful message of Jesus; as we witnessed children coming to understand God's love for them is so great that He sent Jesus to die on a cross. Psalm 139:5 "You are all round me on every side; you protect me with your power." We experienced this every day and we thank the Lord for His love and care for each one of us.

PRISONS – the work in the prisons continues to be fruitful, with many testifying that they have read of other prisoners who have found forgiveness in Jesus, then maybe they also could know this forgiveness and relationship with God.

As a team we visited eight regional prisons which ranged in number from 200 up to 6,000 inmates. We had five

PRaise the Lord for:

- Final figures from Impact trip. Holiday club – Over 400 commitments to Jesus; Prison – 256 first time commitments to Jesus. No figures for street and hospital ministry
- A continued number of commitments coming into the office from around Australia
- The amazing ongoing financial support we receive from various individuals and churches around Australia on a regular basis

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occasions to share Jesus with prison guards and prison authorities before entering the prison compounds to share with prisoners. Prison is a cold place, so when we entered a cell block all the inmates would be outside in the sun trying to warm up. We always took time to distribute the *Challenge* newspaper before the service and spent time chatting with prisoners. A team member would then share their testimony and another team member would preach. Then the team (12 members) would share one on one with prisoners about Jesus. We work with World Hope Prison Ministries which means prisoners and officials are followed up regularly.

Final figures from our visit: First time commitments to Christ from prisoners 256; re-commitments to Christ from prisoners 172; and those who signed up for Discipleship material – prison officials 131 and prisoners 139 = A total of 698.

HOLIDAY CLUB – We had a number of opportunities to work with children. The first week we worked with a church called Grace Gospel in a small township called Koppies which is in the Free State. Total population is 13,803 and we had the privilege of working with Pastor Molefi and his team. We arrived in the second week of school holidays and were overwhelmed when 416 children arrived the first day. The children are fed at school so we supplied breakfast and lunch each day. Our program was Creation to Christ (Creation; sin & consequences; God loves us and sent his Son; Jesus was God’s perfect Son; Jesus paid the price of sin) and all the kids fully engaged each day. We saw children leaving each day singing about Jesus as they walked down the street. At the end of the week we were thrilled to see around 350 children receive Jesus for the first time. This was followed up the next week with another program

where we saw 64 children receive Jesus; and finally a visit to a small orphanage where we had nine children put their faith in Jesus. A highlight for our team on the final day at Koppies was to hear a young girl stand up and share that she has learnt that Jesus is the only way (John 14:6) to God, no other way. Pastor Molefi reported back to our team that the following Sunday his church was overflowing with people.

OTHER MINISTRY – We visited a hospital in Roodepoort and were able to visit many patients and share Jesus one on one as well as the Wellness Centre with many residents there with mental health issues. We visited Tabitha House which is also a mental health facility and had a great time sharing with the residents. Lastly we engaged in street ministry where we were able to distribute *Challenge* newspaper.

PRAYER needed for:

- Various ministries we worked with while in South Africa as they continue to follow up on all the commitments made - Multi Ministries, World Hope Prison Ministries, Cheerful Care Givers, Grace Gospel Ministries in Koppies, Tabitha House, Tshepo Themba Clinix with pastor Mbali
- A replacement Editor to free up Carl to concentrate on promotion and development of the paper both in Australia and overseas
- Ananda and Grace Pula as they head up the Challenge work in Malawi. Pray for the Lord’s protection and provision as they boldly proclaim Christ

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