

Lost Sheep Ministry News

March 2018--West Africa - Nigeria

The Great Commission: Matthew 28: 18 - 20 is a commission for all Christians to go, make Disciples, baptize them, and teach them to **OBEY** all that I have commanded. LSM is dedicated to evangelizing the lost and making Disciples of Christ that make Disciples of Christ according to II Timothy 2:2.

Notes from Pastor Bob: Jon Friesen and I teamed again to take the Gospel of Jesus to other nations in obedience to Acts 1:8.

We returned to the West Africa nation of Nigeria this trip from March 21 through April 7, 2018.

Saturday evening March 24, 2018.

I have been delaying the start of this newsletter because in my mind we have not done anything but travel by car, plane, and car for 32 hours with a 4-hour rest at a hotel in Lagos after arriving. However, God has reminded me that since arriving in Lagos, Jon led the receptionist at the hotel there to Christ. In addition, while we have been here at the hotel in Asaba, Nigeria, I have led six employees here to Christ and Jon has prayed for healing for two. Even though we are in our room waiting for our ride to a meeting tonight, I need to get started with this Newsletter. I understand we will be in Asaba, Nigeria until Wednesday and then on to Nnewi for



the Men's conference at *Save the Lost Mission*.

It is now 10 p.m. Pastor Philip and his son picked us up to share at his church tonight. They are ending a women's retreat. Jon and I shared messages of love and encouragement for the women and younger ladies there. Tomorrow 15 teen-age girls will go through a coronation ceremony to serve Jesus Christ. It is similar to Confirmation ceremony in front of the church body committing to serve Jesus Christ. Tomorrow we will speak at three churches in the morning. Psalm Sunday is my spiritual birthday. What an honor and humbling experience knowing that of all the Christians in the world God has chosen Jon & me to share his wonderful message from His Holy Bible. We indeed are men of God, Sent by God, with a message from God!

Monday morning 8:30 am

We began yesterday morning by attending Chuckwudu's church. He and his wife Chioma are caring for us during our stay in Asaba. Rev. Tony Okeke has given them the assignment to care for us. We stayed with them last year also. They showed us the property where they will build a new church. Then John and I shared messages with the congregation. They are a small but dynamic group praising the Lord in song. We could only stay for about 30 minutes, as we had to leave for the next church. We drove for about 35 minutes to *Save the Lost Mission*

We were there for about 1 hour. The church was full and we enjoyed a great service. They took a special offering at the end and raised 500,000 Naira \$1,390. Wow, we had shared with them during the service the importance of giving back to God. You cannot give to God more than He can give to you. The currency of the world the devil's domain is cash BUT the currency of God's kingdom is FAITH!



We then travelled back to Asaba to Pastor Phillip's church where we had shared last night at the Women of Distinction conference. Today we were asked to crown the young ladies who have dedicated themselves to be a Woman of Distinction honoring Jesus Christ. We gave each young lady a Dove lapel pin reminding them that their bodies are the temple of God. We placed a crown on each of their heads distinguishing them as a Princess in God's Royal Kingdom.

Jon & I led these young people to the Lord yesterday after church. This makes ten salvations so far. Amen. I am encouraged by their willingness to listen and dialogue with us. I believe John Overton has it right about the lessons he has



prepared to win our youth to Christ.

Please check out our

website at www.lostsheepministries.com the Equipping Students link www.equippingstudents.com. We must take the gospel message to these young people where they are! We need to continue to pray for our children and grandchildren.

Sunday evening: we visited Madam Janeth Okpaire from Edo State. She is a member of Chuckwudo's church. Last year we visited her home. She had been crippled for many years and walks with a cane. Her legs were very swollen. She asked me to come

and visit her home and pray for her. So Jon and I did. Anyway, if you do not remember reading about it last year in my newsletter I anointed her swollen legs with oil and prayed for healing. She shouted, stood up, and threw her cane away. She has been walking without her cane for a year now. Her legs are not swollen but she has one big toe that still is. She continually gives praise to the Lord for healing her.

It is hard to describe the joy in my heart as God allows us the honor to represent Him to His loved ones. Jon gave her that new dress and she was so happy. I gave her the Teddy Bear from Lifeway Christian Book store. Thanks to the staff there, that helps me purchase gifts at 90% off sale after Christmas. They are also able to donate Bibles at times for me to bring with me.



Now for the icing on the cake. Last year John and Faith came to my



hotel to introduce me to their new baby daughter. "Pastor Bob we want you to name her for us". Wow! I was stunned. I prayed and gave her my mother's name Bernice. She will be one year old next month. What an honor for me to name this beautiful baby girl after my mother. I am sure she is smiling down from heaven. My daughter Amanda named her baby daughter Bernice also after her grandmother (my mother). My daughter Elizabeth named her daughter Emma after my wife's mother. So our girls our honoring their grandmothers and Carol and I are truly blessed!

Bernice's mother, Ofordu Faith Ugochi, posted on Face book, "It's a great honor sir. Moreover, great thank you to our Father Rev Tony who gave us the privilege. She will evangelize the world like you daddy Bob".



We also visited Mr. Monday and his wife Rita. We encouraged them to stay faithful and to thank God for the trials and tribulations they are going through. In the book of James 1:2-4, we are encouraged to consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your

On Tuesday March 27, 2018, both Jon and I became ill. Jon began to have severe stomach pains. Unfortunately, we must cut our visit short and return to the USA.

We rested at the home of Chukwudi in Asaba. On Wednesday, we ventured out to visit and encourage several pastors. We also visited a businessperson who is donating bricks to build the new church. We were there about one hour and he allowed us to share with his laborers and we had five men pray to receive Christ as Savior. We were scheduled to travel to Nnewi today but they changed it until tomorrow (Thursday). I am getting better, Jon is getting worse. We arrived in Nnewi after about a one and ½ hour car ride. Someone should pick you up about five or six we were told. By seven no one showed and I called Pastor Tony and he said we will begin tomorrow (Friday). Jon & I were in the restaurant about 7:30 pm when we met 2 doctors. They questioned Jon and prodded and poked and thought it might be appendicitis. On Friday, Jon saw a different doctor and he thought the same and wanted to operate there in Nnewi. Jon and I decided to go home rather than go through surgery in Africa! We left about noon to drive to Lagos about an eight-hour drive to change our flight from Friday 30 March to tonight. We had to drive through Asaba about one and ½ hours from Nnewi and I knew there was an airport there and I asked the driver to stop so we could check on any flights going to Lagos this afternoon. Yes! One is leaving at 4 pm arriving at 5:15 pm. We booked two tickets and waited in the waiting area. Jon is hurting! God sets a man near us and I begin talking with him. He is a Doctor. WOW, He had some pain pills to help Jon. In addition, he drove us from the local airport to the international airport. We checked with KLM and could not get on the flight leaving tonight.

We travelled to a nearby hotel to spend the night. During the night from 2 am until 4 am, I used the Internet to klm.com trying to change our flight to get home as soon as possible. About 4 am we were told that we could leave on an April 1st flight arriving home on 2 April. The cost about \$1,700. I tried to book it but my debit card and credit card were denied.

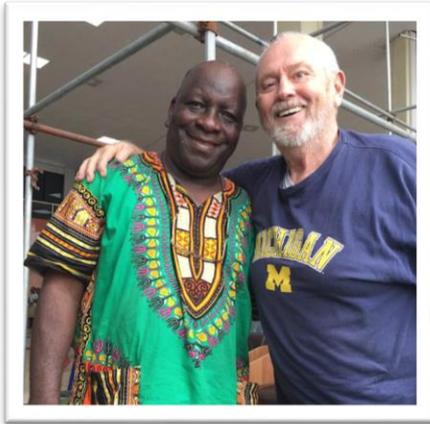
About 5:30, Jon woke me and said we have to go to the hospital Now! We called the taxi driver who took us to the hotel from the airport last night. He came and took us to a small clinic but they could not help so we went to the Lagos State University Teaching Center arriving about 8 am.

I called Pastor Tony and he contacted Sylvester and he came with his wife Blessing and stayed with us until we left to board the plane that night. Yes, you read it. While Jon was being cared for we went to the airport and back to the KLM office. Oops, it does not open until 3:30 pm. We waited in a restaurant until they opened. The day before the attendant told us that we could not get a flight until Friday our scheduled flight. Well, God had another plan. We checked with another and was told that we could schedule a flight leaving at 1:05 am on 1 April and arriving in Houston at 1:45 pm on 1 April via Paris France on Air France. The cost of this flight was \$640. This revised schedule cost \$1,000 less and arrived a day earlier! You go God! My debit card worked with no problem this time. We have boarding passes yah! Jon arrived at the airport with our taxi driver who has been with us all day. He was a blessing to us. He is a Muslim, we shared our beliefs and he chose not to receive Christ but the Muslims really do write great things about Jesus in the Koran. God really used him to bless us so I must add him to my prayer list for salvation.

Jon received three IV's, a shot, and some medication. The doctor told him after looking at x-rays and ultra-sound she believes he has kidney stones.

While waiting for our plane my dear friend Sam Kputu came to see if he could help. He is director of an awesome ministry called Calvary Missions. I share with you from their website their six pillars for service: These six pillars are the motivating factor for all our enterprise.

- **Holiness:** Our ministry is the outflow of our life. We cannot give what we do not have. Therefore, our first priority is to be like Christ.
- **Love:** Love for God, for our fellow laborers, and for the people we seek to reach.
- **Sacrifice:** A willingness to spend and be spent for the cause of enthroning Christ among those who are yet to hear.
- **Faith:** We do not go by what we have but by the sufficiency of our God to meet every need
- **Evangelism:** Our passion is souls.
- **Militancy/Determination:** We are rugged soldiers of the cross and must not entangle ourselves with civilian matters.



God has really blessed me to see my dear brother Sam. He indeed is leading a group taking the gospel message to unreached people groups in the world. Sam scheduled me to speak at a conference in Houston on August 31 this year. PTL!

We boarded the eight hour flight to Paris. The whole back of the plane is empty! There were more than a 100 empty seats. Jon and I went to the back of the plane and lay across the empty seats. I fell asleep at 1:30 am and they awoke me at 7:30 am to tell me to sit up we are arriving. Jon and I were both using wheel chair service. We were met at the arrival gate and given a ride to the departure gate to enter the next flight to Houston. We did not see much of the airport in Paris. We then took another 9-hour flight to IAH (Houston) with tighter small economy seats. However, Jon was sitting next to me and the flight attendants could see he was ill and

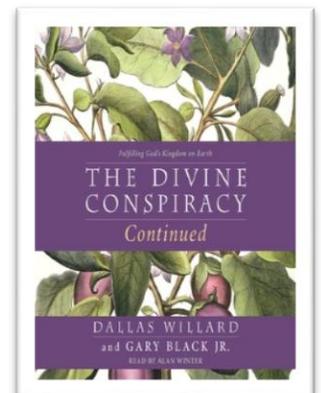
moved him into premium economy seat, which is a bit more comfortable. We arrived in Houston at 1:45 pm and changed Jon's return flight to Florida for 8 PM Sunday evening.

I realize during those hectic days we lead some to Christ and encourage a multitude of others. It is music to my ears when I hear someone say, "Oh, that is Pastor Bob he is a man of God." Indeed, I am "bought with a price the blood of Jesus Christ, therefore glorify God in your body and your soul"! Amen, amen, amen & amen.

Jon is doing well and healing with medication. Also today (Tuesday) I had the honor to lead two young ladies to Christ. One at the AT&T store and then PTL! My granddaughter Tori who is my oldest grandson Stefan's wife. Come quickly Lord Jesus but until you come Send Me! Just one MORE Soul Lord!

Recommended Reading: *The Divine Conspiracy Continued* by: Dallas Willard and Gary Black Jr.. There is no more important voice on spiritual truth in our day than that of Dallas Willard. To be able to receive fresh words from him along with Gary Black Jr. on the reality of the kingdom in our midst is a precious gift.

Paperback available from Amazon.com for \$10.98 and Hardbound edition for \$15.85.



Tax Deductible Donations to LSM: Lost Sheep Ministries is a 501(c) non-profit organization. Donations may be made to LSM, 2951 Marina Bay Drive, Suite 130-144, League City, TX 77573. We seek funds to travel, equip, and commission others to take the Gospel of Christ to all nations.

Note: All of our Newsletters and Power point discipleship presentations along with student manuals are available free from our web: www.lostsheepministries.com

Also, check out our website, equippingstudents.com.