

# THE GILLHAM GAZETTE



## June 2010 Edition

**"In his heart a man plans his course, but the Lord determines his steps" Proverbs 16:9**

Dear friends and supporters,

Sometimes in life there are glaring reminders that we are not in control, but God is. Let us share with you one of our recent reminders from the mission trip to Osire Refugee Camp that we asked you to pray for last time.



### Diary of the Word Alive Mission trip to Osire Refugee Camp

**8am Friday:** Team of 15 leave Windhoek full of energy and excitement.

**11am Friday:** arrive at Camp gates to find 6 foreign students are refused entry and cannot participate in the mission.

**2pm Friday:** the 9 people left enter the camp and begin to meet with youth and pastors

**Dinner Friday:** the team regroup at our accommodation outside of the camp to make plans. 2 of those refused entry were to be giving main talks at the conference, so I spend the night preparing two extra talks.

**Saturday morning:** over 120 people gather for the conference with a great eagerness to know more of God through his Word.

**Saturday evening:** the team gathers together again to discover that the 6 who had been left out had decided to visit the local farms to invite children and youth to an afternoon program of gospel teaching. 52 children come and are greatly blessed!

**Sunday morning:** members of the team preach in 8 different churches inside and outside the refugee camp, and teach Sunday School or youth programs in 6 churches.

**Sunday 2pm:** a car with 3 team members being driven back from a church to the accommodation rolls over on an isolated dirt road. No-one is seriously injured but it takes 2 hours for us to find the car, turn it back up and start limping home.

**Sunday 7pm:** as we were still driving slowly toward home, an oryx (a deer the size of a horse) ran at full pace into the side of the second car which I was driving. It's head smashed through the driver's window shattering both glass and nerves... but again without serious injuries to anyone but the oryx.

**Wednesday Dinner:** We have the team over for dinner and a debrief. They are all talking about how the ministry was so good and we mustn't let worldly cares affect our efforts to share Jesus with others.

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PRAY

CARE

GIVE

GO

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### What have we learnt?

**Our plans are not necessarily God's plans... but his plans are always better.**

- We had planned to go to a Refugee Camp and teach through John's gospel about the sufferings of the Lord Jesus and how suffering on the road to glory is the pattern of the Christian life. We did that, but I am sure that we learnt much more than we taught about enduring suffering, pain and disappointment as we seek to proclaim and live for Jesus.
- We had planned to speak to around 120 people, meet with youth and church leaders in Osire. We did that, but we also were able to evangelise and encourage 52 children of farm workers and to teach, encourage and share fellowship with two churches that we didn't even know were there.
- We had planned for this to be learning experience for our students as an integrated part of their training for ministry. In truth this may well be the most memorable and profound learning experience that any of them will have in their time at NETS. We continue to talk with one another day by day about why things happen and the cost of being a disciple of Christ.

### How are your plans going?

It is just so easy for us to be caught up with our own plans and priorities, and to become dejected when things don't work out the way we want them to. Sometimes we cannot possibly see how what has happened has been for our own good, and maybe we will have to wait for the return of Jesus before that becomes clear. God does work all things for the good of those that love him however (Romans 8:28), so we should be ready to persevere through what we see as good times and bad. Our team reminded us again that we shouldn't let worldly cares affect our efforts to share the Lord Jesus with others. Your partnership with us through CMS is a great expression of this concern to see the Lord Jesus honoured all over the world.

### Plan to get behind 'One Life, One Mission.'

We as the CMS family need to raise over one million dollars this month to keep all of our missionaries (like us) on the field. It costs about \$265 a day please plan to get behind the work of CMS with your finances.

### Prayer Points

- Pray for Simon as he takes on the Principal's role at NETS for the rest of the year, in addition to his current responsibilities
- Pray for a refreshing mid-year break for staff and students
- Praise God for his faithfulness in always giving us the best, and not always what we want

