



Mission to Cameroon and Tanzania _____ By Tom Edwards

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Tanzania

For the past 14 years, Renewal Ministries has conducted mission outreaches to this East African country. This time we had planned a priest retreat, workshops, and outdoor rallies in the Diocese of Bukoba in northern Tanzania.

Delayed and cancelled flights caused us to arrive three days late. As a result, we missed our portion of the retreat for priests. Our Tanzanian brothers were able to fill-in for us. The retreat was attended by 55 priests and featured a great talk by Auxiliary Bishop Method Kilaini, who has been involved in the Charismatic Renewal for many years.

We did arrive in time to present two workshops and conduct a rally each day. The workshop on healing and deliverance was attended by about 600 each day. The pro-life workshop was attended by 60 people each day.

The afternoon rallies began at 2:00 p.m. each day and continued until sundown. Each afternoon about 3,000 people gathered on a large grassy field on the shores of Lake Victoria. The people came from far and wide with great and expectant faith. Each day was marked with many professions of faith, as well as an abundance of those who testified of blessings received.

Cameroon

Next we traveled to the country of Cameroon on the western side of the African continent. The trip from Tanzania to Cameroon took 22 hours, required two flights and a seven-hour drive over rough and treacherous roads with six people and our luggage crammed into a four-passenger pick-up truck. It was the rainy season and at times we were negotiating mountainous roads high above the clouds.

Our mission activities began in Bamenda with radio interviews and a pro-life teaching. In the evening, we conducted a crusade in the cathedral with approximately 2,000 people present. After I spoke on “The Holy Spirit and Power,” Fr. Ernest processed the Blessed Sacrament and we began ministering. The evening was marked by a profound movement of the Spirit through deliverance, healings and revival.

On the second morning in Bamenda, we made several presentations to about 70 prayer group leaders from surrounding parishes. Jean visited a group of HIV-positive men and women and spoke to them about God’s love and forgiveness.

That evening, we conducted a second crusade at Bayella Parish a few miles away. Jean gave a testimony which touched the hearts of many. I spoke on “Yielding to the Spirit.” This was followed by adoration, prayer ministry, healing and deliverance. Once again several thousand people were present.

Early the next morning we departed for the Diocese of Buea in Southwest Cameroon. It was an arduous seven hour trip. That evening we conducted an evangelization rally in a very large church with approximately 2,000 people present. After four talks and a testimony, we began adoration and prayer ministry which continued past 4:00 a.m.!

The following day, we drove approximately two hours to Kumba. After interviews at the local radio station and a meeting with the local priests, we conducted another evangelistic crusade. Once again, the big church was packed. We followed the same format of four talks and prayer ministry which continued all night.

Our last stop was in Yaounde. After another long journey we enjoyed a late dinner with some of the leaders of the local and national Charismatic Renewal of Cameroon. The next day we participated in the National Charismatic Leaders Conference. I gave a talk on “The New Evangelization and Proclaiming Jesus as Lord.” In the evening, we conducted another evangelization crusade followed by prayer ministry. +



Jean Thompson shared her testimony in the Diocese of Cameroon.

TESTIMONY

By Jean Thompson

THE PEOPLE in the pro-life workshops were attentive and hungry. Both men and women asked very thoughtful, specific questions about Natural Family Planning, contraceptives, and abortion.

At the end, one nurse admitted that she and her doctor husband performed abortions. Now they could see it was a child infused with a soul by God. They are no longer performing abortions! Both men and women were seeking to go to confession. Some of the men in the group told us they would now be pro-life warriors as the battle for life escalates in Tanzania.

I also met two women – Margaret and Maria – whom God had already prepared to step out and aid women who are considering abortion. On her radio program, Margaret gave out her personal phone number for women to call. Maria offered her home to women who needed a place to stay during their unplanned pregnancy. I was deeply touched by these two beautiful women. +



Many people traveled long distances to attend the rallies in Bukoba, Tanzania. Several hundred camped on the shore of Lake Victoria.



Peter Newburn was instrumental in coordinating our efforts in Cameroon. Peter and his family are serving here as lay missionaries for three years.



The Renewal Ministries team met with Auxiliary Bishop Method Kilaini of Bukoba, Tanzania.

