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Lloyd and Nancy Greenhaw minister in the United States, Haiti, Papua New Guinea, Ethiopia, and several other countries in Africa. They conduct missions, conferences, and retreats for adults and youth. They are also involved in prison ministry and work with the homeless.

Spreading the GOSPEL in Ethiopia

In Ethiopia, less than one percent of the population is Catholic. This gave our teaching an increased importance, as some in attendance were trying to decide whether they wanted to persevere in their faith amid the persecution that results from such an environment.

Catholics in the Bahir Dar Diocese have been in the same chapel for thirty years. In those same years, the number of mosques has increased from one to forty-two! The diocese is about 350 miles long. Since Bishop Lisane-Christos Matheos Semahun has only one diocesan priest (although there are other priests in various orders), each week he travels roughly 700 miles round-trip to bring Mass to his small flock. With such small numbers, the bishop said his real hope for the future lies with the university students.

We spent our first two days with priests, sisters, and a catechist who kept the Catholic faith alive for eight years in a very remote region with his preaching, teaching, the Bible, and the rosary. There were no sacraments, no priests, and no communication with the outside world. When priests arrived in 2000, they had to perform many marriages and thousands of baptisms and confirmations. Also, there were no roads or buildings, and malaria was rampant.

Women here, like in many countries we visit, are oppressed and marginalized. They do everything, while the husband does virtually nothing. When a young man wants to marry, the "Bride Price" is that his family has to give the bride's family a sister of his as a virtual slave. The saying is, "I marry the one I love, she (my sister) marries the one she doesn't love."

The bishop asked us to talk on the Jubilee of Mercy, Catholic apologetics, and the Five Keys. He told us many were discouraged by the daily struggles and persecution from many fronts.

Lloyd explained the implications of the word "Extraordinary" and the Old Testament meaning of a Jubilee. He told them that during the Jubilee, all debts were forgiven, family homesteads were restored, and all slaves were freed. He told them we all owed a debt that we could never pay and that our Holy Father Francis was giving us a way out of that debt. He shared the story of a Syrian general who went to the prophet Elisha to cure his leprosy, and how the prophet told his servant to instruct the general to jump into the Jordan River seven times in order to be healed.



Bishop Lisane-Christos Matheos Semahun travels roughly 700 miles round-trip weekly to bring Mass to his small flock.



Lloyd pictured with a catechist who kept the Catholic faith alive for eight years in a very remote region of Ethiopia.



The general left angry, but was persuaded to at least try going in the river. When he finally did, he was fully healed (see 2 Kgs 5:1-14). Lloyd used this story to explain that the requirements for a plenary indulgence don't have to be complicated in order to work. He said we must not let this visitation from the Lord pass us by. **Jesus wept because the people of His time refused to recognize the time of their visitation (Lk 19:41-44), so Lloyd urged them,**

“Don't make Jesus cry!”

He shared what we consider to be a family miracle that occurred immediately after the declaration of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy. Our two daughters married fine young men. At first, they were great friends, but as in many families, something caused them to become enemies. This caused real heartache for us, as it put a strain on all our family get-togethers.

Therefore, imagine our surprise when we received an email from one of our daughters (after Pope Francis declared the Jubilee), saying that one son-in-law had called the other, to ask for forgiveness for his bad behavior, and to say that he wanted to get our families close once again! The restoration of families is real!

Lloyd then shared that we have grandchildren who are slaves to drugs and alcohol who we believe God will free during the Jubilee. He challenged people to have faith that God can free them from their slaveries too, whether they be fear, gossip, loneliness, sexual impurity, or substances. Nothing is impossible for God!

When we later spoke about the Five Keys to Freedom, we were surprised by how excited and animated the participants got. Our words obviously hit home. I was only planning to give an overview, but it became obvious that they wanted more, so that is what we did. I taught all day Thursday and was back for more Friday. They all wanted my notes. **The attendees said they had conversion experiences, the talks changed their lives, and they rediscovered a child-like joy.**

Lloyd challenged people to have **FAITH** that God can **FREE** them from their slaveries...

NOTHING is impossible **FOR GOD!**



University students came from up to 550 miles away for Lloyd and Nancy's presentation. The bishop said these students are his hope for the future of the Catholic Church in Ethiopia.



The next day, we began the program with university students and young adults from different dioceses. We had 170 participants from eight different locations. The bishop had convinced these youth to come from up to 550 miles away. He told them this program would strengthen and renew their Catholic faith and help them face challenges from those who oppose the Catholic faith. Some of the students knew us from last year and had come back with friends.

We then traveled to Addis Ababa. On the way, we saw absolutely stunning countryside. Every available plot of land is being used, even the ones on the sides of hills that are filled with rocks. It is a real clash of cultures to see the people plowing with horses and a wooden plow while they hold cell phones.

In Addis Ababa, we taught religious, postulants, aspirants, lay leaders, university students, and Charismatics. With the Charismatics, we asked the Lord for new gifts of tongues, healing, prophesy, faith, and more. It seemed that most people in the room got tongues for the first time! As we prayed for healing individually by laying on hands, several people received a major deliverance and one man walked out without his cane! Many testified that the Lord had healed them. It was a very powerful day! ✝

