

# Mission to Zambia

by Lloyd Greenhaw

OUR FIRST EVER mission trip to Zambia was very fruitful. The week-long training program for 50 lay leaders and about 10 religious sisters was hosted by the Kekako Community of Lusaka at the Mt. Zion Retreat Center. The overall leader is a man named Fanwell Chilondela, an evangelist and a musician who has made a number of musical albums that fund his ministry. He has a great working relationship with all the bishops of Zambia and the community is similar to the Emmaus Community in Uganda, where all the leaders of Kekako have been formed. They do outreaches all over Zambia as well as in Malawi, Namibia, and Botswana. They are solidly Catholic and enjoy a strong relationship with the bishops and are committed to the work of evangelization in Africa.

The retreat center is owned and run by the Daughters of the Redeemer Sisters who work closely with the Kekako Community and offer them reduced prices for food and lodging, which really helps. One of these sisters came the first day of the Unbound prayer session, but she was taken to the hospital later that night for chronic asthma, and stayed there several days. On our last evening Nancy prayed over her and she received a visible and immediate healing in her lungs. She had a sort of startled look on her face, took several deep breaths, began to laugh and said, "I am healed."

Fr. Collins Moonga is the chaplain of the community. He went to the university and graduated with a degree in engineering and was the national champion in high jump. He went into business and became very successful, but felt the call of the Lord in his life. He finally decided to leave his work and went into the seminary; he persevered and was ordained last year. He attended all our sessions and couldn't thank us enough for what we brought to his people.

At the opening session I spoke on the Year of Faith and the historic opportunity we have to receive more of the gift of faith. We closed with an invitation to accept Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our faith. The music was way beyond good! These people know how to praise the Lord! The richness of their voices and their ability to express their love of God was very special, and we were richly blessed.

Each day we had the same schedule: breakfast at 8:00 am, sessions from 9:00 until 12:30, then



**We conducted a fruitful week-long training program for lay leaders and sisters, focusing on Apologetics, the New Evangelization and Unbound prayer and deliverance.**

lunch, the afternoon session from 2:00-4:30 and then Mass and dinner. Each evening we had different sessions. The first night we showed videos of Renewal Ministries' outreaches. A few nights we had praise and worship sessions. One night was an empowerment in the Holy Spirit and another a night of healing centered on the Blessed Sacrament.

During the day Nancy taught on the Five Keys to Freedom through Unbound Prayer and I taught on Catholic Apologetics and the New Evangelization. The participants were so happy to have strong biblical answers to the many challenges that confront them from non-Catholics. After the talks we divided the class into small groups where they discussed how to apply the teaching to their lives and ministry.

After each session we allowed questions and as usual the session on forgiveness resulted in the most discussion. Nancy always teaches that forgiveness is a decision, not a feeling, and that Jesus showed us that forgiveness is possible, even in our pain. During the discussion one participant finally shouted, "It is not an option!" There was a lot of soul searching after that talk and several people shared that they had forgiven for the first time in their lives!

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When the participants were told of the total delight that the Father has for them, it seemed like a light went on in their hearts. Many shared that they knew God loved them but had never really thought that He actually delighted in them. Some shared that they had thought of the Father as “a big policeman in the sky”, but now felt the real love of God for the first time.

This group has a strong foundation and is really committed to the New Evangelization. Several came from as far away as 600 kilometers to get our training. They said they came to learn more about deliverance, but found the sessions more like a personal retreat. Day by day you could see the Lord healing them of so much hurt and many found a depth of freedom they never knew was possible. They were so excited and have asked us to return for a regional conference next August when leaders from several countries will eagerly come.

Here are excerpts from a few testimonies.

“I am part of a community of evangelizers and I’ve actually been in this community 9-10 years. Last year when I did the Unbound program in Uganda there is something that really improved tremendously in my life. During the Unbound program one of the keys, the Father’s Blessing, really touched and completely changed my life. Though I have been preaching to other people about God’s love, deep down in my heart something was there which did not actually give me the true picture of being a child of God. But after the Unbound program I can inherit everything that my Father has. It gave me the confidence to trust more in my Father, knowing that he delights in me. I am always happy because I know that my Father will come and attend to my needs. So this really has built my life, and I look at God as my own

Father.” –Fanwell Chilondela From Zambia

“I am privileged to have attended this workshop because it opened up and has defined the reasons why I should evangelize. I feel empowered because it is my very personal experience that I am going to share and that testimony is going to transform others. You have given us a conviction that we matter, that I matter as a sister; I matter in my parish and in my family and everywhere even in my place of work. I want to make my life the Gospel for other people. Thank you very much. –Sr. Maureen from the Archdiocese of Kasama

“I did the Unbound in Uganda last year and it really helped to get everything out that I was hiding in that shell. Most of all I started to use the Unbound Model in my ministry. Two weeks ago I returned from Namibia, another neighboring country. We prayed over 15 people and we used this Unbound Model and what it did was tremendous. One lady was in bed for 18 years; she had suffered from a stroke. We counseled her and she decided to forgive and when we led her in the Miracle Prayer to give her life to Jesus, she got on her feet and was able to walk!” –Angela from Zambia +



Worship throughout the week was exceptionally rich and the music was a beautiful expression of their love for the Lord.