

# **JONVIA INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES**

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12 April 2010

## **MINISTRY REPORT**

It was my pleasure and privilege to co-ordinate and hosts a joint ministry tour with Evangelist, Sister Jean Neil of the Elim Pentecostal Church of Britain. A friend and prayer partner, Sister Caroline Barrow from Yorkshire, accompanied her. We traveled well over 3000 kilometers. The ministry tour started 4 March in Cape Town to deep into the Frontier country of the Eastern Cape, ending 4 April in Port Elizabeth.

Amid great challenges regarding transport, finances and opportunities to minister, we planned this trip in faith after Jean phoned and said God told her to come to South Africa.

We commenced ministry with crusade services in the open air as well as in the auditorium arranged by the pastor of Lofdal Ministries, Dr Gustav Du Toit and a home church gathering arranged by Shawn Poulton. Jean rose to the challenge in extreme temperature changes, and God honored His word with many lives being touched by the power of God in healings and deliverance. To God be the glory for His awesome power!

During the Cape Town visit, Pastor Oliver Raper Jnr who first met Jean when her healing took place in Birmingham and Thea Brits of Christ for All Nations welcomed the team with their kind hospitality on various occasions.

There was hardly time to take in the beauty of Cape Town, before we were on the road, down the South Western Cape coastal road to the George/Mosselbay area. We ministered there on 8 formal and many informal occasions. God again poured out a mighty anointing, His healing power, confirmed by families, touching many that we prayed for. Churches came together across denominational lines to experience God's visitations during these special healing ministry meetings.

Pastor Oliver Raper Snr in George, who in the past co organized her tours in South Africa, among others, hosted the team. Ps Raper is a retired associate minister of Elim (ECI) and one of the pioneers of the Pentecostal Movement in South Africa.

From George and the Southern Cape area, we traveled the scenic Garden Route, through Knysna and Plettenberg Bay to Port Elizabeth (PE). Here accommodation was right on the beachfront at the headquarters of Jonvia International Ministries.

Jean and Caroline were blessed here, to go for long walks between ministry sessions, next to the Indian Ocean, enjoying God's creation in the warm South African weather.

With school holidays and the Easter weekend hampering ministry opportunities, we were blessed in every meeting we were invited to, large or small groups. People were so responsive to the Spirit of God; we even had some folk come to our house to be ministered to.

Tuesday the 23<sup>rd</sup> we traveled to the Addo Elephant Park, one hour's drive from Port Elizabeth, enjoying a great time with the giants of Africa. One came up really close to Jean to test her courage. She just looked at him, and let him pass on by.

The evening we looked the devil in the eye as we ministered in an African Tin Shack church in Addo. The people were so hungry for God. As we prayed and ministered, people were set free from demonic spirits and healings took place in body, soul and spirit! It was well past midnight when we finally got to bed, exhausted but blessed.

The next part of this tour took us to the interior of the Eastern Cape, to the towns of Bedford and Adelaide where we were told that the Christians had been fasting and praying prior to our arrival. What expectation! "God send us revival", was the cry of their hearts. "Make bare Thy mighty arm in power and might." Amid thunderstorms and rain showers, people came, and God touched lives, ministering to their needs. Here a mother and father asked Jean if we would go and pray for their newborn baby back in PE.

The team was hosted by David and Mary Khoury who have challenged people from near and far to be part of this ministry healing venture.

After two days there, we moved on to the town of Fort Beaufort, deeper into the land of the Xhosa people.

Dr Kruger and his wife, our hosts of the Apostolic Faith Mission of SA, immediately got Jean involved in ministry among senior folk in a care home. At the anointed evening service we saw a little girl's deaf ear opened.

Sunday morning we were in a typical black township area as guests of the Presbyterian Church. "Welcome, feel free to do as the Spirit of God leads you", were the welcoming words. Who could blame Jean for removing her shoes and going for a run around the church amongst the cheering and clapping, while the congregation rejoiced at the demonstration of Gods healing power. HIV/Aids and different diseases were prayed for and many hearts were uplifted in faith and turned to Jesus.

All too soon we were back in PE; with one week of the tour left. In the hospital Jean and Caroline went to pray for the sick baby. Doctors were amazed a few days later at the speedy progress to health this baby was making.

Jon-Paul, our son and ministry partner, felt led to invite Jean to the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University where he is studying and my wife, Jessica, is a lecturer. He invited his group of Christian friends, who in turn invited their friends, Christian and non-Christians, and soon the numbers grew. The students were set on fire for God and some even committed their lives to Jesus that day! Please pray with them for a revival on campus. Here black and white and many cultures are not only studying together, but also praying together.

An invitation to a cell group meeting in a home later became a full blown service in a local Covenant Church as people reached out for the demonstration of the Power of God.

Then came the invitation from Prof Hugh Glover, one of our prayer partners at one of the Methodist Churches for Sunday night, 4 April. This was to be the last ministry opportunity of the tour. God met with young and old, restoring, anointing and healing. It was quite a sight to see how God moved in this assembly!

In conclusion, we are happy to report that; twenty-seven official meetings were held with many smaller ministry opportunities, bringing the amount up to 44, I think it was, last Jean counted. And that all in one month while traveling many thousands of kilometers!

All too soon Monday 5 April arrived, and Jean and Caroline were on the way to Johannesburg heading for Dubai and final destination, the UK.

Was the trip worth it all? Ask those whose lives have been changed. Those healed by the power of God. Each one says a BIG.... YES...YES and again YES!!!

Thank you to all who supported the tour with constant prayer, those who supplied accommodation and meals and cared for our other needs. You all were part of every victory that was won.

Especially thank you to all the ministers and colleagues of mine who opened their churches and hearts to this team.

The tour was evidence of the fact that God uses ordinary people in extraordinary ways to minister to those in need.

To God be the Glory, Praise and Honor!

Sincerely

**PASTOR PAUL RAPER**

Director: Jonvia International Ministries &

Associate minister of the Elim Church Incorporated.