



SPECIAL EDITION

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FAITHWALK

Courage for the Journey



The Promise

By Ron Susek

When Dr. David Livingston first saw the majestic falls known to the Africans as "Mosi oa-Tunya" ("the smoke that thunders"), he wrote, *It has never been seen before by European eyes, but scenes so wonderful must have been gazed upon by angels in their flight.* Honoring his queen, the Scotsman renamed them Victoria Falls.

The Promise

(Con't. from page 1)

Here, the Zambezi River plunges 328 feet over a vertical chasm. The falls stretch a staggering one mile in width. On most days, the “smoke that thunders” creates rainbows, revealing God’s promise to Noah to never again judge the world by a universal flood. The Zambezi River begins with raindrops falling upon jungles in north-west Zambia. Tributaries feed the mighty river that draws millions to the spectacular sight of its falls.

Standing near the falls, I thought about the *Great Commission Summits* we are conducting. Our vision is to equip one-million Christians worldwide to bring 100 million people to the salvation found in the Lord Jesus Christ. We may be at the early stage of raindrops forming tributaries which, by God’s Spirit, may become a mighty river. One Malawian leader, Reverend Hope Nkhoma, wrote, “This is the birth of a movement.”

Divine awakenings throw off the nightmare caused by false teaching. Such people pose as sheep but bare wolfish fangs. Jesus said they would come, even warned them, saying “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’ And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness’” (Matthew 7:21-23 ESV).

Leaders are rising out of the summits expressing renewed hope in God’s redemptive work through the pure and simple Gospel. One bishop is calling upon his fellow leaders to rethink and retool their focus on the Great Commission. Hundreds have fanned out from the summits to cities, towns and villages preaching the Gospel. Reports come to me weekly of those being brought to salvation.

God’s message and purpose has not changed. He chose to redeem the world before it was ever created.

He chose to send His Son to redeem the world by His blood. It was God who gave the Great Commission to His Son in Isaiah 49:6. It was His Son who gave the Great Commission to eleven disciples, as well as to you and me. God is the one who declared us to be His witnesses to the world (Acts 1:8).

Every time a person gazes upon Victoria Falls, a rainbow dances on the mist as a reminder of God’s faithful love. God provided Noah’s ark to save mankind from extinction. Although God promised to never again judge the world by water, He will judge it by fire (II Peter 3). And the only ark of safety is the salvation that is found at the cross of Jesus Christ.



LEADERS AT VICTORIA FALLS DISCUSS CONDUCTING A GREAT COMMISSION SUMMIT.

Just as Jesus predicted, there are many going forth to dilute, distort and derail the truth of salvation. You and I have the privileged responsibility to take the pure and simple Gospel to all the peoples of the earth—now! This is the clear commission given to the Church two-thousand years ago by the Son of

God. It has not changed. We must equip the Church to fulfill this divine commission now!

You and I exist on earth today because Noah obeyed the commission given by God to build the ark. May many be found in heaven because you and I obeyed the commission to preach the Gospel to every creature.

Our Vision: To equip one million Christians worldwide to bring 100 million to salvation by the pure and simple Gospel.



GREAT COMMISSION SUMMITS



TRIM

Staying Fit For Leadership

Danisa Ndlovu addresses each summit with a four-part series on spiritual leadership. He developed his messages from fifteen years of experience as national Bishop of the Brethren in Christ Church in Zimbabwe and the book ***Firestorm: Preventing and Overcoming Church Conflict.***

God calls leaders to feed and guide His people. Paradoxically, the Church appears to be meandering in many directions, few of which appear focused on the Great Commission. God gravely warned shepherds in the Old Testament (see Ezekiel 34) of the consequences that would befall any who either misused or misdirected His people. There are also seasons where, as with men like Samuel, God's people were rightly directed and enjoyed blessing.

In this light, Danisa addresses spiritual leadership in the summits, using the acronym **TRIM** for easy memory. **TRIM** stands for Truth, Relationship, Integrity and Mission. His teachings go deeper than the secular approach to leadership, which deals with motivations and systems. Danisa addresses issues

of the heart from a biblical perspective.

Mr. Dumi Ncubi is the comptroller of a major industry in the UK. Following Danisa's sessions, he wrote, "In the end of most cases when we think of a leadership seminar we think of the conventional secular strategies of setting out plans, organizing, controlling and directing human activity to achieve set goals. However, teachings during the summit made me realize that such strategies are not complete on their own. Without being truthful, relating well with others, having strong integrity and a clear mission, all our strategies come to nothing.

"TRIM," he continued, "was a new but very enriching concept for me. As rightfully delivered, **TRIM** is a pillar of any organization, more so for us in the Church. **TRIM** was well linked to the Bible, meaning that the course also enabled us to realize that the Bible is a complete manual for Christians.

"I have been in church leadership for quite some time but this was a turning point for me. I am surely going to try and apply **TRIM** in



DANISA NDLOVU
OUR GLOBAL DIRECTOR ADDRESSES
THE SUMMIT ON THE THEME OF
SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP

my own life and in God's work at all times, and never lose sight of the main goal, the Great Commission."

The only leadership that will be rewarded in the end is that which equips and directs the Church to fulfil God's purpose. Many leaders, like Dumi, are hitting the restart button by examining what programs are actually draining the resources of the Church on efforts not ordained of God. This is followed by recapturing the vision God gave through His Son Jesus Christ—the Great Commission.

GREAT COMMISSION SUMMITS



The Whirlwind Life of Terry Ortman

Someone once said, "Teachers affect eternity; no one can tell where their influence stops." Convinced and driven by this truth, Terry Ortman lives a whirlwind lifestyle that could almost shame a tornado.

It is hard to say who makes the greater sacrifice. Terry, who is jetting around the world many weeks each year, or his wife, Doris, who is wheelchair bound due to Multiple Sclerosis (MS). Actually, neither one views Terry's schedule as a sacrifice, but rather as a service.

Both were former school teachers. MS robbed Doris of her career. Her situation also stopped Terry from finalizing his doctorate. Amazingly, however, it has not stopped their commitment to serve the Lord.

Doris, a musician, is often found singing and speaking at women's events. She also leads the Joy Chorale, a group of older believers who lift the hearts of many.



TERRY WITH WIFE, DORIS

Terry, at age 72, is blessed with a youthful spring in his step. His positive spirit makes him effective in countless situations, some of which would stagger those of lesser strength.

He joined our staff in 2004 to spread his advanced knowledge of education to equip teachers and broaden the learning capabilities of students. His skills take him beyond merely teaching techniques, however, to assist teachers in bringing children into a relationship with Christ through properly presenting the Gospel.

And the results are staggering. Every time Terry flies home, he leaves behind teachers with a broader view of communicating with children, a fist-full of teaching lessons he has authored, children who are spellbound by his witty way of teaching and a list of invitations to return.



TERRY WITH CHILDREN IN ZIMBABWE

GREAT COMMISSION SUMMITS



**BISHOP THUMA HAMUKANG'ANDU
ZAMBIAN BRETHREN IN CHRIST CHURCH IS
WORKING TOWARDS REACHING THE ENTIRE
NATION WITH THE SUMMIT.**



INTERPRETER MOSES MUNSAKA

On October 24, 1964, Zambia won independence from the colonial era. Its name was derived from the Zambezi River. Today's population stands at 14.54 million as of 2013. Once wealthy, it struggles from war, drought and AIDS.

The summit met with unseasonably hot weather. Dust-filled winds made everything gritty, from our notebooks to our clothes.

Still, an amazing resiliency of spirit reigned as people focused on the teachings at the summit. The leaders took up the challenge of the summit, which is to refocus on the Great Commission with the message of the pure and simple Gospel. One leader went into town for a haircut and returned to report that he had led the barber to salvation in Christ.

Moses Munsaka, one of the summit translators and pastor of the host church, said, "These are advanced seminary teachings, but they are so practical and useful that they are easy to learn and use."

Bishop Thuma Hamukang'andu of the Brethren in Christ Church is widely connected across the nation. He believes that the summit is vital for all denominations. He is committed to pull the nation together for a major summit to be held in Livingston, a city named after the famed missionary explorer.



SIXTY PASTORS AND CHURCH LEADERS PREPARE FOR EVANGELISM

GREAT COMMISSION SUMMITS



OVER 160 ATTENDEES TRAINED FOR EVANGELISM.



- ▶ Population is 16.36 million
- ▶ Poverty levels are exceedingly high
- ▶ Malawi gained independence in 1964
- ▶ The summit was attended by a wide range of leaders



MEN CUT AND STACK FIREWOOD ON THEIR BIKES TO SELL IN THE CITIES, HOPING TO EARN \$5 A DAY.



DISCUSSION GROUPS WERE HELD AT THE CLOSE OF MOST SESSIONS TO EXPAND INSIGHT AND DISCUSS APPLICATION.

GREAT COMMISSION SUMMITS



DANISA, WISIKO AND RON



MANY ATTENDEES RODE BICYCLES EACH DAY TO THE SUMMIT.



REVEREND WISIKO MAJOMEKA

Each morning Rev. Wisiko Majomeka shook himself awake at 3:30 A.M. By 4:00 A.M., this 52-year-old farmer, pastor and evangelist was on his bike to begin his three-hour ride to the summit. Some mornings strong headwinds resisted him. Every morning rough terrain greeted him. His journey stretched 50 kilometers (31 miles) to the summit. He sat with rapt attention taking many notes from 8:30 A.M. until 5:00 P.M. Then, he retraced the 50 kilometers back to his home. He did this for five straight days on tires so bald that the threads were breaking through. Also, he had a worn axle that was about to break. With a smiling face and resolute voice, Wisiko shared why this summit was worth the effort. He brightened with a broad smile and said:

The teachings have touched me so much. That is why I have been encouraged to travel 100 kilometers every day using my old bike. We have also learned about discipleship. This lesson challenged us and now

I am going to join FaithWalk in reaching 100 million lives with Jesus. I promise to do all I can to win the unsaved to Christ. In short, this is an eye-opener for me. I am looking forward to another summit next year. I will keep on reporting about how I am using these [materials] to share what I got here. I am going to conduct summits in my area with those who haven't had the chance to attend this summit.

At the close of the summit, the team bought Wisiko new tires and a new axle. He smiled broadly and warmly said, "Now I will go far and wide spreading the Gospel."

GREAT COMMISSION SUMMITS



- ▶ The population is 44.35 million
- ▶ Growing trouble with Islamist terrorists from Somalia
- ▶ 164 church leaders attended summit

Kenya is the land of massive wildebeest migrations. The herds number in the millions. The landscape is roamed by lions, giraffes, baboons, zebras, crocodiles and countless other wild animals.

Nairobi, the nation's capital, has over five-million people competing for the same roadways twice a day. Vendors walk between cars during rush hour selling items on consignment. It's an honest business netting only a few dollars a day.

The *Great Commission Summit* was held in Eldoret, a five-hour drive northwest of Nairobi.

Numerous pastors live in the shadow of corruption. These evil practices become the seedbed of false apostles, prophets and healers who have mastered the art of extorting money from the vulnerable. Such problems abound all around the world. Genuine pastors desire solid, biblical teaching that will help them stabilize their churches, and bring many to salvation through the pure and simple Gospel.

Gideon Mudenyio was the key leader God used to arrange the Kenyan summit. Here are his words:



RON ADDRESSING SUMMIT IN KENYA

I want to appreciate for your time with us here in Eldoret over last week. It was a long-awaited summit that we have been praying for since March this year when it was determined that the summit will take place in Eldoret. Personally I feel the summit accomplished much and opened the door for the truth to get into the Kenyan church.

The Lord touched the hearts of the pastors and church leaders who came from across the western province, parts of Nyanza and Rift Valley. It was our great hope that, if the people got the passion, we would be in 12 towns. A total of 164 pastors and leaders representing 12 towns attended. The towns included Eldoret, Kitale, Webuye, Mumias, Kakamega, Nandi Hills, Turbo, Kipkaren, Soy, Matunda, Bungoma and Malava.

Danisa and Ron were told of one Christian woman who was so moved by the opening of the summit that she closed her business doors in order to attend every session.

As the summit drew to a close, a strong, united voice arose asking Danisa and Ron to return for a larger summit in the near future. Gideon has developed a plan whereby he and his associates can equip 72,000 pastors with the summit teachings over the next ten years, equipping them to reach the nation. In light of the population, a great task and far-reaching opportunity lie before the Church to fulfill the Great Commission in their land.



GREAT COMMISSION SUMMITS



RON WITH REV. BONNET MOYO



***We don't have time to wait.
We need this summit now!***

~Rev. Bonnet Moyo

Frankly, Danisa and Ron had concerns that the UK may be their first failure. "The weather fought hard against us," they reported. Unlike the heat of Africa, it plagued them on the bottom end of the thermometer. The sun was rarely seen as ocean winds swept bone-chilling rains day and night across the land. Worse still, the summit was held in a church that had no heat. People were bundled in overcoats as cold air blew throughout the day.

Added to this was the evidence of the UK's departure from God. Places of worship have been reduced to pubs and community centers. Just think, this great land once had Spurgeon preaching to 6,000 every Sunday.

Happily, the response to the summit proved the concern about failure to be unfounded. The leaders insisted that the UK must be brought back to the pure and simple Gospel and refocus on the Great Commission. The leaders want to begin preparing for a much larger summit than the 45 who attended this one. They want to see hundreds meet for a week of specialized training, and they want it now! They see the summit truths as the UK's only hope.



**ONCE A MAIDSTONE
CHURCH, NOW A
COMMUNITY CENTER.**



The summit was an eye-opener indeed. Sometimes in this Christian walk we do find ourselves moving on and hoping to get somewhere, but it is at a point when reality strikes you in the face, when the right question is asked, when you start reflecting on what you as an individual and as part of the church are doing. The summit made some of us start thinking quite seriously about why we are where we are and stopped thinking about our own ambitions and aspirations and tried to reflect on what is expected of us by God.

~Dumi Ncubi

GREAT COMMISSION SUMMITS

WHAT SOME ATTENDEES SAID ABOUT THEIR SUMMIT EXPERIENCE . . .

Robinson Makokha

This in itself is an International Summit compiling a Bible School into 5 days with great lecturers. Pastor Ron knows the scriptures and brings them to a level of understanding by the common man. Every word that came from Pastor Ron's mouth was given life by the Holy Spirit to make great sense in both understanding and application.



Reuben Mukhobole, (A summit interpreter)

These are great guys [Ron and Danisa] that the church in Kenya should recognize and join efforts to make good use of what they offer. Their material is beyond the theology that we know, their message is training in itself, their vision is the dream of Jesus to save humanity.

Pastor Ronald Mangeny

If every person attending this Summit got the vision, it would take Kenya a short time to fully become a Christian nation. This stuff spoken here will restore you back to the foundations of Jesus' teaching.

Diane's Back



**RON AND DIANE WITH ACCOMPLISHED PIANIST
MICHAEL FAIRCLOTH, AT AMERICA'S KESWICK,
WHITING, NEW JERSEY**

For decades Diane carried a fast-paced schedule of singing . . . concerts, TV programs, recording, radio interviews, Bible conferences and Ron's crusades. Her first album, released in 1970 won Best Album of the Year award by the National Film Foundation. That was followed by receiving the Best Female Vocalist of the Year award. Her music was heard nearly every day on hundreds of Christian radio stations.

Then, her life came to an inevitable bend; one she knew would come someday, but somehow the word "someday" never seemed real until it arrived.

Audiences everywhere had come to know her mother, affectionately called Queenie, almost as well as they knew Diane. She traveled to most of Diane's events cheering her on as her number one fan.

Diane's Back



Then, life slowed as Queenie entered her nineties. Ron and Diane had built a home with an apartment for Queenie. Now, her mother lived only the thickness of a door away and Diane's focus shifted from music to mother. Queenie was walking down a path from which she could not return, and Diane stayed at home to escort her until it was time to place her mother's hand into God's hand.

At age 94, Queenie required constant care, and Diane considered it her divine privilege to care for the one who had brought her into the world. When her mother passed into the presence of the Lord, Ron told Diane that it would take a year or more to recover from the mental, emotional and physical exhaustion.

It did. Slowly strength returned. Diane shared her thoughts with our staff about her walk through the valley of grief:

I read this somewhere and thought it was so good:

"Grief never ends . . . but it changes. It's a passage, not a place to stay. Grief is not a sign of weakness, nor a lack of faith. . . It is the price of love."

I can honestly tell you that it was such a privilege to care for her, spend wonderful hours with her and see her safely home. I would do it for the rest of my life if need be. What I learned from her and from caring for her cannot be measured. And I WILL see her again!



**DIANE WITH MOTHER
DURING CONCERT BREAK**



**ORPHA (QUEENIE) KING
1920 - 2014**

Now, Diane is back. But she is different. There is something deeper, richer and wiser that can only come from passing through a valley of grief. Much of her time is invested behind the scenes working with the staff to help Ron prepare for the *Great Commission Summits*. And, yes, she is once again lifting audiences with her voice, closer to the reality of the music she sings as expressed in one of her favorite hymns . . .

***O joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain;
That morn shall tearless be.***

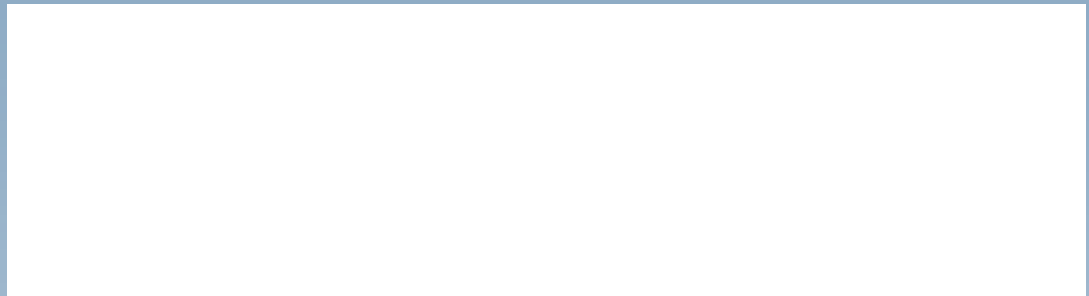
(Lyrics to O Love that Wilt Not Let Me Go)



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See You on the Web!

Visit our website for up-to-date information on our schedule, books and publications, Diane's music; and learn how to receive Ron's weekly devotional, *FaithWalk: Courage for the Journey*, at your email address. We are here to serve you and we would love to hear from you!

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