

Janae Shepherd Missions Update

DECEMBER 2010

Welcome to Cape Town...



A BEAUTIFUL FISH HOEK SUNRISE. THESE ROLLING HILLS ENCIRCLE CAPE TOWN AND THE SURROUNDING TOWNSHIPS AND SUBURBS.

This is a rugby pitch (field) where Living Hope sponsored the Two Oceans Soccer Tournament— July 9, 2010. In addition to soccer and netball (a game similar to basketball), the kids got to see a magician, an artist, a local performing arts ministry and participate in craft time.

The Two Oceans Tournament was an event celebrating the conclusion of holiday clubs in Capricorn, Ocean View, Overcome Heights, Red Hill, Masiphumelele and Mountain View— all communities where Living Hope is ministering.

Hundreds of kids and volunteers from the communities were bussed in. Perhaps all the missions group in the area volunteered to make this

event happen. From packing sack lunches to refereeing the tournament (games were refereed by soccer player/missionaries from Brazil).

Instructions and information had to be given in three languages— English, Afrikaans, and Xhosa.

At this event I met Voyu and Hope 2 Africa— a group of teens from Masiphumelele (Masi) who do street evangelism with the arts. This day they did two dramas for the kids.



VOYU INTERACTING WITH KIDS AT THE TOURNAMENT.



VOYU AND HOPE 2 AFRICA AT THE TWO OCEANS TOURNAMENT. THIS IS A DRAMA WITH SONG. THE MESSAGE OF THIS PRESENTATION WAS THAT ONLY GOD CAN FILL THE HOLE IN OUR HEARTS.

Living Grace— Muizenberg



LIVING GRACE IN MUIZENBERG.

Three days a week I volunteered at Living Grace— ministry to the homeless and destitute in Muizenberg. This was probably the most memorable experiences of my trip. Being there a month, I began to form relationships with the clients and staff. Each week when I came back after the weekend, it seemed my relationships there were a little deeper.

The homeless dwell on the fringe of society. There is really no consistency to life. More than anything, Living Grace provides consistency and community to the home-

less.

Living Grace provides shower and laundry facilities, assistance to find jobs, and two warm meals a day.

Each morning at 8:30, clients enter the mission, sing worship songs and hymns, hear a short devotional given by a volunteer, and are served coffee or tea and some bread. All morning long, Living Grace volunteers help prepare food for lunch— a stew made of ingredients donated by the local grocery store. I chopped LOTS veggies, especially potatoes. At lunch, up to 50 clients return for lunch, which is stew, fresh fruit and bread.

Living Grace also seeks to minister to the community by providing a way for clients to get jobs. Several are street sweepers employed by the city. In the last weeks I was there, staff was urging clients to get “pass books,” something similar to a social security card, so they could do temporary work for the city. Living

Grace provides substance abuse and addiction counseling, bible studies, a choir practice that met once a week, in addition to other activities. In the time I was there I taught guitar to anyone interested. While none of my students were very consistent, I enjoyed just sitting with the guys and hearing their stories— just being a friend and encourager to them. I see my music as a door to minister to others, and it was exactly that at Living Grace. When I did have a student return a second or third time, I encouraged him to teach what he had learned to the new students.



CRAIG AND ME POSING FOR A PICTURE AT LIVING GRACE.

THE KING WILL
REPLY, 'I TELL
YOU THE TRUTH,
WHATEVER YOU
DID FOR ONE OF
THE LEAST OF
THESE
BROTHERS OF
MINE, YOU DID
FOR ME.'



A TYPICAL LUNCH AT LIVING GRACE— BREAD, TWO PIECES OF FRUIT, IN ADDITION TO STEW.



ME TEACHING TWO STAFF MEMBERS BASIC GUITAR— MATT (SECURITY) AND KATHY (COOK).



Daily life in cape Town...

WED, JULY 21—

TODAY WAS A BEAUTIFUL DAY, SO I SAT BY THE POOL AND PRACTICED RECORDER. MELISSA & I WENT TO THE CHURCH FOR HER KEYBOARD LESSON. THEN OFF TO CAPRICORN FOR RECORDER CLASS. TWO GIRLS CAME TODAY. I WISH ALL OF THEM COULD COME. THEY ARE LEARNING, THOUGH, AND IT'S NEAT TO SEE THEM GET EXCITED WHEN THEY "GET IT."



TUES, JULY 13—

MORNING— WORK AT LIVING GRACE. ONE OR TWO GUYS SHOWED UP FOR GUITAR. AFTERNOON— PAINTING A FENCE IN OVERCOME HEIGHTS. IT WAS FUN.



THE COMMUNITY OF OVERCOME HEIGHTS— A TYPICAL TOWNSHIP. MOST TOWNSHIPS WERE FORMED FOR NON-WHITES WHO WERE RELOCATED DURING APARTHEID. THIS ONE IS BASICALLY A SQUATTER CAMP. THE LAND WAS INHABITED BY REFUGEES OVER NIGHT, HOMES WERE BUILT BY RESIDENTS, AND SEVERAL FAMILIES SHARE A SINGLE PORT-O-POTTY.

WED, JULY 7—

LIVING GRACE. FIRST PIANO LESSON WITH MELISSA FROM CAPRICORN. MELISSA IS 24 AND HAS A 7 YEAR OLD DAUGHTER. SWEET GIRL! I LOVE HER AND I LOVE TEACHING HER THOUGH I'M NOT GOOD AT IT. PRAYING GOD WILL HELP ME.

◆ *"CONCRETELY, ABANDONMENT CONSISTS IN SEEING THE WILL OF GOD IN ALL PEOPLE, EVENTS, & CIRCUMSTANCES PRESENT TO YOU, IF GOD TEARS UP YOUR BEAUTIFUL GAME PLAN AND LEADS YOU INTO A VALLEY INSTEAD OF ONTO A MOUNTAINTOP, IT IS BECAUSE HE WANTS YOU TO DISCOVER HIS PLAN, WHICH IS MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN ANYTHING YOU OR I COULD HAVE DREAMED UP. THEIR RESPONSE OF TRUST IS 'THANK YOU, JESUS,' EVEN IF IT SIS SAID THROUGH CLENCHED TEETH."*

*EXCERPT FROM THE
RELENTLESS
TENDERNESS OF JESUS*

BY BRENNAN MANNING

Tourist Cape Town...

THANK YOU!! FOR
YOUR FANTASTIC
FINANCIAL AND
PRAYER SUPPORT.
WITHOUT IT, NONE
OF THIS COULD
HAVE HAPPENED.
YOUR GENEROSITY
HELPED MANY
PEOPLE KNOW
JESUS MORE.
JANAE



BAY AS SEEN FROM THE HIKE UP TABLE MOUNTAIN. THIS WAS MORE LIKE A CLIMB & TOOK OVER 3



CAPE TOWN FAN WALK DURING THE WORLD CUP.



THE VIEW OF CAPE TOWN FROM ROBBEN ISLAND. ONE OF THE BEST TOURS I'VE BEEN ON— MINUS THE NAUSEATING FERRY RIDE TO THE ISLAND.

PSALM 146...

HE UPHOLDS THE CAUSE OF THE OPPRESSED AND GIVES FOOD TO THE HUNGRY. THE LORD SETS PRISONERS FREE,

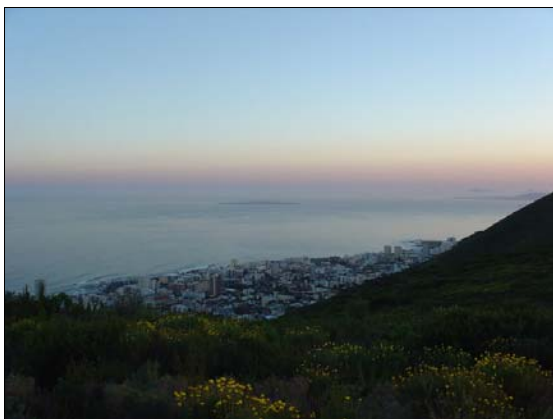
THE LORD GIVES SIGHT TO THE BLIND, THE LORD LIFTS UP THOSE WHO ARE BOWED DOWN, THE LORD LOVES THE RIGHTEOUS.

THE LORD WATCHES OVER THE ALIEN AND SUSTAINS THE FATHERLESS AND THE WIDOW, BUT HE FRUSTRATES THE WAYS OF THE WICKED.

*THE LORD REIGNS
FOREVER,
YOUR GOD, O ZION,
FOR ALL GENERATIONS.
PRAISE THE LORD.*

SUN, JULY 25

AFRICA IS REALLY DIFFERENT THAT I THOUGHT IT'D BE. THIS MORNING, I WENT TO THE CHURCH IN CAPRICORN— GREAT TIME OF WORSHIP. THEY HAD SINGING INTERSPERSED WITH PRAYER, TESTIMONIES AND SCRIPTURE READING. I FOUND ENCOURAGEMENT WHEN ONE LADY READ PSALM 146— HOW GOD CARES FOR THE REFUGEES, THE FATHERLESS, & THE WIDOW. LOVE THE TIMES OF CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER...



VIEW FROM AN EARLY MORNING HIKE WITH A COUPLE OF FRIENDS.