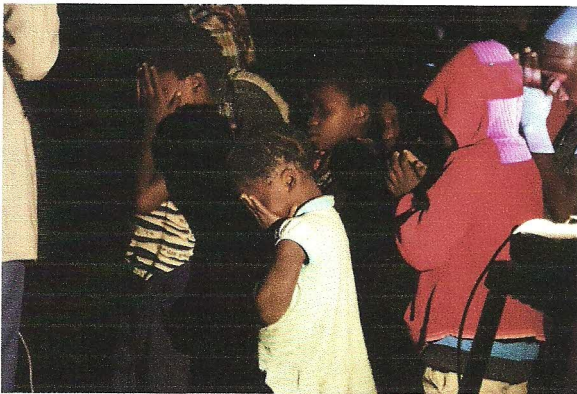


Dear Friends,

During this holiday season, I wanted to take the opportunity to thank for your contributions and prayers for my trip to Zambia, and to tell you a little bit about my time there and the impact that was made. As the possibility of going to Zambia loomed in front of me in March of 2018, a good friend wisely said, "if God gives you the option to take a safe path or go on an adventure, always pick the adventure." Zambia certainly turned out to be quite an adventure.



**Zambian Children accepting Christ at a showing of the Jesus Film in Livingstone, Zambia**

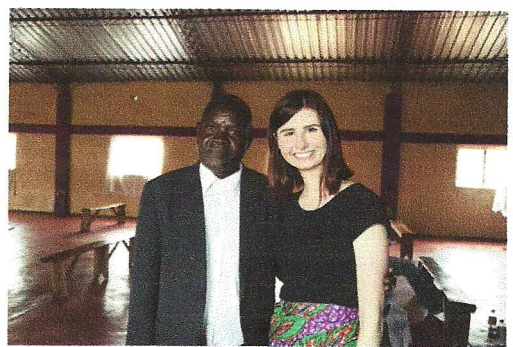
As you may already know, I arrived to do some freelance journalism in order to help the church of the Nazarene in their efforts to continue showing the Jesus Film throughout Zambia and all of Africa. As a journalist, my purpose was to share the impact of the Jesus Film and the local ministries that are transforming lives and freeing captives, and there was certainly no shortage of those

stories. The film is an incredible tool for introducing people to Jesus. It has taken millions of spiritually impoverished people, those practicing false religions, and those facing tragedy, illness, and suffering and brought them into relationship with the living Christ. It's a powerful ministry to be a part of.

I would like to share with you a story from Rev. Gary Sidle, a long-term Nazarene missionary to Zambia. He has served in Lusaka since the early 2000s and has had some incredible experiences as a result.

Sidle took part in a Jesus Film showing in Chipata, Zambia, which led to many salvations and contributed to the rapid growth of the local Nazarene congregation.

The location for the showing was in a soccer field that quickly filled with excited locals, a welcome but challenging task for those who had to record the number of attendees.



**I met with the head of the Jesus Film for Zambia, Rev. ABC Mweetwa**

"It was packed and I talked to a local pastor, and said, 'how do you count all these people?' And he said, 'well tonight you're counting.' So we grabbed our flashlights and headed out and it was pitch dark," said Sidle.

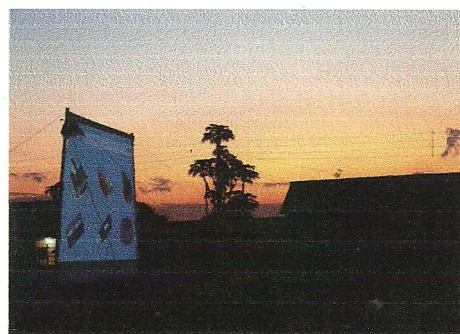
It quickly became apparent that far more people had shown up than Sidle had originally been able to see.

"As we were walking around, there was this tall grass and so I took my flashlight and poked it through the grass and it was full of people too," said Sidle. "We went down to the end of the soccer field and there was a row of trees and I shined my light there and there were many people who had climbed into the trees to watch the film. We went around to the other end [of the field] and there was a row of buildings and the roofs were all packed with people as well." Sidle was only required to count the people sitting directly on the field, but even then, the estimate was a few thousand.

"People come to me and say 'are the Jesus Film numbers real numbers?' because even in 2002, we were talking about millions," said Sidle. "When people ask me that, I tell them this story."

When the film reached the scene of the crucifixion, it was paused to give a local pastor the opportunity to stand up and invite people to begin a relationship with Jesus Christ.

"When they gave the call for salvation, people were coming by the hundreds and there were people taking names and getting contact information so they could do follow up with them," said Sidle.



**The film screen being set up a few hours before the showing began in Lusaka, Zambia**

I think the importance of the film can be best summed up in a quote from Rev. ABC Mweetwa, the Jesus Film coordinator for Zambia.

"Many people have come to know Jesus as a result of the film," said Mweetwa. "They give their testimony and say, 'way back I was a drunkard, I was a fighter but now today, I have seen Jesus Christ on the cross and it has completely changed me.'"

It was a life-changing adventure and a privilege to be able to share what God is doing in Zambia. Thank you for your prayers and support!

Sincerely,  
Rebekah Warren