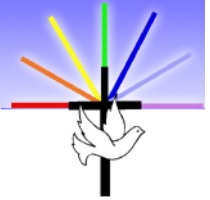


The Healing Love of Christ Ministry

August, 2008



A Half Year Of Surprises

It was nice to have a half -year packed with pleasant surprises. My wife, Bridget had to travel to Nigeria early in the year, because her Mum was ill in Nigeria and had been hospitalized. We had planned to cele-



brate Darling's special birthday in a unique way on her return. On the 19th of January, I went with her on a holiday to Treviso / Venice for a week, with three of the four girls, (minus Esther) joining us there for the last 48 hours. It was restful, and we had a lot of fun, ending with a journey on the Venice waterways in a gondola.

Arriving back in Emneth on the evening of the 24th of January, I immediately started to plan my pastoral visit to Nigeria. Brother Dotun Akinwale gave me a ride to Heathrow Airport early on the morning of the 26th of January. I was received at the Airport in Lagos, by Pastors Funso Adekola and Pius Ohue, among others. After less than two hours' sleep in Pastor Sam Ayodele's house, cared

On Sunday morning, I preached at the Dominion Chapel, and was warmly received by Pastor John Badu, with Pastor Tauna. I spent the rest of the week interacting with and praying for various individuals, as well as ministering at Pastor Davu's church at Mandilla Barracks on Friday.

I was received, in style, by the Kujiyats (Dr Sam and Mrs Hope Kujiyat) after Pastor Dan drove me up to Kaduna, and I ministered at Rhema Bible Church, both on Saturday and Sunday. Pastor Matthew Owojaiye came on Sunday morning (10th of February), and wonderfully supported my minis-

try and I met many friends of long-standing.



for by Sister Mary Ayodele, I left with Pastors Funso and Pius to preach at the Assemblies of Christ in Ibadan at 10.30am of Sunday the 27th of January. Two more pastors (Pastor Abiodun Ilori and Dr Onaolapo Taiwo) joined us at my hotel for a prayer meeting and Gboyega Osobu came in for a while. A young woman (Bola Ogunlade), who came into that service from Lagos, brought her husband, Tope, and child later to meet me in Lagos, and asked to be my daughter in the Lord. On Monday, I travelled to Ile-Ife, and my son's (Tunde's) mother-in-law, Mrs Ekundayo, gave lunch to Pastors Adekola and Ohue and myself. We were also well received by Dr Femi Soetan in his clinic, among others whom we met in Ile-Ife. There was more one-on-one counselling on our return to Ibadan. Acting on information given me by Mrs Phebe Oluode, I made contact with and spoke with Mrs Martha Onwuzurumba to congratulate her and her husband, who had been made the Chaplain at the Chapel of the President's Palace (Aso

try and I met many friends of long-standing.

Back in Abuja, Pastors Dan and Pius took me to visit with Dr (Mrs) Kehinde Craig and her husband, Yinka, who had been very ill. On Wednesday, February 13th, I was taken (without notice)-literally hijacked- from Dan and Tofe's home. I spent the next 48 hours in the Ogbuoji home, which was also their church compound (Open Christian Fellowship). I had been chairman at their wedding reception in 1975/6 and we had spent many happy years, fellowshiping together in Kano. The following day (14th February), Pastor Mat-

thew Owojaiye and his wife, Jolomi, arrived to stay with them -I had conducted their wedding in 1977, in St Saviour's Church, Lagos, and we have been close, off and on, before and after. We had a wonderful time of prayer together. Mrs Maureen Ogbuoji's sister, Mrs Marie Nenge also

reach at Kpeyigi village, and after lunch, went on to Asokoro for the Saturday evening fellowship, at which I gave the Word.

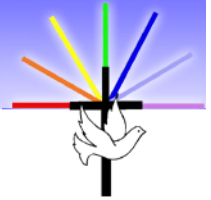


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visited while I was there, and we prayed together.

On Friday, on my way out at the airport going from Abuja to Lagos, there was yet another surprise. The Anglican Archbishop of Lagos, Ab Adebola Ademowo, who had been an old friend in Ilesha as a young priest, came to Abuja to receive national honors. We had not met since 1981, and I did not recognize him. He was most gracious.

After another ministration at Pastor Sam Ayodele's church, and a round of personal counselling sessions at the Tamarin Hotel, Ikeja, it was time to leave for the UK. I was met at Heathrow Airport, on Sunday the 17th by Brother Akinwale, who had taken me on the way out.

We planned a three-day conference at the Church Hall of St Edmund's Anglican Church, Emneth on 'Manifestation of the sons of God' or 'Transformation' from the 24th to the 27th of March. Apart from Pastors



Dan and Pius and ourselves, Pastor Richard Shipp, Pastor Les Warren and Dr Mark Graham spoke and Pastor Peter Warren provided accompanied leadership in worship. The meetings were quite fruitful, and they were recorded on compact discs for further circulation, even though the attendance was not great.

My wife, Bridget, and her three colleagues, Alison, Janet and Katy also planned a second two-day conference in Northampton, in which we participated with the two guest preachers. This took place at the Guild Hall, Northampton on Friday, 18th and Saturday, 19th of April and was captioned 'Turn and be Healed'. The hall

I had prayed with Bode, my youngest son, while I was in Nigeria, for a laser operation on his retina he was having in the USA. The first major item of news after I returned home was that he successfully defended his PhD thesis, and was awarded a PhD degree from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. He was then able to take up his job with Intel Corporation. We were all pretty shaken by an earthquake at 1.30am on the 24th of February and it made the Brits a little more prayerful than usual.



was packed full on the Saturday, but there was a choice twenty on the Friday.

Two more events took place during this period. Edemi, my son by adoption, and my brother-in-law had his 10-



year marriage to Uche blessed in church at a grand service and reception in London on April the 12th.

I also had a gastroscopie put down into my small intestine, but fortunately, no ulcer was found.

On May the 2nd, Mrs. Pam Nwandu arrived from Nigeria to look after Abyan. It was good to have her here, because we had our own problems, too, and problems shared are problems halved. Both Pastors Dan and Pius were very busy throughout their stay, as they did a lot of counselling for indi-

The first Sunday in March (2nd) saw me at the Dartford New Covenant Church, preaching under Pastor Niran Olayogbe's ministry.

On March the 17th, we got a gift from Mrs. Misi Abimbola and her husband, Tunji of a printer/fax/photocopier. It was comforting because two wisdom teeth had to be forcefully removed from my mouth by an oral surgeon, after waiting for quite a few months, on the same day.

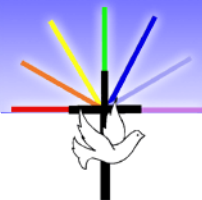
The two pastors who host us regularly in Nigeria, Brothers Dan and Pius arrived in the United Kingdom on March the 20th. The plan was for both of them to minister together for a month, and Pastor Pius would then return to Nigeria. Pastor Dan would then stay a further month.

viduals and families. My wife Bridget also went to Chicago, USA, to minister to her niece, Dede, for a week at the end of May and Bekki travelled to Maine, USA, to do two months' internship in law (Ayo, her older sister arranged something for her). Some photographs of other ministrations in which I took part are also included for completeness, though no description of the related events found room in the update.

This update ends with an account of my visit to Aberdeen, in Scotland. As a family, we had been tested quite rigorously in the first half of this year. There were challenges among all the generations (health challenges in me, my oldest and her son, Tayo in Canada, Folu, Bekki, as well as relational problems). My wife and I decided to seek the face of the Lord a little more intensely than usual. In the event, I discovered that the Lord had organized refresher courses of a spiritual nature for me. The passage by Peter in 1 Peter 5: 6 'Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time' aptly describes the teaching.

As I travelled to Aberdeen, I was acutely conscious of the need to pull

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myself back, and allow Him to do the ministering. In the event, the time in Aberdeen was very blessed indeed. The meetings, which lasted five days, were arranged by Derek Tripp, in collaboration with other ministers. He works in Aberdeen and is in charge of a group of intercessors. I hope the audience was as blessed as I was. Please continue to uphold my family in prayer, as well as my ministry to FGBMFI in Sevenoaks, Kent, at the end of July. Derek and I have also planned a trip to Delhi and the Himalayas in India at the end of August D.V.

While praying for these ventures, however, and our various problems, the note of emphasis must undoubtedly be one of boundless thanksgiving for God's innumerable mercies on our lives.

