



FINDING HIS SUPERHERO

Christopher is 8 years old. When he came to the church where an OM team was having a children’s program, he had an attitude of expectation... for sweets and toys. He couldn’t wait until the missionaries finished talking about God, just to get hold of some juice or candy.

One day the team showed a movie “The Godman” on a big screen, and it turned out to be a massive experience for the boy. He was so excited about the newly discovered Gospel truths. “Did you know that this Jesus died, but after some days he was alive again?” Christopher kept shouting. “I want to see this movie again!” On the next day he saw the same movie 4 times, and another 4 times on the following day.

The story of Jesus had such a great impact on him, that he has not stopped talking about it. “Chris is now so hungry to learn about the Lord,” shared Joanne, from the Missions Discipleship Team, “Our relationship developed over these few days and I was able to teach him some simple truths on following the Lord in our daily lives. His attitude changed a lot and now he is grateful every time he receives something.”



A LASTING IMPACT

Her team was part of a project called “Ignite the Flame,” with a vision to empower the local church to be involved in their community. They went with a mission to establish a much needed children’s ministry. “We are not really presenting children’s program today, we are just watching and helping,” explained Estelle. “We have been preparing believers, mostly teenagers, here in Hammanskraal, so that they can run the program by themselves when we are gone.”

On the last day, the missionaries were able to hand over the whole program. “It wouldn’t be enough to simply present the curriculum. We wanted to spend time with the volunteers and encourage them to have a passion for what they do. We hope that this ministry will have a lasting impact, and that the volunteers will remain enthusiastic about it! Now we can just trust God to complete the work.” added Philipp.



WILLING TO FOLLOW

During door to door visits, a young man approached Nathan and his friends and asked them about Jesus. Clarens was eager to know more about the Gospel and how it could impact his life. When Nathan shared the Good News, the man willingly accepted the Saviour. “It was such a special moment for me, being able to lead this man to Christ,” says Nathan.

“I know the importance of follow-up, so I encouraged Clarens to come to the church. I gave him the address and asked him to be there on time. What a joy it was to see him the very next day, walking into the congregation right on time!” This newly saved man not only enjoyed the fellowship, but also approached the Pastor after the meeting, introduced himself, and had a good conversation. What a joy to see this man transformed by Jesus, willing to follow Him.

FREE HUGS!

"Free hugs! Free hugs!" This was the creative way that one of the teams chose to share God's love with the people of Cape Town. One Saturday Regina (from Germany) and her team advertised..."Free hugs! Who wants to have a free hug? This way to a freeeee hugggggg! No matter which country... Argentina, Germany, South Africa, Ghana... Everybody can get a free hug! Just one second of your life for a free hug! And it's worth it!" And so the day began...with expectations that God would use this team of 8 young people from 5 nations to be a blessing to the locals.

Regina later reported, "The free hugs thingy works very good! We could minister to so many people through that! I think we hugged at least 2000 people. That was what it felt like." They told every hugged person "Jesus loves you!" and they also gave out tracks. And if people had more time, they told them why they were doing this, because of Jesus' love. "And we just saw, that every person was changed after they got a hug! They were smiling and friendly and just amazed about our hugs!! And we were, I guess, almost more blessed than the people!" explains Regina. And so love really does make the world go round! Hug anyone?



YOU BROUGHT HOPE

"What are your dreams for your life?" asked Moud. The question left the man puzzled, as he never really thought about it. The missionaries listened carefully, while the man was sharing his pain and struggles. He confessed that he hated his life and he would rather end it. He was in deep despair, and he felt his life was falling apart. "I have a problem with alcohol. I can't stop drinking. The habit is just too strong. My wife works in the city and I barely get to see her. I'm so lonely, staying here in the village, looking after my children. When she comes back, we fight all the time. I hate the thought that she is a breadwinner, while I do the babysitting, but I don't have the strength to change it."

The visitors started talking about the plans that God has for him and a future that he may find in Jesus. "You have planted hope in my heart," said the man. He seemed stirred and his mind was full of new thoughts. As the team was leaving, he thanked them for coming to his house at the time he needed it most.



Give thanks for all the contacts, conversations and life-changing opportunities the trainees had while out on ministry across South Africa during the Ultimate Goal Challenge.

Graduation takes place on July 14th. 65 trainees completed the training and all of them are heading out to their next missions fields: some to Thailand to work with prostitutes; some to Mamelodi to work with children; some to universities to testify in the midst of the secular world; some return home to unsaved family and friends and some join the Logos Hope ship ministry.

Please pray that as they go they would remember what God has done, is doing and will continue to do in their lives. May they be a shining light for Christ wherever they go.

Pray for the MDT leaders to be refreshed and ready for the next team, starting September 7th.



YOU ARE INVITED

**to the Graduation Ceremony
of the
2010 Missions Discipleship Team**

14 July 2010

**Willows Methodist Church
224 Meerlust Road
Pretoria**

**6pm service followed by snacks
and fellowship**

**RSVP to Ginny
076 618 5732**