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ALABASTER MINISTRIES

UPDATE

Dearest Friends,
Even so the tongue is a little member and boasts great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindles! And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defiles the whole body, and sets on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell. For every kind of beasts, and of birds, and of serpents, and of things in the sea, is tamed, and has been tamed of mankind: But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the image of God. Out of the same mouth proceeds blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be. Does a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter? Can the fig tree, bear olives? or a vine, figs? so can no fountain both yield salt water and fresh."
James 3:5-12

We often use our tongue to vent our frustrations or doubts and even worse our anger. A spirit of anger (that type of anger over which we have no control) runs in so many and so much damage is done when people spew out their feelings of disdain, frustrations, criticism, hate and anything that is undermining. Words can scar for life. As Christians, by using our tongue in negative fashion gives people a

wrong impression of God. We are supposed to be His representation on the earth. Our words reflect our relationship with God. There are many "Prophets" out there who use the tongue to tear down – tear down a church or an individual, and sometimes things in our lives do need to be torn down but the prophet's job is also to rebuild. Jer 1:10 "to uproot and tear down – to build and plant," God does not destroy, He is a builder. He looks at our imperfections and wants to help us correct them so that we can be the vessel He wants us to be. We are a work in progress in order to become a reflection of Him. That elderly lady above is exactly that. She is beautiful and radiates God's love. When I look at her, I see the kindness, serenity, and longsuffering of God despite the fact she has nothing, she has no one and, if it was not for you and me she would have died years ago.

It only takes one voice, one tongue, one little member to incite a crowd to violence. Look what happened for Pontius Pilate to give way and command that Jesus be crucified. Look at what is happening in the States today. Man can tame the beasts, all it takes to turn a horse is a bridle, all it takes to turn our giant cargo ships or tankers is a small rudder but the thing we have the biggest problem with is that tiny little tongue. CONT on page 4

ALABASTER | MINISTRIES

8514 N. Donna Ct. Kansas City, MO 64153

"He shall be a vessel unto honor, sanctified and meant for the master's use and prepared for every good work."

PHOTOS:



Preparing for communion after the Sunday morning service. They have a communion service every Sunday and are encouraged to take it at home during the week after dinner.

Although faint because it is a baby you can still see the cross down its neck and across its shoulders. It is believed to be the mark from when he carried Jesus.



Elderly praying for one another. We should all be able to lay hands on people and pray for healing, for deliverance AND see results.



ABOUT US

We, Alabaster Ministries are based in the United States with a tax-deductible status under 501(c)(3). We also have representation in the United Kingdom and are covered by Stewardship Services

Our representatives there are Michael and Penny Shellswell.

Phone: +44-7780-383452 (Michael)
+44-7551974316 (Penny)

In Malawi we have Oresti and Julie Yiannakis who are a wonderful support and without whom it would be extremely difficult for us to operate.

Our staff comprise of local Malawians, and volunteer staff in the USA and UK.

It is our belief that we should train the locals to one day be able to totally run every aspect of the ministry in their nation and to train the next generation to one day take over while we support and give advice where needed.

God has blessed us with an amazing team of people who are always ready and willing no matter what comes against us. God is in charge and is faithful when we are about His business.

This is an exciting ministry to be a part of and we so appreciate your support.

CONTACT US

You can support this exciting and vibrant ministry by sending checks to:

Alabaster Ministries
8514 N Donna Ct
Kansas City, MO 64153

OR _____

Via the web site direct to PayPal.

OR

Cash App: \$alabastermin

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Venmo: Rozella-Heyns or the phone number below.



Telephone (636)358-4615



Email alabastermin@aol.com

Email rozheyns@gmail.com



Website: www.rozheyns.org

REPORT FROM PASTOR FRANCIS BANDA

Dearest Mom,

Our second round with Bible School students was not as successful because we were unable to meet all our students. No church or meetings are permitted on the Mozambique side of the border until their lockdown requirements are over. Pastor Joseph Gume, Kadzuwa Gambuleni, David Mastard, and Pastor Fredson Mikithayo all reported that they, together with other pastors on the border, tried to hold meetings on the Malawi side but were all warned that doing so would render them homeless as they would not be permitted back into Mozambique. The Chiefs in Mozambique have made it difficult for missionaries to operate. We got information that if we went to David Mastard's place which close to a Frelimo Army base, we would be in serious trouble if the soldiers heard we were there even for house meetings.

I decided to call a meeting of all the pastors in Chididi this past weekend where we discussed several issues. First was to do with church. We know that Covid-19 has affected church across the board. We have seen so many churches that have not been able to meet for so long and that has left a vacuum. I encouraged all to respect the regulations that have been put in place by the authorities in our countries but also remember that as pastors we have a duty to feed God's people with His Word. We encouraged door-to-door meetings where it is just the pastor visiting his flock and in so doing it will relieve this vacuum. We also encouraged them to use the Bible school students and elders in the church to do the same and reach out to the youth who have been idle for months since schools are out. There has been an increase in early marriages and pregnancies during this lockdown period and we thought it wise to keep our communities plugged into church enterprises to help keep people away from unbecoming conducts and associating themselves with the wrong circles. We will wait for a change in regulations to visit Mozambique but for the time being, we have agreed with the Bible school students from Gume, Mikithayo, and David's church to meet in Chididi next week.

We asked everyone to give an assessment on the food shortage issue in their areas since I was unable to visit Mozambique and draw my own conclusion on the subject. We failed to hold our big annual Easter Conference and we are left with one event in October at which all 12 churches will convene for a three-day conference. We usually plan for food where each church contributes for maize flour that is equivalent to the number of people who will make the trip from their church for any given conference. The ministry helps with Soy Pieces and cabbage for the Friday evening and the rest is done by the individual churches. We always prepare the food package after the harvest but the harvest was not so good this year so much so that only 4 of the 12 church branches have been able to put maize aside for the event this year. There is still sometime between now and October to see how best they prepare otherwise it would have to be a small conference this year.

The pastors asked if the ministry would consider assisting each pastor with at least a 50kg bag of maize during this period to help them and their families. I did not promise them that we would but I said I would consider it knowing that sometimes when their church members are hungry, they turn to the pastor for a basin of maize. They also asked for Bibles and plastic rolls to cover their grass-thatches before the rains come. In summary we discussed church and how to move forward during this corona virus fight, hunger, and the conference. We spent about one hour reconciling David Mastard and Fredson Mikithayo who were at logger heads because they allowed the enemy to come in and let gossip ruin their relationship. We had lunch and I stayed on in Chididi for a youth conference.

Pastors Eric, Shadreck, and I stayed on after the meeting to hold a youth Conference. I taught on Saturday night and the young men went on until 3 am. Shadreck and Eric finished up on Sunday morning and the youth led by Mr. Daniel Billy concluded the meeting in the afternoon. Daniel has shown good leadership qualities, and together with Laston Joseph (Bible School student from Shadreck's church) made sure we all enjoyed a good conference. Daniel is one of the young men from Tengani who has started attending church again and if he continues this path maybe he will make for a good Bible School student who would then be a good asset for Tengani. We would like to keep the youth occupied with their education, their farming and church. We are planning another youth weekend of prayer in July at Pastor Eric's and hope to see these young guys excel.

PASTORS WHO ATTENDED THE MEETING



AMAZON:

I do not know if you are aware but Amazon donates to nonprofit organizations. They have what they call Amazon Smile. With all the purchasing online since the virus it would really help if you were to sign up and purchase under Alabaster Ministries in Kansas City Missouri. They have now included Amazon Smile in their Amazon app. Here is how you do it: AmazonSmile customers can now support Alabaster Ministries Inc in the Amazon shopping app on iOS and Android mobile phones! Simply follow these instructions to turn on AmazonSmile and start generating donations.

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With our tongue we can start a spark and it can ignite and become a raging fire that cannot be contained such as happened in Arizona or California last year. We look at situations and see them as we either want to see them or are programmed to see them. My father was with the British South African Police in Rhodesia and Rhodesia declared Unilateral Independence after England decided to hand her over as she had done with all of her colonies in Africa, The overseas press came in and were seen to throw money into trash bins and then they took photos of the African children digging through the trash to find the money and headlined it, "These poor starving children in Rhodesia digging in the trash for food." The majority look at that and believe it as if it really happened and no amount of trying to persuade them that it is fiction will work. The tongue has such enormous power no matter if spoken or in print.

We can be double minded with our mouths. Scripture says we bless and curse with the same tongue. God created us to be a blessing because we were made in His image and He is the God of blessing. When I disciplined my children, I never spanked them with my hands because hands, like the tongue, should be known for love and blessing. I am God's hands and feet, hears and mouthpiece in the nations or the workplace or wherever I am. Our double minded tongues are nothing but a reflection of our double minded minds. As we grow in Him and put down that flesh in us, we will begin to take on His nature and His culture.

All peoples have cultural issues that are not Godly. I face that all of time in Africa. Instead of being excited when a brother is successful, they start to tear him down and the tongue is their weapon. They bring railing accusations against him but when you ask the accusers to step forward they will not do it, even in numbers – their excuse – I am frightened of what he will do to me, or he will "witch" me. I am talking people who have been born again for years and have been taught extensively how to overcome and that we are more powerful than the devil. The problem begins with that "Little Member" which is the tongue.

Don't you sometimes say things and wish they had never come out of your mouth? How do you feel when you overhear someone talking trash about you? I remember as children chanting, "Sticks and stone will break my bones but words will never harm me," what a load of garbage. Bones will heal but words stay with us forever if we allow them to. I know young adults today who have never made it because their parents were mean to them. They were fortunate they did not have mine. My parents loved us but used the tiny member to whip us into shape and all of us excelled. Political correctness has nothing to do with how we use the tongue. Think before you use the tongue. Is this what Jesus would say? If we do that, we will learn how to bridle the tongue.