

Go Ye Into All the World and Preach the Gospel to Every Creature

MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE

My Dear Friends:

Altona M. S.,

July 11, 1946

I just read these words from a Daily Reading Book: "To love God is our Happiness, to trust Him is our Repose, to surrender ourselves entirely to Him is our Strength." I'm so glad today that I know and experience the happiness and peace that comes when we love and trust God and surrender ourselves entirely to Him. I have so much to praise Him for this afternoon. I was just thinking how very grateful I should be that I lived where holiness was preached as a second definite work of grace and that I sought and obtained it, and I purpose in my heart to keep true and not allow anything to come between me and the blessings God wants to send.

Our July Quarterly Meeting ended Sunday evening, the 7th, and we did have some real good showers of blessings for which we thank God. Revs. Charles and Grace Sanders arrived on Wednesday and Rev. George Sanders came on Saturday. I believe nearly all the native workers arrived early and all were a blessing to the services. God was with us in a special way from the very first. Our teacher and his wife stayed for the services—surely God has answered our prayers in sending a teacher who loves the things of God. He was a good help in the singing and was present to every service as was his wife.

As quite a number were present Wednesday night, I told the people I felt our services would begin on Wednesday instead of Thursday. I rang the bell and we had a very nice little service. I read the first few verses of Matt. 5. I told them too that I had been praying all week that God would help me to be in the place where I could be a help to the services and could receive blessings myself. Then we all knelt and our worker from Paulpietersburg, H. Mdlalose, led in prayer. We had just finished when I heard the car—Eugene and Harold were returning, with Brother Charles and Sister Grace Sanders, and they said other workers were just behind, on bicycles.

Thursday morning Eugene conducted the early prayer service. At eleven we all gathered for the first Bible season. Sister Sanders brought a grand message from Joshua 10, stressing the courage and trust in God, that Joshua had, and closing with a fitting illustration of how united prayer and faith in God will bring results.

In the afternoon, H. Mdlalose preached from Is. 55, verse 6 and 7. It was a good message to the sinners: "Seek ye the Lord while

he may be found, etc." Trifina, Johanesi's wife, followed with a good message from James 3 reading from the 6th to 13th verse. She had a big subject surely—the tongue—and she gave us some good thoughts. The tongue is a little member but what a lot of trouble it causes. How God helps, etc., when we love and serve Him.

Thursday evening most of the missionaries and workers were in a business meeting so I didn't attend but Johane Maseko and Johane Mtabela preached. Johane Maseko preached from Genesis 3 and Johane Mtabela from II. Cor. 7 and I heard they had a very good service.

Friday morning Trifina Msibi had charge of the early prayer service. Eugene preached at eleven o'clock about witchcraft, giving references to show that God did not and does not approve of such things.

In the afternoon Rev. Paul Nkosi preached from Matt. 16:4: "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross and follow me," and Andrew Mtetwa from Luke 13:24: "Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able." Both messages were good and blessing was upon the service.

Saturday morning Jenson Ngomezulu had charge of the first service of the day. At eleven Brother Charles Sanders preached. The service had just started when I thought I heard someone calling me, so I came out. I was mistaken but by the kitchen door a woman was waiting and said, "Can you tend my child?" I said, "What is the matter?" She said that the child got badly burned the night before. When I heard that I put my apron on and went to work. The poor little thing had sat down in the fire or tumbled into it and one little hip and leg were badly burned. I just finished when the service was out.

In the afternoon we had our Y. P.'s. Nearly a hundred were present. I do enjoy the Y. P.'s. When they were started Eugene said that I would need to help as I am almost always present so I have done my best and been greatly blessed by so doing.

I had asked a boy from Hartland and Harold to give short talks. Nathaniel read from Matt. 7:13-21. Matt. 15:11-21 and Rom. 8:5-6. He is a short, rather stout boy and hasn't been very well, but I hope the Lord will continue to help him and make him a real light for Him. Really I wish you could have seen him. He read very well indeed, then he squared his shoulders and folded his hands over his Bible and looked straight ahead and began. He started at the first verses he read in Matt., saying we all knew that a good tree does not have evil fruit, or a corrupt tree good fruit, and we would

know people by the way they lived, etc. Then on to Matt. 15, stressing verse 11: "Not that which goeth into the mouth defileth a man: but that which cometh out of the mouth that defileth a man." Then to Romans 8:6: "To be carnally minded is death: but to be spiritually minded is life and peace." He really gave us a good message and I just prayed that God would keep him always "spiritually minded."

Harold gave a good talk from Matt. 19:16-25 about the rich young man who came to Jesus asking what he must do to inherit eternal life. His theme was that we must die out to the love of the world, etc., if we expect to inherit eternal life. Many testified after which many came to the altar and we had a grand time in prayer. God richly blessed.

Saturday evening the workers were again in business meetings and I did not hear who preached but heard they had a good service with conviction present.

Sunday morning Kelina Mtetwa had charge of the early prayer service, bringing a good message from Matt. 25, about the wise and foolish virgins and stressing the importance of being ready as we know not the day or hour when Jesus will come.

At half past ten many gathered at the river where ten were baptized by Johanesi Nkosi. His own little daughter Monacia was among them, also the second son of our worker, Paulina, another was a young man from Paulina's section, two women from our Altona church and five young girls, I believe all from Jimson Ngomezulu's section. We do thank God for these.

Shortly after twelve we gathered in the church and the service lasted until nearly four. Small Kenneth got restless but had no desire to leave. I asked him once if he would like to go out for a few minutes and get some fresh air. He just shook his head and when we got home he said: "Mother, did you know why I didn't want to go out?" I said, "Why didn't you?" and he said: "It was such a nice meeting I didn't want to miss it." Well, I guess we all felt the same.

Alfred Metula preached, followed by a real good altar service. Then Eugene read part of Num. 13 where Moses sent the men to spy out the Land of Canaan, of their report of giants but also milk, honey and fruit and of Caleb's words: "Let us go up at once and possess it; for we are well able to overcome it." Then he told about the land near where Alfred Metula lives. He told how much had been pledged and already some pledges were being paid, and then he asked for pledges at Altona. He started in at L10/—about \$50.00. I looked around and wondered who could give so much. Everything was so still but Sister Grace Sanders helped and pledged that amount,