

Lost Sheep Ministry News

- May 2014--



The Great Commission: Matthew 28: 18 - 20 is a commission for all Christians to go, make Disciples, and teach them to **OBEY** all that I have commanded you. LSM is dedicated to evangelizing the lost and making disciples of Christ that make Disciples of Christ according to II Timothy 2:2.

Notes from Brother Bob:



how a truly great missionary like Pastor Bob does ministry in the field but also the opportunity for me to preach the gospel and minister God's Word to people there.

Pastor Bob has asked me many times in the past to go on a mission trip with him and my answer has always been “Anytime, anyplace, if I ever have the money.” It’s a pretty safe answer since I almost never have any money. Now I could make good on my word and go.

Nigeria is one of the countries on the US state departments website where US citizens are warned not to travel to for security reasons. Those Americans who do travel to Nigeria are urged to sign up for a safety program through the US embassy. Besides Muslim violence in the northern states, kidnappings and robberies are often aimed at foreigners since they are perceived as being rich. The danger for the American traveler in Nigeria therefore is very high. I knew all this of course as Pastor Bob did but we have a great commission that both entitles and obligates us to go anyway.

I am yielding this space to my fellow laborer Jimmy Stanfield who accompanied me to Nigeria this past month:

I am deeply, deeply thankful to the anonymous donor or donors as the case may be who came to Bob Gibson and told him they wanted to pay my way to go with him on a mission trip. By giving in this manner they gave me an opportunity to go to Nigeria and not only see



This was Bob's 7th trip to the interior of Nigeria and I knew we were in God's hands and several nights we even left the door open while we slept. The pastoral leadership in the local churches were very mindful of security and kept us well out of the public eye when we weren't preaching or ministering so we were quite taken care of in that respect.

There are many churches throughout the Igbo (pronounced Ebu) speaking parts we were in and it seemed as if there was one every couple of hundred yards as we drove down the roads. Christianity there very much has an American evangelical flavor to it as well and if not for the enormous accent difference between Nigerian and American English I think the average American Christian would feel right at home in most Nigerian churches.



The problem in Nigeria, spiritually speaking, is that Christianity has won the culture war there. Most trucks on the highway have “To God be the Glory” or “Praise Jesus my savior!” hand painted on them. Churches are everywhere and almost everyone seems to belong to one. In this, Nigeria reminded me of our grandparents or great grandparents America when it wasn't always socially acceptable for people to not belong to a church and everyone called themselves a Christian. The trouble with that of course is that Christianity is never weaker and worldlier than when we win the culture war and when it is socially or economically advantageous to be a Christian there are a LOT of false or nominal Christians who have never truly been born again. This truth was borne out when Pastor Bob explained the necessity of being born again in the churches to long time church members and many of them came down to pray and ask God to forgive and save them. We counted well over 200 total conversions hoping each one was real but knowing the parable of the sower we must leave it to the Lord to complete his work. At any rate we planted the seed of God's word and trust the Lord's promise that it will not go forth void. It never ever does!

We preached a lot. One day we preached in 4 churches, ranging from a couple of hundred to maybe 20 people under a canopy of palm fronds out in the middle of a field. The people there are hungry for God and we found sincere and fervent faith in both the cities and out in the bush. I found myself preached out at times, just mentally exhausted and praying “Lord help! I don't know what to say, I need you to give me a message for these people.” And without fail he always did.

I went to Nigeria expecting to preach more to the lost than to saved people and we did plenty of evangelism, both to people in the cities out in the streets and also in the churches. The power of the gospel is astounding in that such a simple truth-that God sent his son to die in our place, can be so powerful that it changes men from a state of spiritual death to everlasting life.

But we also preached to the Christian brothers and sisters there and I did not really expect that we were there to minister to the churches. This was probably the most surprising aspect of it to me that we were used to greatly encourage and build up God's church in Nigeria. When we preached you could literally see the effects of the Holy Spirit working on the people there. The church in Abakliki in particular received us and their joy grew noticeably each night we were there. In the end I knew how the apostle Paul must have felt when he testified of the Galatian church that "Where is then the blessedness ye spake of? for I bear you record, that, if it had been possible, ye would have plucked out your own eyes, and have given them to me." Gal. 4:15. We were overwhelmed by their gratitude and joy and they responded this way because we preached God's Word.

In conclusion I cannot commend Pastor Bob and Lost Sheep Ministries enough. This group is dedicated to fulfilling the great commission and is fulfilling it in a mighty way. It is no exaggeration to say that the vision and dedication of a handful of individuals in Texas is radically changing lives and eternal destinies of people all over the globe and making an impact far above their size and limited resources would suggest possible. I believe that those who pitch in and help Lost Sheep Ministries will have their part in those who are blessed to someday hear the Lord say "Well done thou good and faithful servant."

From A Missionaries' Wife:

When John Overton called and asked me to write a few words about my life as a missionary's wife I agreed. I thought it would be a short answer with all the "BUZZ" words like rewarding, encouraging, spiritual, but like any woman I really thought about what my life is like having a missionary for a husband. Bob told me to start out with "once upon a time . . ." That would take way too much time so I'll start with the beginning of Lost Sheep Ministries. Having a husband that loves the Lord and is driven to see as many people go to heaven as possible has been an adjustment for me. Many years ago I gave my husband to God for His work. It was a good thing I was independent and could pay the bills, fix cars, and run a home when my husband was away. I always know when Bob and his team are leading people to the Lord because things at home breakdown I'm thankful for my children who are adults now as they check on me and make sure their dad is doing alright. Also my friends are calling to see if I need anything.



Being a missionary's wife is lonely at times but the thrill of waiting to hear how many people have given their life's to the One who gave His life for them is worth it all. I have known Bob Gibson for 50 years. He has from the beginning travelled. But was always there for our children's school events, graduations, weddings, grandchildren, etc.

I am looking forward to what God has in store for ME now that our nest is empty and I still am healthy. When I look at "Once upon a time . . ." " I can see how God has had His hand on me and taken me through all the phases of my life with Him as my guide. He knew the beginning and He knows the end. Thank you all for loving me and being there for me.

God prepared me for this life at the time I met and married Bob. He has always been running around the world doing something with his job or when he was in the military. Now he has a job for the King of Kings. *Carol Gibson*

Notes from our International friends: Patrick G. Nweke from Nigeria

The entire members of SAVE THE LOST MISSION INC, Ebonyi State Division, highly appreciated Pastor Bob Gibson and Pastor Jimmy; and also our able Daddy, Rev Tony Okeke the GS of Save The Lost Mission inc, through whom Pastor Bob Gibson & co came to us via the missionary arm of this ministry. The Lord Jesus used Bob and Jim mightily to encourage us and those in the hinterland and many lost souls were also turned over to the kingdom of Light and confessed Christ with their mouth. Pastors Bob and Jim worked tirelessly in the rural localities, such as; Ikwo and Ishiagu where there are no amenities like electricity, no good water, and road etc. The worst was that there was no good place to lay their heads around the rural areas, coupled with the hot weather, bearing in mind the age of Pastor Bob, equally, there is no money to care for the missionary churches, members and their pastors. Some churches as a result of lack of fund have no pastors. Despite of all these, Pastor Bob Gibson and Jimmy went to many of these churches and encouraged them with the word of God. May the Lord God Almighty and our Lord Jesus Christ continue to protect, bless, strengthen and give them peace. May they also abide in God's presence all the days of their lives, Amen. Yours in His Service *Rev. Patrick G. Nweke*

Recommended Reading: *The Church and the Work II Rethinking the Work* by Watchman Nee. Nee writes, "This book is not intended for anyone and everyone. It is for those who bear responsibility in the Lord's service. But, more than this, it is for such as honestly and truly mean business with God, for those whose hearts are open and have no padlocked mind or prejudices. The book may test one's sincerity and honesty to no small degree; but genuine hunger and desire to know the Lord's full thought will sustain the perusal to the end. I fully realize the many imperfections of this book (this is not a gesture but a confession); but despite them all, I believe the Lord has shown something which is of importance to the whole Body of Christ."

LSM Travel Plans:

Our present plans are to visit the following countries with the Gospel of Christ during 2014:

- Australia
- England
- Nicaragua
- Brazil
- Mexico
- Philippines - Vietnam (Revisit)
- China
- Nigeria (Completed)
- Pakistan

Lost Sheep Ministries (LSM) was founded in February of 1992 by Evangelist Bob Gibson. Our primary goal is to demonstrate our obedience to the Great Commandment by our obedience to the Great Commission. Brother Bob may be reached at brobatlsm@gmail.com This monthly newsletter will be forwarded by email only. Email addresses may be removed or added to distribution by notifying John Overton at dotjohn@comcast.net. Our website is at this URL - www.lostsheepministries.com. All of our Newsletters are posted on our website.

Tax Deductable Donations to LSM:

Lost Sheep Ministries is a 501(c) non-profit organization. Donations may be made to LSM, 2951 Marina Bay Drive, Suite 130-144, League City, TX 77573. Please designate if your gift is for a specific ministry else it will be used for general expenses.