



The Triumphant Rule of our Lord Jesus Christ

Psalm 68:9: You gave abundant showers, O God; you refreshed your weary inheritance.



Rev. Tshililo Liphadzi

The words quoted here are taken from Psalm 68 that celebrates the triumphal rule of the God of Israel over other gods of the world. He marched before his people from Mount Sinai to Mount Zion. In that

long desert journey, he never abandoned his own people. He gave them showers, and refreshed his weary people. These words indeed serve as a comfort for the MMDSA staff members and I think the rest of MMD ministry on the African continent. This serves as my testimony of how God has kept us for the past three months. For MMDSA, faith in the triumphal rule of our Lord Jesus Christ is the only thing that we have for our survival as a ministry. Our ministry is faced with serious financial challenges to an extent of cutting activities that are our core business. Staff members lived without their salaries for some months. In January, it was suddenly announced that we will go without our salaries and people are free to look for other employment so they could provide for their families. This was very difficult for all of us, staff members and board members alike. In South Africa, I was encouraged by the fact that when we discussed this challenge as staff, no one was willing to leave MMD. It was clear MMD was part of our lives, we cannot live without it. We agreed to step forth in faith.

Stepping forth in faith is not child's play; it is an act of courage and commitment. As a result of this new plan, I contacted all our friends and churches who support me and explained what we are going through and asked them to increase their support. In the

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Come!

**Tell us more about MMD!
This is what we are looking for!**

The first quarter of 2010 have been busy months for Elesinah (full time staff member of MMDSA).



Dr. Elesinah Chauke

In addition to her responsibilities with MMDSA, Elesinah has been asked to help start MMD ministry in Zimbabwe.

In January Elesinah was in Harare for two days meeting with the newly formed task force to help them understand the MMD ministry program.

In February she visited 4 cities and towns in Zimbabwe. This was to help market the program and to establish centres that are ready to begin classes. Elesinah says: "When I finished presenting MMD to a group of about 30 pastor who were meeting in Gweru, a young pastor stood up and said, 'I am the only one from Kwekwe; You have to come to Kwekwe (one of the smaller towns in Zimbabwe) and make a presentation to our pastors as well.'" After coming back to Johannesburg emails and phone calls came from pastors in Kwekwe asking that she also go and tell them about MMD. Elesinah has just come back from Kwekwe and Gweru where she was helping to organize classes.

A pastor from Bulawayo called and said that he heard about MMD from a friend in



Kwekwe, could Elesinah come to Bulawayo (the second largest town in Zimbabwe) as well and share about MMD.

As a start, in April we hope to enrol about 60 learners in Zimbabwe, our target is to enrol 100 learner's by the end of the year.

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past three months I was able to collect about R5000 (\$600) from friends.

I have to raise R29 000 (\$3,000) per month. This has added more frustrations in my stepping forth in faith. I had to face difficult questions: How will I pay for the house, food, school fees and ministry? I had no option but to tell God that He is the one who brought me here and He knows my tomorrow, I have to wait for him. I am still waiting for him. We are together in this with my family.

I therefore continue to urge friends and churches who stood behind us from the beginning not to lose heart, but to continue in faith in supporting us with prayers and finance.

Our God is a faithful God.

During these three months we had robust discussions on the future of the ministry and its sustainability. These discussions have deepened and confirmed our commitment to the ownership of the MMD ministry. For me this is the greatest blessing that God has shown us. As a result we are going out to churches and Christian business people to partner with us in sustaining this ministry. We are still waiting, but believing the triumphal rule of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will shower us and refresh us. We are not on our own, we are with him. In his faithfulness He will take us through.

How MMD Courses are Impacting Lives

This is a story from one of the MMD students at Tshidzini village, Limpopo Province, South Africa. She has gone through the MMD Course called *Pastoral Guidance and Counselling in HIV/AIDS*. Her story shows how rampant witchcraft is in that community and how she involved herself in one lady's life and saved her life as a result of the understanding she received through this MMD course.

She, Mrs Ratshifheti, heard about a lady who is dying with sickness in the village from other village ladies. The ladies wrote the sick lady off. She could not make it. When she heard of this bad news she decided to visit her and talk to her. She discovered that the lady believes that she is bewitched. Somebody is sending a cat to her to bewitch her. She found her with no food, and she was hungry. Nobody was prepared to feed her. The sick lady asked Mrs Ratshifheti to give her food.

Because she learned from the course that she has to take responsibility for the challenges that the community is facing, she took it upon

herself to help the sick lady. She did not only buy food for her, she sat down with her and listens to her story. She counselled her. She provided her with money to get treatment from the hospital. She helped her to get a financial grant from the government. She worked with her to get rid of all her fears of witchcraft.

This is what Mrs Ratshifheti said: *"Now you cannot believe your eyes. She is very beautiful and strong again."*

The lady has been helped. This is the kind of community involvement that MMD is building through its courses to God's people in our communities. MMD is helping Christians to become salt and light. It is helping people

to deal with their own fears by the power of the gospel. People can now face the challenge of HIV/AIDS.

Continue to pray and support MMD.

Rev. Dr. Liphadzi



MMD Students

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Please pray for the people there, although the charges for the modules are very low for this year, for them it is still considered high because the majority are not employed and those who are employed do not earn very much.

Pray with us that the Lord may provide means for Elesinah to travel from South Africa to Zimbabwe and start the lessons. Pray also for wisdom as we start this work in a new country.

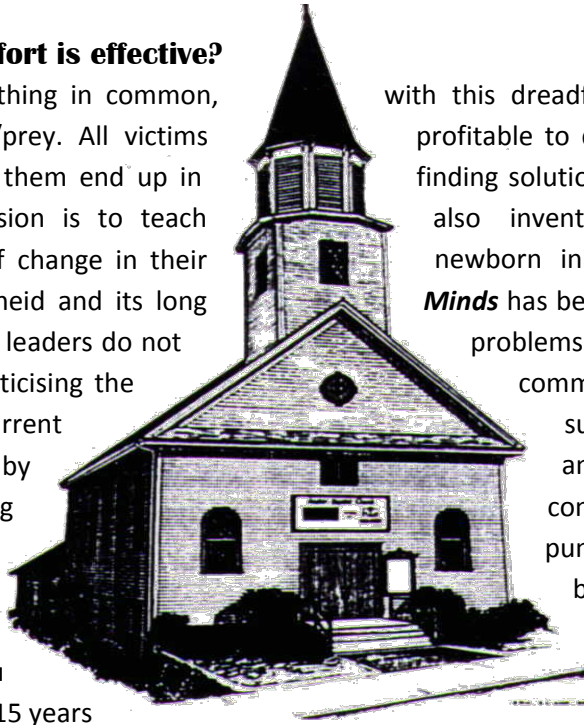
"No weapon that is formed against you will prosper; And every tongue that accuses you in judgment you will condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, And their vindication is from Me," declares the LORD.

Isaiah 54:17

Effective Education

How do you measure if your effort is effective?

All enemies (predators) have one thing in common, they separate/divide their victims/prey. All victims that allow their enemies to divide them end up in their predators bellies. MMD's vision is to teach church leaders to be the agents of change in their societies. Without defending apartheid and its long term effects; we recognize that real leaders do not concentrate on pointing fingers, criticising the past and do nothing about the current situation. Our society is ravaged by crime, corruption, alcohol and drug abuse, lawlessness, immorality, joblessness, poverty and illiteracy. Most of them are the direct result of colonialism, apartheid and Bantu education. However, spending over 15 years blaming it will never fix the problem. The vacuum of visionary leadership, especially church leaders, make the whole society even sicker, blaming one another without any action. This is what had been troubling one MMD student for years, not knowing what to do until he got involved with MMD's *Pastoral guidance and Counselling in HIV/AIDS*. Many People waste their time and energy criticizing and judging people living



with this dreadful disease. It would be more profitable to divert such time and energy to finding solutions to the existing problem and also inventing protective measures. A newborn initiative by the name of **Free Minds** has been born to address some of the problems that trouble the African communities, such as crime, substance abuse, unemployment, and immorality. Daniel did not commit any sin for which God punished Judah but instead of blaming the leaders and his forefathers, he rather stood in a gap, between God and the nation. **Free Minds** came into existence specifically for that reason, to unite the community into standing together to fight all such ailments. This is the kind of education that MMD is offering, education that makes a person look around and see what to do. It is based in Mamelodi Township, eastern part of Tshwane/ Pretoria.

Please pray for this vision, we'll keep you updated.

Perfect Love Drives Out Fear

There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment.

The one who fears is not made perfect in love. 1 John 4:18.

For the past few weeks South African society was gripped by fear. This was the result of the murder of the leader of the fascist rightwing movement and the political utterances made by the leader of the youth movement of the nationalist ruling party. The death of the fascist leader is attributed to the song sung by the youth leader: *Kill the boer*. The pastor who preached at the funeral of the fascist leader urged the Afrikaners to stand up and fight back for their country. Both blacks and whites are afraid of what the future of the country will look like. Are we moving towards a civil war?

What kind of message should be preached in our society? How can we



transform our society for the good of every citizen? It is the message of love. What do I mean by love? Love as defined in 1 John 3:16: *This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.* This is love that drives out fear. It is not a self-serving love, but it is the kind of love that gives one's life for the wellbeing and advancement of another person. It takes care of another person's needs. This is what Christ did for us. For us to be saved he laid down his life, he became a servant. This is the kind of love that drives out fear.

We are therefore to ask all South Africans, what drives our intentions? Why do we do what we do?

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Why do we say what we say? I think we should concede to the fact that as South Africans we are more defined by our ethnical backgrounds. What is good is what comes from my people. Every good is to be directed to the so called "my people". This is a disaster for the future of this country. It is also a mockery to the so called *rainbow nation* and to the *Truth and Reconciliation Commission*. This is not love, thus we have fear when we look into the future of our country.

However, those who are called by the name of God, father of our Lord Jesus Christ, are urged to lay down their lives for their brothers and sisters. This means that we should not be selfish in our struggle for righteousness and justice, and in our quest for the preservation of good standards in all sectors of the community. Is justice and righteousness, what black people are struggling for, also for the white people? Is it a tree that we will all rest under its shade or is it justice and righteousness for the blacks only? Preservation of quality and good standards in our education and

economic sectors, is it for the wellbeing of the whole society or is it used to protect the privileges of the few (white people)? Are we not controlled by fear rather than love?

Those who have love are not afraid, because they know that God is with them, and He will provide what they need. They are again courageous to deal honestly with challenges they are facing in their everyday life. They are not afraid to deal with socio-economic and political challenges of the day. One thing that we should regret as South Africans is that we are growing in running away from issues we are facing as a society. Here are the issues that we are not addressing openly and transparently as South Africans: creation of knowledge, economic inequality, land, racism, tribalism and crime. We are therefore reminded that we need South Africans who have faith and hope as they live. This is where MMD ministry comes in. It is an instrument in this community to bring up leaders who are servants and prophetic, and who serve as agents of transformation in their communities.



Wedding Bells were ringing



It was an atmosphere full of shouts, singing and dancing as our administrator, Xoliseka Matara was tying the knot with Linkie Matlala on the 6th March 2010 at Botlokwa, Polokwane formerly known as Petersburg. Many friends, families, colleagues and Christians were there in numbers to witness this special day. An old friend to Matara, Pastor SP Dlepuma,

Linkie's pastor and also an MMD board member praised God that in the midst of immorality, short cuts and self sufficiency there are still people who fear God and to do things as God wants them to do.

Rev. Xolani Nkosi, the officiating minister, stressed the importance of families that will raise God fearing children; children who will dream to be instruments of transformation to their communities.



Pastor Bheki Gama, the speaker of the day also condemned the kind of theology that many Africans have been studying i.e. a man must ignore everything in the world and prepare only the eternal heavenly home. From **Isaiah 12:3** he argued that a man is not saved to grow wings to Heaven but to serve God on this earth in all spheres of life. It was a joyous day for all who were there, especially Xoliseka and Linkie who were beginning the journey of life together.



May God bless them richly.

Thank you all for your prayers and messages of support.



State of the MMDSA ministry in the first quarter of 2010.

When we entered 2010 we had good plans and targets for the first quarter. We had a plan to have three new groups each with ten students, and to have two denominations and 50 local churches become part of MMDSA. We also had a plan to work closely with our old classes and to finish their portfolios. The coordinator was also asked to market MMDSA to Christian businesses for funding purposes.

It is with great regret that we could not achieve much of what we put in our plan in the first quarter of the year. It was not easy for staff members to visit churches and denominations for marketing purposes and to follow up on the appointments made with church and denominational leaders. The reason for this failure is due to the financial crisis we are going through. The crisis has really hindered us in implementing our plans.

Though the situation is still depressing we are picking up pieces to realize what we plan to do. However, we admit that there is fear whether we will be able to achieve our overall goals for 2010. Not all is gloom and darkness. There are denominational leaders who are ready to open doors for the ministry. If those doors are opened we are confident that we will achieve our goals for 2010. There are business people who are eager to work with us to bring transformation in our communities. We have sent a proposal to one big business in South Africa and we are happy to share that our proposal is under discussion and we hope for good results.

One of our staff members, Dr Chauke has spent most of her time recruiting church leaders in Zimbabwe to embrace MMD, and we are happy of the results we are witnessing. Zimbabwe may start with more than sixty students. However, we are afraid that we may slow the process if we do not have the funding that we desperately need.

Please pray for MMDSA and the entire MMD family.

Prayer Items:

1. Thank God for his faithfulness to MMDSA thus far.
2. Thank God for denominations and business organizations who are willing to work with us in transforming our communities.
3. Thank God for giving us courage, faith and hope to work with the little resources that we have in very difficult conditions.
4. Pray that we will be able to achieve our goals for 2010 despite being behind our schedule.
5. Pray that God continues to open doors for MMD in Zimbabwe and for those churches who are embracing our training.
6. Pray for the churches we are working with to recruit students here in South Africa.
7. Pray for the board of governance, for wisdom in leading this ministry.

MMD Website is Coming Soon

It is with great pleasure we announce that we are in final stages of developing our MMDSA website. This has been in demand for a very long time and we thank God that He opened the opportunity to create the site, though the lack of finances might still delay our anticipated launch date.

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MMD was established to equip church leaders with skills on how to use their calling to transform communities. Our unique education philosophy is induced from the day to day activities, experiences and observation of the people in those communities. We use facilitation approach which makes learners understand both theory and practical part.

Practical Christianity: this course is intended to help Christians understand their calling and therefore start by identifying people to mentor for better Christian living and practise **Counselling on HIV and AIDS:** all of us are affected by HIV and AIDS, we cannot therefore fold arms and put our trust on government & NGOs, MMD equip people to play role.

Partners, links, conferences, funding, students, testimonies, learning centres

[Click here to fill an online application form](#)

Meet us in our offices or call us to your church or area

Meet some of our former student and see their gains and those of their communities. Enter your details so we can have you in our database.

We see the power of the Gospel and the Lordship of Jesus celebrated through biblical values taking root in maturing local churches, and wholistically transforming their society and seeing deprived communities regaining their dignity.

Governing Board

Chairperson:	Rev. Nefefe MS
Deputy Chair:	Rev. Magodi T
Secretary:	Rev. Lekalakala MJ
Treasurer:	Mr. Kewana P
Other Members:	Dr. Ravhonzulo A, Dr. Rajwili M Pastor Dlepuma SP.

Upcoming Events

- Graduation on the 21 May 2010, Witbank, South Africa.

Book dividers will be available soon.

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