

NEWS BRIEF

APRIL 2018



What do you do when you plan a major outreach and *3 days of torrential rain* flood the site of your program?

1. () **CANCEL THE EVENT**
2. () **POSTPONE THE OUTREACH**
3. () **PRAY**
4. () **GO AHEAD AS SCHEDULED**
5. () **QUIT & CONCLUDE THE EVENT WASN'T MEANT TO BE**

In Malawi, Africa, one of GSSM's current students helped organize a major outreach in the capital, Lilongwe. Faced with a difficult decision due to 3 days of torrential rain, the organizing committee decided to pray and seek the Lord's wisdom. Do we cancel or postpone? Following much prayer it was decided that they should go ahead in spite of the circumstances that clearly spelled disaster. Faith replaced fear and the event was held in spite of many who questioned the wisdom of going ahead under such circumstances.

And so what happened? Did the Lord misguide them? Desert them? Or what? No, instead the Lord rewarded them for their faith and trust in Him.

First of all a large group of pastors showed up to observe the outreach when only 15 at the most were expected. I would suspect that a number of the pastors who did arrive under such dire conditions concluded that this should be interesting...failure was written all over the program that was scheduled.



But faith danced around what should have been.

Nothing is impossible for God, the invited guest of honor to this outreach. Soon huge numbers of people and participants arrived not fully knowing what would transpire. After all the playing fields were flooded and unplayable.



Then a series of things began to happen.

A wealthy man in the neighborhood donated T-shirts for all of the participating teams. Then he handed them some new soccer balls. Of course the teams will be thirsty so how about some soft drinks for the competitors and lunch for the organizing committee? Later when he saw the results of the outreach this generous man asked the GSSM team to organize a similar event in his rural village and he would provide all the resources.

And the showers of blessings continued.

Since the soccer fields were flooded, the teams gathered in a shelter and played some indoor type of games which they thoroughly enjoyed even though most people would have thought that these teams would have simply packed up and gone home very disappointed. Not so.

Now for the best part!

Our GSSM student, Daniel Mwale, reported that 130 youth gave their lives to Christ as a result of the program that should have not taken place. But there is more. Forty-nine adults also accepted Christ to be their Lord and Savior. The majority of the 49 were men around 35 years of age. Most of these men are now part of the churches who supported the outreach. Men of this age are usually mature, well-established, hard working and often hold leadership positions. Amazing!



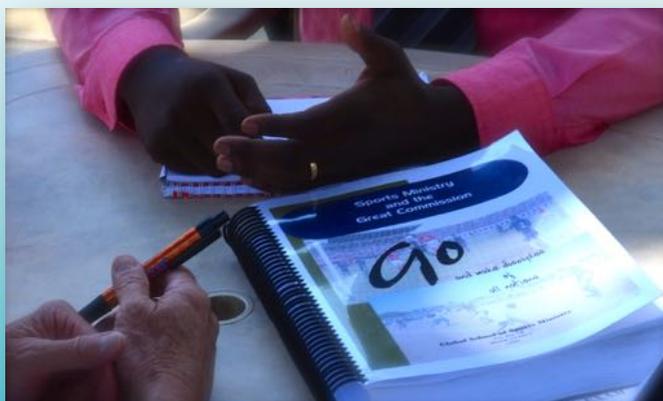


BUT WAIT...THERE'S STILL MORE!!!!

The participating church leaders are now willing to support sports ministry programs as they saw first-hand the results garnered from this event. In fact, one of the pastors who was strongly opposed to sports ministry now is the most supportive! He even bought sports jerseys from church finances for his church team and is arranging a sports ministry workshop, which a GSSM graduate and pastor, Macegeofrey Mwale, will conduct. Macegeofrey, incidentally, is the father of Daniel Mwale, the current GSSM student who helped organize this incredible program. It is reported that around 50 pastors will attend the workshop.

Do I hear applause and praises to the Lord for turning an apparent disaster into a glorious event? Nothing is impossible for God..NOTHING!

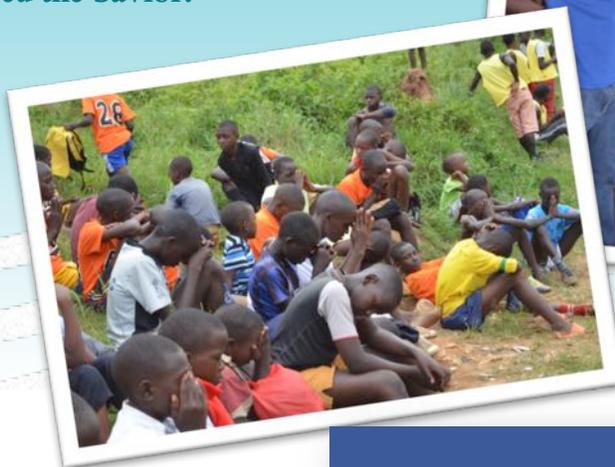
A SPECIAL THANKS



A special thanks to Glen Goldie, one of GSSM's volunteer instructors, for sharing Daniel's report with us. Glen was a former baseball player at Westmont College where Russ Carr coached the baseball team for two years. Glen was also a student of Carr's in the education department. Goldie went on to be a highly successful teacher and administrator. Glen and his wife, Diane, reside in Colorado.

Currently Enrolling!

GSSM is enrolling students for our next term beginning October 1, 2018. Would you please pray that the Lord would bring to us more deeply committed men and women who have a passion to go into the harvest fields to reach those who desperately need the Savior.



THANK YOU!

Thank you for your prayers and support for GSSM as God would lead and enable you. We greatly appreciate your love, concern and sacrificial help that allows us to train and equip more and more students to “GO & MAKE disciples...”

Blessings!



Russ Carr, President & Alyssa Carr Mahone, Executive Director

