



Dear Friends,

In my prayer request two weeks ago I asked you to pray about a men's conference I would be attending in Kwa-Zulu Natal. At that time the number of men expected to attend was 30,000. The registrations were coming in so fast, at one per second the week before the conference, that the server crashed at 50,000. The actual count on the Saturday, estimated by the amount of meals served, was 65,000 men. It is hard to describe what God was doing during this historic event at the largest Christian gathering of men in all of African history, meeting in the largest tent in the world. Let me just put it this way:

Sixty five thousand men called apart by God, to listen, take in, and respond to His powerful Word, Came together from every walk of life, some for the first time the true Gospel clearly heard. People from every South African race group, camping, eating, singing and praising God as one, A miracle of grace, for a people with a history of separation, where atrocious things were done. Men with cultural and language barriers, admitting resentments yet uninhibited in crossing the floor. Yes, truly a miracle of grace, the beginning of a renewal like this country has never seen before. A victory won but a battle front opened, an onslaught for the hearts of men, to close this open door.

Angus Buchan spoke at all the sessions and one of the first things he said to us was "Men, the tent is paid for so is all the food, I don't know how it happened but our God has done it again, so relax" The amazing thing about the whole weekend was that it was free except for the registration fee of a R100 which went to pay the farmers who didn't plant crops in their fields but put down grass so we could camp. No appeal for money was made, we were told that there were boxes if anyone wanted to give a donation so it was faith building to see God putting the whole conference together. Getting to the actual conference site at Angus' farm was the biggest challenge for most people. It took us almost four hours to go the last 10 kilometers. The interesting thing about the whole traffic jam experience was that no one on the road got mad, people were walking together talking, sharing food and drinks, and generally getting to know one another while waiting for the vehicles to move. The police, who I am sure have never had such a potential logistical nightmare were very relaxed and enjoying the experience.



Traffic backed up for 10 Kms from GreyTown to Shalom where the conference was held



Everywhere you looked there were tents, caravans and people

The conference theme was "Dying to live". The challenge was given for the men to deal with the issue of pride. To be willing to put things right in their families, businesses and live as Christian men should. Angus' messages are so down to earth and as a farmer turned preacher he is able to

relate so well to the realities of the struggles that men face. So his messages:

*Exhorted to take God at His Word, be obedient forgiving and take back ground that had been lost.
Being willing to model godly principles at home, in the workplace, no matter what the personal cost.
To allow God to speak into their lives, learning to listen to Him through the Word and no other voice.
Claiming back their wives and families, being faithful and fair, starting anew by making godly choices
To live the life God intended them to live, and in the process bless this country and change it's course.*



The feeding of the men went very smoothly

One of the thrilling things for me was meeting men from a number of other African countries. There were people from Angola, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Mozambique Botswana and Namibia. Thank you for praying for us it is going to be very interesting to see what God does in the future in South Africa through the impact that this gathering had on key people's lives.

Thank you for all of your encouragement through prayer, financial support and friendship.

Roy & Rose Tibbit

roy_tibbit@sil.org
Phone number

Box 4245 Kempton Park, 1620, Gauteng, South Africa
21-11-394-3716

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