

## The Radiance of God's Glory

Last summer, I was privileged to be a part of the Adonai Partners' medical missions to the Kanuri people in northern Nigeria. It was truly a fulfilling time.

We served the people of Bakassi, a village on the outskirts of Maiduguri. Getting the opportunity to minister to these precious people was in itself a testimony. It turned out that the village head was quite ill himself and was only too eager to have us come to minister in his village. We had a great turnout as people came from far and wide. The first day saw people mainly from the village and nearby settlements; however, by the second day people were drawn from the city as word went round that we were providing free medical services at Bakassi. I had a patient who told me he was visiting from Chad. He heard of the free medical care and decided to check us out.

Given the religious environment, our leaders decided that we would be more effective sharing the love of Jesus with the people by serving them. It was refreshing to see the Lord quietly at work as we ministered to the people's physical needs.

One of the highlights of the outreach for me was discovering that the real health needs of the population were very different from what I had anticipated. As I saw the patients one on one, I realized that their health needs were not so much the anti-infective agents we had anticipated but numerous ophthalmologic conditions - mainly cataracts and trachoma (a major cause of blindness in this part of the country). I realized that eye care professionals are greatly needed here.

*Dr. Fisayo Olufemi has been on previous medical outreaches but this was her first trip with Adonai Partners. Her goal was to see God touch the lives of precious people using her professional skills; and gain more focus and direction for her life's future work. This is the first part of her reflections from last summer.*



Dr. Fisayo Olufemi

Reproductive health education and support appears to a great need also. I attended to a relatively young woman who was heavily expectant, awaiting the birth of her 9<sup>th</sup> child. Attending to the village head was also quite a sensation for me, because I was not quite sure how I would be received in that environment; a female physician attending to a male patient particularly one with such authority. But he was filled with so much joy and gratitude for our presence, he didn't care! Please pray that God would

complete the work He had begun in him. In all, our team of two doctors, three nurses and several ancillary staff attended to well over 250 patients in the two days we were there.

Our mission to Kanuri was not all medical. One of the days of our ministry was devoted to Prayer Walk in the city, which concluded with our participation in a prayer meeting with some of our partners on the ground. This group has been praying for the Kanuri harvest week after week for well over 10 years. I was privileged to be a part of such a solemn gathering in which hearts were poured out to our Lord in prayer. I believe this, among several other prayer gatherings, has kept the Kanuri brethren through years of persecution.

I must also mention the wonderful times our team had in fellowship and communal prayer. This, for me, was perhaps the greatest highlight of all, because, you see, I not only went to be a blessing but was truly blessed. These were times of refreshing indeed as we went through the attributes of Jesus recorded in Hebrews 1. Verses 3 - 4 were particularly imprinted indelibly on my mind:

***“Jesus, the brightness of God’s glory, the express image of His person, upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high having become so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.”***

This is awesome! What a privilege it is to be an expression of God’s glory to a people who are searching but don’t know Him because they’re locked into a religious system that is closed. What an opportunity to demonstrate His love to a people who are waiting to hear the gospel clearly communicated to them in a culturally relevant way. I give thanks to God for the wonderful privilege and opportunity given to me to be a part of it. It was like we were the radiance of God’s glory to them. Praise the Lord.



Every summer Adonai Partners takes teams to Africa to demonstrate the love of Jesus to a hurting people. Our vision is to see people from every ethne come into a radiant relationship with Jesus. We are committed to helping children reach their full potential. If you want to be a part of our mission team, contact: [missiontrips@adonaipartners.org](mailto:missiontrips@adonaipartners.org)

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