

Leon Harmse – The Word of God to our Children

The Ministry

Have I ever said that God is good. Well this has been an extremely busy few weeks over the last two months. 7 Schools – 9 Assemblies and a Christian Union. However, seeing that it is a very short term, God in His providence has enabled us to take all the Kempton Park assemblies during this time except one at Saffola thus far. Some schools have had to cancel assemblies on occasions because of exams and other activities and that means that even though I had to run from school to school I managed to take all the assemblies with the help of Pastor Ivor Jefferies on occasion. Michael Rogers has also been out to school with me once to see what we are doing and he is willing to help where he can. I may push on his button soon as in the coming weeks things are a bit busy. With most schools we are still busy with the life of David although all the schools are on different lessons so that means new and fresh preparation for every assembly. Busy Bee Primary School has however now moved through King Solomon into Elijah the Prophet of God. At most schools, although very busy things seems to be normal but Busy Bee has lost two teachers in the last two weeks and when a school has only 7 teachers losing two puts you under a lot of pressure. Please pray that they will find teachers that has a passion for teaching and that will stay, and of cause Christian Teachers would be very good. I can see that Mr Padi (the owner of the school) is very discouraged with the constant leaving and appointing of teachers. There has been very encouraging things at Jeugpark in recent days with children asking important questions which shows that they are listening to what I say and also that they are challenged by the gospel. Pray for this. As most of you know Freddy has had a heart attack in recent weeks. He is back in hospital now and waiting for a 5 times bypass operation. Unfortunately we are unable to cover his schools but they are very understanding. He took some assemblies last week but it has been made him very tired. Thanks for all your prayers. The presence of the Lord during these last week's was really visible.

Encouragements

1. Although Freddy has had a very serious heart attack the Lord has spared him and he has a Saviour to hold onto during these trying times.
2. God has provided many Michael Rogers and Ivor Jefferies who are both very passionate about the work and on whose buttons we can press in the future if things get busy.
3. A few Sundays ago a gentleman from Zimbabwe turned up at our church having travelled through the night to come and ask if he could translate the SWYM Correspondence books into Shona. While there is a lot of consideration to be done, would it not be wonderful to have the books now available in English, Zulu, Sotho & Shona within the foreseeable future? We are currently at work on both Zulu & Sotho already & adding Shona seems to be a very good option at the current situation where many Zimbabweans are here in South Africa, but also to distribute them in Zimbabwe a country in great need of the gospel right now.
4. With Nick & Sheila away I was sure that having had to do both my work and their work I would have had to miss out on many assemblies simply because you cannot be at two places at once. Yet God is Sovereign and He has, by strange means, made it possible to do all the assemblies but one.
5. Although there have been some signs of possibly becoming sick in recent weeks, God has protected my health & I have been able to work non-stop without the

Dates to remember

14 – 18 June – Possible dates for the ABK Kempton Park Holiday Bible Club
20 June – Nick & Sheila arrive back in South Africa.
??? June – Scogheim Conference Bible Club.

Verse for the Month

"The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest." Matthew 9:37-38

Items for Prayer

1. Continuous stamina to complete this term with the same excitement and passion as I started it. I must be honest; I am tired at the moment. I do need a rest, but there are only over 4 weeks to go and then its school holidays again. Apart of having one possible Holiday Bible Club at the Afrikaans Baptist Church in Kempton Park I think I will have enough time to rest then. At least it is something to look towards as right now there is no chance of resting.
2. Sheila has been ill in the UK. As a result Nick has had to take a lot of deputations by himself while Sheila is going for various tests and taking medication for her illness which in a real sense she had even before she left. Pray that the Doctors there will be able to make a clear diagnosis and that it could be treated.
3. Pray that the Lord will use every word spoken to challenge and even save children as we have this wonderful opportunity to speak to schools about Christ when all odds are against us. Think about it, in South Africa where schools are instructed to hold all religions equal we are still allowed to make clear gospel applications without being asked to leave. We do not take this for granted. Pray that the Lord will keep all the doors open and that we will zealously take every opportunity to speak the words of eternal life.
4. As I have said above, something is happening at Jeugpark. A Number of children have asked very interesting questions in the last few weeks. It is clear that they are challenged and pray that the Lord will use this to save them even at this young age.
5. Living by example is just as important as speaking the words of the gospel. If I do not act in accordance to what I say, my words are meaningless. Pray that God will help me to always set the example with my deeds so that children and adults can see that the Spirit of which and through which I speak is alive and well in my soul.

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