

Dear Brethren,

September 13, 2015

As I sit here to write this letter, I can truthfully say with the Apostle Paul; "I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry." (1 Timothy 1:12) Because of your faithful prayers and your financial support, I am able to be here in Zimbabwe at this time giving out the glorious gospel of grace. Therefore, I am gratefully glad to God for this open door of opportunity given to me. Only God knows how much longer this door will remain open, so I must redeem the time while I have the time before time turns into eternity.

One of the open doors in Zimbabwe is the prison ministry. There are over 23,000 prisoners and 120 prisons to hold them. Pastor Victor Chembela, a fellow worker in the Gospel, started an evangelistic prison crusade on September 1, and he has preached in 11 prisons so far. He says that 500 prisoners have been converted and only a few of them have bibles, so there is a definite need for bibles. Two hundred (200) of these converted prisoners will be baptized later today (Sept.12). He says that this is the first time there will be a baptism in the prison.

Lord willing, I plan to join with Pastor Victor from September 21 – October 2 and we shall be visiting several more prisons throughout the country and sharing the Gospel of grace to these precious souls. What the Church at large is not realizing is that the Moslems and other cults are using this opportunity to get into the prisons with their misguided message, while we continue to sing the song: "I shall not be moved." The trouble is that we really mean what we are singing. So while the cults are aggressively on the move, we are passively not moved at all. Now is the time for us to get up off our seat and get on our feet and give out the Gospel of grace. "How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the Gospel of peace and bring glad tidings of good things." (Rom 10:15)

The Gospel of grace is free, but it certainly costs money to take it from place to place. It costs money for transportation and accommodation. It costs money to buy Bibles and other printed materials. In my last letter, I mentioned there is a remote area in Zimbabwe called Kanyemba, and there are three tribes that live in that area; the Doma tribe, the Korekoretribe and the Chikunda tribe. Pastor Victor and I had planned to visit and evangelize that area during the last week of September, but we decided to go in early October instead. This trip to Kanyemba will cost about US \$500.00 for transportation and accommodation, maize seeds and garden tools. This will be a long journey of 300 miles and 8 hours driving to get to these people. I am told that wild animals like elephants, lions and buffaloes usually roam this region, so we certainly need your prayers for our protection.

Concerning the construction of the orphanage, we have already collected US \$1,500.00 towards the roof, so we need US \$2,000.00 more for the roof. After the roof is put on, we will be focus on digging a well (borehole) which will cost US \$3,000.00. We are counting on you to help us complete this building by standing behind us with your financial support and faithful prayers.

If you plan to make a contribution you can send it through Western Union or Moneygram to ALLINSON DA COSTA, ZIMBABWE. My telephone number is 011-263-774 953 478 and my email address is dacostamissionary@gmail.com.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Your Missionary Servant,
Allinson Da Costa

Excerpt From Zimbabwe Newspaper

Marks of a Great Leader

Leadership success does not belong to a select few, but those willing to learn and link to the mindset of great leaders. The question is: What is the common thread in great leaders? Great leaders have specific attributes, behaviors or habits that make them competitive and distinctive.

- **Dream:** Great leaders are dreamers. They put the future in pictures and pay all the necessary costs needed to put it into reality. Vision is core driver in all successful leaders. Without a vision, it's like driving without a map to a place you have never been. In fact, if a leader does not have a vision, he is like a ship without radar, any wind that comes may just toss it anywhere.
- **Do it:** Great leaders have learned to do what they are passionate about. They lead in area of interest and they become experts. The law of integrative complexity says that the person, who integrates more information and uses most of what they have accumulated in any field of their interest, will soon rise to the top. In fact, they like to do their passion to an extent that people pay them for it.
- **Develop the leader in the:** Great leaders are lifelong learners. They seek for more opportunities to develop and improve their uniqueness, talents and personal abilities. You might be born with potential, but there has to be a process to improve it to a level of being fully fledged. The late Myles Munroe once said; "A seed has potential to be a tree, but it takes the process for it to be a tree." The seed has to be put into the ground, watered and cultivated until it becomes a tree, so is the leader in you. Solomon teaches us to sharpen our skills. He says; "If the ax is dull and its edge unsharpened more strength is needed, but skill will bring success,"
- **Delegate:** This is giving responsibilities and authority to an individual or group of people. This is an important skill that a leader has to master. You cannot do everything alone. Great leaders accomplish great things when they are accompanied by a great team.
- **Dedication:** Any serious leader has to be dedicated to the fulfillment of clear-cut goals and objectives. Success takes undivided determination and unshakable inner-drive. There are times when the atmosphere looks worrisome. Leaders should exude confidence and be dedicated to the fulfillment of the dream at hand. The leader should be confident in the ability of the team members; this makes the followers confident in their leader;
- **Decision:** What separates a leader from everyone else is the power to think and make crucial decisions. The quality of a leader's decision determines the quality of results. The leaders are employed to think, think and think. Most people think the leader should sit in a big swivel chair in a big office somewhere and call the assistant to bring tea. No!
- **Direction:** John C Maxwell states that the leader should offer direction to an organization. The corporate image or state of any company represents its leadership. It's very unfortunate that most leaders would not agree to aforesaid, but the leader is everything to an institute. Secondly, the current direction of your life is not entirely because of your outer causes, but the direction that you have built in you. You are the leader of your destiny.
- **Discipline:** Success takes great discipline. It is achieved by ordinary people with extraordinary determination. Most of our success is not achieved on the stage, but in our private daily rituals. A great recital is first achieved in our private rehearsals. One has to do daily, what the majority do occasionally. It is never easy in the process, but the harvest is great.
- **Dump all Trivialities:** All great leaders know time-wasters and choose to focus on important matters. Great leaders know that they have to pay now and play later and that is what greatness calls for: They understand that time is money. In fact, time is life. You use money to buy part of someone's time, which is their life, so that they execute a duty for you. Or you sell your time (or life) to someone you are working for.
- **Distinction:** Great leaders never substitute excellence for anything else. They know that their image speaks more. They would rather not do a thing than have it half-baked. Their joy is to be of great service and excellence to humanity. This sets them apart from the majority.
- **Daring:** The leader has to possess a positive mindset. Storms will always come. He should not just go through them, but grow through them. When morale is low, it's the duty of the leader to enthuse others with a positive attitude.
- **Parting Point:** Stan Slap says: "When you're a manager, you work for your company – When you are a leader, your company works for you." Think about it and enjoy being a great leader. Remember great leaders think differently, act differently, behave differently and have great intuition.

If you appreciate this important information, please let me know by email: dacostamissionary@gmail.com or by telephone; 011-263 774 953 478. As we receive more important information from the local newspapers, we shall continue to supply you.