

Hi everyone,

hope everyone is well, I am writing to you with some exciting news, a new newsletter/blog is coming soon, sorry it has taken so long but it feels like I never seem to catch up with life here and I am always running 20 paces behind! However before I send out a blog I wanted to share some news with you. I have tried to summarise it as much as possible what God has been doing in my life over the last few months, if you want to know more please feel free to contact me, I also would value your thoughts and prayers, so here it is:

Since coming back from the UK, God has been doing a lot in my life. I started attending a new church called Freedom Kampala, which has been birthed from Freedom church in Hereford in the UK. I loved the church and it's the only place I have found which had felt like home since leaving the UK over 4 years ago. I love the church's values and what they stand for, their mission statement is connecting anyone everywhere to a life changing relationship with Jesus.

Since being in Uganda I feel I have grown so much in my faith and have had opportunity to grow deeper in my relationship with the Lord and have been challenged about church and what church should look like. I've started to grow passionate about church being in the every day, not just an event on Sunday's. In my role in Rev Life the Lord has increased my passion in wanting to minister to people and I have found myself becoming more passionate in this area.

This is my fifth year on the mission field and I was asking the Lord what is next, staying in Uganda or maybe going back to the UK as I want to settle down, get a job and maybe looking into adoption. In May I went to a conference at church, I had these things on my mind and I felt God clearly speak to me through a number of talks; he reminded me that he called me to the nations, he reminded me that he had told me that he had not called me to one place for a long time but to go many places like the disciples and share the love of Jesus! God also reminded me that following him and walking into his fullness requires sacrifice. God showed me that he had been asking me to sacrifice settling down, stability and security to move again to continue his work.

At the conference they explained they were planting a church from the Kampala campus in Kigali Rwanda, as I listened to the video about Rwanda and their vision to plant a church that would be similar to the style of church in Acts, building relationships, doing church in houses, meeting people where they are at. I felt my heart jump, my spirit was stirred and I felt the Lord tell me I needed to go as that is where he wants me next. I have only felt this feeling once before which is when God called me to Africa back in 2008 to work with child soldiers.

I initially felt confused about this as I did not want to move again to another country and I did not feel ready, also this church is new to me and I love what I do with Rev Life. Also the application process was due to close in a few days. However I spoke and prayed through this with the people I am spiritually accountable too and the pastors here in Kampala. I had a word that Uganda was always a stepping stone to something else. I also felt the Lord tell me that he has been breaking my heart for victims, and in Rwanda there are many victims of the genocide and although it happened over 20 years ago and on the surface everything looks healed and good underneath there is still brokenness and a lack of joy, they need Jesus and that's what God wants me to do, help bring Jesus to them. I did not apply but I met with the pastors here in Kampala, they heard my story and encouraged me to apply despite the process being closed and them

already having chosen a team, they felt that God was doing something, I applied and had an interview, they took time to pray and then offered for me to come and join the team in Kigali in January. I have accepted the offer as I feel the Lord has clearly opened the doors and made a way. I feel like this is the direction he is leading me and I want to be obedient and step into it despite how scary and difficult it may seem.

The initial team went last week, with some people joining over the next few weeks (but we all felt that was too soon for me as I needed to finish well in Uganda and get more involved in the church in Kampala). The team will be planting a church but it is church that represents church as described in the acts, it will be a ministry of sharing Jesus' love to people who are hard to reach in the everyday through relationships etc. It is unknown what this will look like to everyone at the moment and as a team we are praying for vision and trusting God. Like I said above, I think God has been preparing me for this, he is wanting me to pray with people, counsel people, disciple people bringing Jesus to them. I feel that my gifts that I started to develop at well street such as preaching, discipling, prophecy are going to be used, as they really have not been used that much since being in Africa but I believe God had prepared me for such a time as this. I also feel that my social work skills which have continued to be shaped and developed working in different cultures will be used.

I never went to Rev Life to stay forever, I went to train and equip local people in the knowledge and skills which I feel I have done. All the projects I've been working on will be completed my December and there are now people on the team with the knowledge, skills and expertise needed.

My plan for the next few months is to be more involved with Freedom (which I have been anyway) helping at Street church and with the youth team as well as getting to know them better and finishing my work at Rev Life. I will also be looking at other organisations I could volunteer with in Kigali, ones that may be good connecting with the church planting but I know I may need to have other things to fill my time, I would not work as I feel the Lord has still called me to be a missionary and give my time and skills and I believe what other organisations I get involved with will be beneficial to the work the Lord is doing through our team in Kigali. I would still be requiring funding as all the team members are self funded.

This is a big step for me, going into ministry instead of relying on just a practical skill but really using and developing the spiritual gifts the Lord has given me as well as having to move Countries again and start again building and developing relationship and sacrificing settling down. I know that I always have a choice and that the Lord will use me whatever I do and He will always love me but I want to be obedient to him and I want to step in his fullness. I trust him that he knows 100 percent what is best for me and so I am going to take a step of faith and walk into what he has for me even when that requires sacrifice.

I would love your continued support as I move on to the next step of this amazing journey. I encourage you to check out Freedom Church website: www.freedomchurch.cc I really value your input, thoughts, prayers and opinions, so please let me know what you think....

I am hoping to come back to the UK before going to Rwanda and I am hoping to do this in December and am hoping to speak at church. I have some specific prayer requests which I would love you all to stand in prayer with me:

- I think coming back to the UK is a sensible option to give me a rest before going on to something new but at the moment I don't have the money- so for God to provide money for flights or just even the flights to the UK and then Kigali and that I will trust him in this time of uncertainty
- Connections in Rwanda and to continue here as I feel that my time here in Uganda and with Rev Life is connected to this part of my journey
- The smooth selling of my car- there is a lot of work that needs to be done on it- so I am able to get the right amount of money for it
- Provision to visit the team in Kigali in October as I think this would be a great opportunity to meet them all and see what is happening- financial and practical provision.
- My heart as I have to let go of life here in Uganda and again ongoing friendships and relationships

I value your ongoing support and could not do this without any of you.... please let me know how I can pray for you?

Love em x
