



# Youthworx East Africa News Letter

[www.youthworx-ea.org.uk](http://www.youthworx-ea.org.uk)

April | 2011

From a little church in Antioch, together with a few friends, sent "by the Holy Spirit", to Paphos, Perga, Pisidion-Antioch, Iconium, Lystra, Derbe.....Spoken ill against, stoned....."then they went back to Lystra, Iconium and Antioch" !!!

Next trip included Macedonia, "come over and help us" and so they did. Troas, Phillipi, Thessalonika, Berea, Athens, Corinth, Ephesus, Jerusalem.....Arrested, a plot to kill and a trial by the King.

Rome.....shipwreck.....Malta.....Rome.....Prison.

At number 7, Olive Terrace, Antioch, Martha settled comfortably with a glass of red wine and unrolled the news scroll again that had come in that morning. "These young men" she muttered, "crazy... when will this stop? when will they come home?..... surely they should just concentrate on Paphos and Perga, there is more than enough work to do there"

Finishing her wine she settled down to pray: 'The call is there, the Holy Spirit is sending them' she sensed God say. " But the resources? These are hard times. And is it worth the risk to their lives?"

'Trust me' came the reply.



We are not claiming to be Paul and friends, but we are saying our work is expanding. But what is Godly expansion?

I believe the answer lies in the 2 key points I highlighted above from my studies in Acts.

- Who is sending us? Are we just looking for a clever strategy or are we being guided and sent by the Holy Spirit?

- Is there a call? Can we hear someone saying "Come over and help us" ?

We are trying to be guided by those principles as we discern our future direction and growth of the work.

This is what took us to Burundi and more recently down to Zimbabwe.

Just now we are sensing that same call into Tanzania and up into the Karamoja region of Uganda.

We are trying not to look at the potential trouble along the way.

We are trying not to look at the lack of resources to hand.

We are learning to trust.



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Please pray with us as we continue to search for guidance and direction for how/where and when the work of YEA should expand.

Pray as well for the team, small though it is, for energy, vision and wisdom.

For the resources needed to fulfill this work. It is not a question of do the resources exist? It is about releasing them.

For our partners, those we work directly with in East Africa and all those who support the work of YEA in many ways from other parts of the world.

For transformation in the youth and youth ministries we interact with and offer training, encouragement and support to.



In answer to the question I started with in March:

Yes the rains have continued, everything is green and growing again.

In May I want to talk about the operational model we have been discussing in our strategic planning of focusing on the urban centres in a way that will impact the rural churches.

We would love you to embrace the expansion of the work of YEA and to get as excited and passionate about it as we are. We realise that can be difficult long distance and can raise questions and doubts as it did for the fictional Martha of Olive Terrace. Please voice those questions so that we can try and answer them. We can be emailed on [youthworx.ea@gmail.com](mailto:youthworx.ea@gmail.com) or if it is easier Steve Jenkins can be contacted in UK on +44 7740 555105 or [steve.jenkins@openlife.org.uk](mailto:steve.jenkins@openlife.org.uk)

God bless you and chat again in May. I also hope to see many of you in June/July this year.

Ian.

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