

Territorial Calendar

March

7—Olathe, KS (Rally)
 14-15—Wichita, KS
 28-30—Heartland Ladies
 Retreat, Branson, MO

April

25-27—Men's Retreat

June (Camps)

13-15—Kids West
 29-July 2—Kids East

July (Camps)

2-6—Junior and Senior

August

12-17—International Assem-
 bly, Nashville, TN

September

19-21—Heartland Territorial
 Convention, Oasis Conven-
 tion Center, Springfield, MO

January Sunday Worship Attendance

Olathe, KS	170
St. Peters, MO	84
Fredericktown, MO	71
Winona, MO	70
Birch Tree, MO	68
Carthage SP, MO	67
No. Brighton, MO	66
Wichita, KS	65
Montier, MO	35
Springfield, MO	32
Flatwoods, MO	31

A Personal Testing

"For this is why I wrote, that I might test you and know whether you are obedient in everything" (2 Corinthians 2:9 ESV).

Being tested by Christians, which will include leadership, is inevitable. To think that I am immune or unique to such is detrimental to my desire for Christlikeness.

The context of this passage relates to Paul's first letter to the Corinthians in dealing with a sinning member: "It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and of a kind that is not tolerated even among pagans, for a man has his father's wife.

And you are arrogant! Ought you not rather to mourn? Let him who has done this be removed from among you" (5:1, 2).

And while the Corinthian church ultimately responded correctly, I wonder how many were bruised by being called *arrogant*? I wonder how many were offended by this test from another Christian and one in leadership? I wonder how many stayed put or left for another fellowship? I wonder how many times I have missed such an opportunity to do right by failing to accept the challenge of a test through another Christian, maybe even my

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Heartland Ladies Retreat

Settle Inn

March 28-30, Branson, Missouri

I would like to encourage you to attend our Territorial Ladies Retreat coming up March 28-30, 2008. For the first time, it will be held in beautiful Branson, Missouri, at the Settle Inn. As you know, this is my first time as director. One of the things I am trying to emphasize is that this is a Territorial *retreat*, intended to benefit the ladies of both Kansas and Missouri. It is my hope that new friendships will be established, so that we may pray for one another, encourage one another, and learn from one another as we grow in Christ. As we are trying to live out our theme, "BEING MARY IN A MARTHA WORLD", we need each other now more than ever before. I hope to see you there! *Linda Wood, Director*



“Mungu Mwena”

An African told how God worked Easter Sunday at the Ibuga Church of Western Tanzania. The Ibuga Christians had to meet outdoors because the buildings could not accommodate the 800 who attended. While they sang and worshipped, they had no idea of the calamity that was striking their neighborhood.

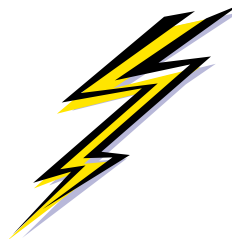
About the time they started their service, a huge lioness came from the forest wild and mad. Normally a lion would kill and eat, but she was only bent on killing. She dashed from house to house attacking everything in her path. She killed three goats, a cow, and then a woman and her child! As the cry of anguish arose, the lioness ran off in the direction of the Ibuga Church meeting. The villagers said that now the “Mungu Mwena” (“God is good”) people will get it, for that lioness is headed directly for them.

The congregation suddenly saw the creature only a few yards away. She stopped and growled furiously. The people quivered with shock! The preacher shouted, “Folks, don’t be afraid, the God who saved Daniel from the lions is here. The Risen Christ of Easter is here.” Then with a God-given faith and authority he turned to the lioness and said, “You lion, I curse you in the Name of Jesus Christ!”

Then the most amazing thing happened. From the scattered clouds, though there had been no rain—nor was there any later—a bolt of lightning struck the lioness and she dropped dead in her tracks. The preacher ran and jumped up and down on the carcass and then used it as a platform to preach!

Seventeen people were instantly saved. The community was stirred and agreed with the local policeman who muttered as they carried the carcass to the police station, “The God of these “Mungu Mwena” people surely is a God of miracles!”

—Convention Herald



A Personal Testing

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leader and any accompanying pain? I wonder how many times as a leader I failed in being used for a test in fear of offending?

The truth of the matter is there are just some things that can be purged, or crucified, in me that only result in tests by other believers.

Whether the tests come from sincere motives, as here with Paul, or not, cannot determine my response. There is a correct way to be obedient in everything, and this generally involves a personal crucifixion; a death to another part of me in order to be more like Jesus. Unfortunately, when the motives may not be so pure, perhaps even just plain mean, it is easy to personally dismiss what the sovereignty of the Lord has allowed.

Gene Edwards, in *Crucified by Christians*, writes, "If there is darkness to be brought to light, hidden motives to be exposed, weaknesses to be found, surely they emerge into the light in the agonies of being crucified. There is nothing which more exposes a Christian's weakness than *how he reacts* to being crucified by another Christian" (page 32).



Church of God of Prophecy International News

Prayer Call for Kenya

Bishop Odendo (National Overseer) writes: I will address the issues under the following headings.

Degeneration of Peace

The fighting, deaths and eviction of people, which previously affected Rift Valley, Nyanza, Western Kenya, Nairobi and the Coastal Provinces has not only continued unabated but has also engulfed the Central provinces where organized but outlawed Mungiki gangs are killing non-residents mercilessly.

The death toll which stood at 600 people has according to the government, which is keen on saving its face, gone up to 1000 people. Nearly one million people are camping in areas purported to be safe, like the police stations, yet these have become the targets of killer gangs and the police are also known to be taking sides in the situation.

Churches Closed/Destroyed

Nearly all our churches have closed in Trans Mara, Timboroa, Naivasha, Kisii and parts of Nairobi, Nakuru and Migori. Many of our members have been forcefully evicted from their houses, property destroyed or stolen and some of our members are confirmed dead.

Whereas it is nearly impossible to travel by road in Kenya, some organizations are making arrangements for transport and security to evacuate their people from these hostile areas. In as much as Red Cross is overwhelmed by the growing number of needy people, there is a lot of hostility in the camps and many threats on their lives. (For more reports go to www.cogop.org)