

Apostolic Faith Church

Zambia and East Africa News

October - December 2020 Newsletter (Volume 1 - 1)



Quench **NOT** the Spirit

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Boniface B. Banda
District Superintendent
Apostolic Faith Church
East Africa District

EDITORIAL COMMENT

We are living in perilous times. Times in which the love of many is waxing cold. The devil is not concerned about the unbelievers because they are already his. He targets the true Christians and wants by all means to make them cold, relaxed and entangled with affairs of this life so that that day (the coming of Jesus) takes them unawares.

In the bible Jesus gave a parable of the "ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom" (Matthew 25:1). They

all had received the same invitation, they all accepted it but they had different perspectives of waiting.

Five of them were wise because they prepared adequately. They carried with them some oil in their vessels as they did not know the exact time of the Bridegroom's coming. The other five virgins were foolish because they did otherwise. Perhaps they thought they had enough and carrying extra oil would be too much for them since their lamps were already trimmed and burning, perhaps they got busy with other things and they neglected the most important thing - the oil. They thought they were ready but little did they know that the oil was slowly depleting and their lamps were getting dim. In that state, there was a cry that the Bridegroom had come. Alas, their lamps had gone out. They were not ready to meet the Bridegroom and the door was shut.

In these last days, we are waiting to meet our bridegroom, Jesus Christ. There will be a 'midnight cry' for all to meet Him in the sky. Only those who are ready will meet Him in the sky. The return of our Lord Jesus Christ is eminent, trim your lamp and quench not the spirit.

In this magazine you will find the things you need to watch out for so that your spiritual lamp does not go off. May you be encouraged and determined to continue in the faith until the day of His appearing.

Quench not the Spirit

*From a saints meeting address by
Rev. Boniface Banda*

Quench not the Spirit (I Thessalonians 5:19)

The word quench means to extinguish or put off a fire either by using water or other means. If something has been quenched, there is no more life. There are 3 things that the devil attacks in the life of a Christian in these last days:

- ♦ The Word of God
- ♦ Prayer
- ♦ Family Worship

1. THE WORD OF GOD

"He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful." (Matthew 13:22)

There are many things in our day that choke the Word of God. We live in a busy and fast world because of the pressures of this life. People hardly have time to even cook whole meals, they rely on fast foods (junk food) which has little or no nutritional value. However, such a busy and fast life should not take our time for reading the Word of God. We cannot treat the Word like food we quickly warm in the microwave.

In the book of Joshua 1:8, we are told how we need to value the Word of God - we must always meditate on it. When we read it, we need to stop and digest it just like a cow does - chewing the curd. We cannot quickly read the Word of God like the newspaper and begin to select what we want to read and what we do not want. We need to ask ourselves very important questions – how often do read the Bible and how long do we spend reading it?

That means we need to deliberately and consciously spend considerable amount of time studying the Word of God. Sunday School lessons are vital for us, even though we could have learnt the lesson some time back, we cannot say we already know it or pass it on to

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Plot # 400/89,

P.o Box 33783, John Howard - Lusaka

+260777-748621 / 0764-862111

Www.apostolicfaith.org

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....Quench not the Spirit

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new converts. If our physical bodies need to be fed three times a day and sometimes snacks in between meals, how much more our soul? In Matthew 6:33, Jesus tells us to seek the Kingdom of God first. God knows that our economies are bad and that we need many things in our lives but even then, it calls for us to put First things first.

How do we value Sunday school lessons? How do we value the Memory Verses? Do we just see them as mere words? We shouldn't just pack it and only remember to go through it quickly on Saturday evening. The Word of God is what keeps us from sin. It is what helps us to know the mind of God.

2. PRAYER

Luke 18:1, 21:41,42. We all know that prayer is talking to God but there is a difference between knowing what prayer is and the action of praying itself. Is it possible to faint? Yes it is. No wonder Jesus encourages to pray always.

Luke 6:12 gives us the example of Jesus, Himself. The Son of God that came from Heaven and was given all power, prayed. He lived a life of prayer. Why would Jesus pray the whole night? His ministry did not depend on experience. He always wanted to be connected.

A well-known chorus goes, "Jesus started with prayer and ended with prayer." He depended upon God and we need to depend on prayer too, because it is possible for the spirit of prayer to be quenched.

If the clutch plate in the vehicle is finished, it will not move, no matter how good the engine may be. Prayer is like that clutch plate that connects us to Heaven. If we are going to be sound Christians who not only look good on the outside

Apostolic Faith is identified by prayer. If you are truly Apostolic then you must contend in prayer

but indeed are connected to Heaven, then we must pray.

If there is time that we must pray it is now. We are moving against the wind in these last days. We are in the final minutes of the battle because the devil knows that his time is short (Revelation 12:12)

Apostolic Faith is identified by prayer. If you are truly Apostolic then you must contend in prayer.

3. FAMILY WORSHIP

Genesis 18:17-19; Job 1:5. Family worship is another part that is under attack during these last days. God knew Abraham. He passes through our homes everyday as He did with Abraham. Job too was known by God, he offered individual sacrifice for his children after each feast.

Due to busy lives, our children have been taken by the teachings of the world. One minister said "If parents do not fulfil their spiritual responsibility, Satan will shape the children in his molds." Children only spend one hour in church and the rest of the time is spent at home, in schools, communities etc. they are most vulnerable to the mold of the devil.

The world today is suffering from juvenile delinquency because society has thrown away the Word of God. The TV and video games are nice for our children but they are devils. Know what your children are exposed to. There is a teacher out there, who knows when parents are negligent.



Know your children! Know their character traits. Counsel them with the Word of God, don't call your children names such as dog, monkey etc when they are wrong. It is those uncontrolled traits in children that lead to child delinquency.

We need to have family worship. Children should not be strangers to the Word of God. As parents, we must live by example. We should not only send our children to Sunday school, but read the Word of God with them as well as attending church with them. Don't come to church late when Sunday school is over, the children will see it and know it. You are their life coach. When they notice you force them to read the Bible that you don't read, they will not see the value. If they have never seen you kneel down to pray at home, they will not see the value of prayer. When we are mindful to read the Bible and to pray together as families, we will protect our lives and protect our children's lives too.

In Revelation 4:8, we read of the Four Creatures that always worship God and do not rest, day and night. Even today, right now they cry out, 'Holy, Holy, Holy.' They do not quench that worship. Let us not quench the spirit of reading the Bible and praying. Let us start to practice now what we shall forever do in Heaven.

Rev. Boniface Banda is the District Superintendent for Apostolic Faith Churches in Zambia and East Africa.

Special 2 weeks revival

A fortnight of special revival services were held at the headquarters church in Lusaka, Zambia from 1st to 14th November, 2020. This took place after the Covid-19 restrictions were slightly lifted by the government. The sole purpose of this special revival meeting was for God to revive the hearts of all.

The theme text of this special revival meeting was taken from Isaiah 57:15, ***“For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to REVIVE the spirit of the humble, and to REVIVE the heart of the contrite ones”.***

The subsequent days of the first week continued with heart rending messages from the pulpit and spirit filled songs. Ministers who were selected from various Lusaka branches turned up to preach as the Spirit gave utterance. On Sunday 8th November, which was the beginning of the second week, the combined choir presented a beautiful concert. Several people within and outside the country also joined by watching the concert online.

The revival ended on Saturday 14th November, with a film show titled, “The beginning of the End”. It depicted the condition of most Christians just before the rapture takes place, how some will miss it and experience the Great Tribulation.

It was indeed a wonderful time of fellowship and revival and the hearts of many have been revived as was heard from various testimonies.

Birth of New Worship Centres

Nampundwe (Lusaka West)

Four years ago, a sister from Lusaka relocated to Nampundwe (Lusaka West) and would walk a journey of about 3-4 hours to get to the nearest branch, Shibuyunji, to attend church services. Her consistent Christian life has been a blessing to her neighbours in Nampundwe including one old woman who could not walk due to sickness. When brethren from headquarters visited our sister, they also visited and

prayed for the old woman who was sick. Miraculously she was healed instantly. Because of her miraculous healing and in appreciation to God, this woman offered part of her land to the church for free. The land is about 60m*60m and is intended to be the site for the future church building.

It was in these unfolding events that this Nampundwe 'GROUP' was born (A Group: being people in a new evangelism field that gather regularly for worship under the umbrella of AFC and eventually migrate into an established branch). The group has about 40 to 50 adults in attendance and about 60 to 70 children.

There is no structure for worship for now as the group gathers under a tree and seats are made of blocks. Nampundwe is a spontaneously fertile ground. Arrangements are being made to have a structure built in the quickest possible time.



Brethren on a visit to Nampundwe

Lilayi

This group started in September when the evangelism team went out to give out Gospel literature. Upon the very first day they went, the very first person they met is a son of one of our late pastors. Although he has not been in touch with AFC for some time, he knows about AFC background. This man became influential in organizing people. On the first day of meeting he led the team to conduct several services in various homes. Currently services are now held in Lilayi and on some Sundays the group is taken to worship at HQ.

During the course of the year 2020, several other centres have been opened which are Linda, Chisamba, Chawama and John Laing Sakala.

DS' visit to Eastern Province

A team of five ministers (5) led by Rev Boniface Banda, comprising of Rev B Kalimina (Lusaka), Rev G Hambwaza (Southern Province Overseer), Bro M Kabunda (Kafue District) and Bro R Mainza (Lusaka) took a 10 days visit to Eastern Province from 9th to 19th October, 2020 to visit branch churches in Eastern Province. They visited branches in Katete, Petauke, Kasengwa, Chipata, Chadiza, Lundanji and Nyimba.

December Retreat

This year's December Retreat was held from 24th – 26th December in all branches across the country. The theme was, ***“My eyes have seen Thy Salvation”*** (Luke 2:30). It was indeed a reviving time. Various branches recorded people saved, sanctified, baptized with the Holy Ghost, healed and re-anointed. At headquarters, we were blessed by the children's concert during which a group of young people between 9 and 13 played beautifully in a brass ensemble. This group was introduced to the instruments about 4 months ago and their presentation was encouraging. Parents and guardians were encouraged to start saving for the children's musical instruments through an account called “Imiti ikula 21”.



Children's brass ensemble

Plant a tree project

This project was launched at the campground in Lusaka on Saturday, 19th December. The following are the trees that have been planted: Hass avocado, Umbrella trees and palm trees - Cuban Royal Palm, King Palm and Queen Palm. We hope these plants will be established during this rainy season.

Dedication Ceremony of various equipment at John Howard, Lusaka.

A dedication ceremony of newly purchased/acquired printing machines and other media and office equipment was made on 25th December, 2020.

Members present included Rev. Bornface Banda and his wife, Rev. Mapepuka and his wife, Church Elders, Editorial staff and congregation members. The ministers and elders of the church gathered round the items and prayed, dedicating the equipments for God's service.

The following items were dedicated

to the Lord's service:

1. A printing machine, known as LI GRAPHIC or Litho Printing Machine, Heidelberg Make, Cord 64 version, which is able to print 6 thousand papers per hour. The other machine also bought is a Gilotin (an industrial cutting Machine).
2. Two video cameras for use by the church media.
3. A video mixer for the media office.
4. Office furniture to be used in the printing office.

The printing office that will host the equipments is currently under construction and will be completed in the shortest possible time.

We thank God who has given us all

this equipment in a miraculous way beyond our comprehension. We believe the printing machine will solve the challenge of Gospel literature in Zambia and East Africa.



Dedication of the printing machine

East Africa News

Revival meetings

Between August and September, Rev. J. Chewie the Provincial Overseer in Muchinga Province and Rev. E. Simfukwe, the leader in Tanzania left Tunduma border to visit several branches in Tanzania.

On 25th August, 2020, they solemnized the first AFC wedding in Kasulu (a town close to Burundi). This was such a blessing to the people there to have a Zambian solemnize their wedding. On 28th August they left for Kisa, Sumbawanga Province where they held a 3 days revival. Kisa is a new branch that was recently opened. At the end of the revival, 3 were saved and 2 were healed.



Kisa Branch

On 3rd September, another revival meeting was held in Itumbula. In attendance were brethren from Ilambo and the Masai who had to walk long distances from their settlements in order to hear the truth of God's word. The highest attendance in this revival was 86. At the end of this revival, 8 were saved, 4 sanctified, 2 baptized with the Holy Ghost and 5 were healed.



Brethren in Intumbula

Ministers and workers conference - Mbeya

The District Superintendent (Rev. B. Banda), the Director of Tanzania work (Bro K. Tweenda) and 3 other ministers (Rev J. Sinyangwe from Isoka District, Rev. C. Siamubi from Kalomo District and Bro. S. Moonga from Ndola, Copperbelt Province) left Zambia to conduct a ministers and workers conference for the brethren in Tanzania. The conference was held in Mbeya from 16th – 21st November. Various workers from Ilambo, Itumbula, Kasulu and Kigoma attended this conference. The Spirit of God could be felt in all the sessions and the people felt it was like a camp meeting.



Mbeya workers meeting

Single with a Purpose - Part 1

Highlights from the seminar that took place on 31st October, 2020

Jeremiah 29:11 *"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil to give you an expected end."*

God is the creator and knows what's best for His children. We can trust that God has a wonderful plan for us and that He already knows about our future more than we do.

Proverbs 3:5,6 *"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart and lean not unto thine own understanding....."* We need to seek the will of God in everything and to lay out hearts desire on the foundation of Biblical principles.

Matthew 6:31-33 gives us the right foundation for everything. When you seek salvation first, which is the Kingdom of God, you will live a life filled with purpose. Before you start thinking of who to marry or what kind of a person you desire for marriage, answer these questions: Who are you? Have you identified yourself with Christ? "Are you saved? Are you sanctified? Have you been baptized with the Holy Ghost and Fire? How is your prayer life?" These questions will help you to live a purpose driven life, you will not live your life anyhow because at each phase of your life, God will be there to guide you.

Are you a Joseph that can resist the immoral temptations of today in order for you to fulfil the

vision that God has given you about your life? Are you a Ruth that is so determined to follow the God of Israel at all costs? Or are you a type like Amnon who will do anything to fulfil the sensual desires of the flesh and become a captive of the devil? Or are you a type of Orpah who easily gets distracted and loses focus?

There is a reward when you purpose to follow God, Joseph rose to high ranks in Egypt and his dream came to pass when his brothers came to Egypt and bowed before him. Was it all? No! He was also given a beautiful wife to marry. How about Ruth? She found herself working in the fields of a rich man in Israel who later married her. Was that all? No! She became a mother in Israel and received a greater blessing of being in the genealogy of Jesus.

Hosea 7:8, *"Ephraim, he hath mixed himself among the people; Ephraim is a cake not turned."* Don't get mixed up with the world. Watch out if someone tells you he/she loves you. Is that love perfect? Does it have the characteristics found in 1 Corinthians 13? Desist from illicit relationships, become a genuine Christian and not half baked Christian like a cake not turned. Determine to choose Christ and to follow Him every step of the way.



Youths during Single with a purpose seminar

Upcoming Youths events

- Single with Purpose - Part 2
- Young Couples Forum
- Teenagers Symposium

Dates will be communicated on social media (whatsapp and facebook)

Find your spot in any of these groups and be sure to attend!

GOD DID IT FOR ME



I am a man who knows what it is to be a sinner. Before I met the Gospel, I lived the life of a drunkard and a womanizer. I engaged in so many sinful activities, living a reckless life.

My first wife left me because I brought another woman as a wife. This turned out to be a blessing of some sort to me, because this new woman soon started attending the Apostolic Faith Church in the town we lived.

In 1980, she became very sick and although she was admitted to the local hospital, the doctors could do nothing to help her. She was bedridden and could hardly do anything by herself. I knew that in the Apostolic Faith Church, they prayed for the sick, so I went to their church and requested that they come to pray for my wife in the hospital.

After waiting impatiently for a while, I decided to go to another town called Kafue, in order to request for prayers because I felt that the people of God in Monze where I lived did not respond in time. When I got to Kafue, I insisted that the minister there should follow me to pray for my wife. Instead, they prayed about the case right there and told me to go home in faith, that my wife would be healed. Just as I left Kafue, the ministers in Monze, who I felt did not respond in time, went to the hospital in my absence, laid hands on my wife and prayed for her.

All of a sudden, some sharp objects started pricking my wife all over her body. She jumped out of bed immediately, even though she had been bedridden. She went to a nearby hand wash basin, washed her face and to everyone's astonishment, she declared she was healed.

Meanwhile the doctor had recommended her transfer to the University Teaching Hospital in Lusaka, for further examinations. Before the prayers of the people of God, a stretcher had been brought to carry her to the ambulance which was to take her to Lusaka. Because the doctors had already ordered

her to be taken, she boarded the ambulance herself. When the doctor in Lusaka read the medical write-up about her, he asked to see the patient. He was told then that the patient was the woman sitting right in front of him. The doctor then said, "It is either this report is wrong, or you have brought the wrong patient." When she left the hospital that day, she went to stay in her sisters house in Lusaka.

On returning to the hospital from Kafue, I found an empty bed in Monze. Instantly, I thought she is dead. Then I went to the nurses so that they could show me her corpse in the mortuary. It was the nurses who told me of her miraculous healing, and departure to Lusaka. The following morning, I went straight to her sister's house in Lusaka. Lo and behold, I met my wife cooking in the kitchen! Although, I was surprised at her healing, I took the incident as one of the supernatural miracles nothing more about it.

One day, the woman told me that the Overseer from Lusaka, Brother Robinson Sanana, was to hold revival program in Monze. After a lot of persuasion, I reluctantly agreed to follow her. When I heard the Word of God at the very first meeting I attended, I said within me, "Surely, this is the Gospel." I told God that if He could save others, He certainly could save me too. When I prayed sincerely, the joy of the Lord came into my heart. It was incredible! I discovered that I was not my old self anymore.

At the moment I got saved, I jumped up from my knees and those legs that could not carry my weight started jumping.

At that time, I was suffering from intercostal neuracnia, which is a serious chest illness. I suffered from serious leg pains and the doctors had told me that my legs could not carry my weight. My eyes were also partially blind. At the moment I got saved, I jumped up from my knees and those legs that could not carry my weight started jumping. The pain in my chest disappeared, and when I had occasion to go back to the hospital where I

was diagnosed, they could only see a scar where the problem used to be.

I had been to Israel, where a doctor told me that because I had looked directly at the eclipse of the sun, I would totally be blind in about five years. When God saved me He healed my eyes. I have been using these eyes for the past 26 years.

I went back to straighten my crooked past. I had bought meat on credit in Lusaka ten years before my conversion and refused to pay. I went back to the butcher and said I was ready to pay. He looked into his record book and found an entry to confirm what I said. Then he looked straight at me and said, "Are you sure you have no psychiatric problem?" I told him I was perfectly normal, and that I was also saved from my life of sin. He freely forgave me, returned the money I gave him and he asked me to use it to take care of my wife and children.

I made restitution to my second wife and apologized to her for marrying her wrongly. I went back to my first wife's home to beg for reconciliation. At first, she refused. After a long period of pleading, she accepted to be reconciled. We are together today, serving the Lord.

I eventually went back to my home town in Chinsali and God started the Apostolic Faith work there. God has been my Healer for the past 26 years. I am now 83 years old now, and even though my eyes are now beginning to fail, I know it is due to old age.

I am determined to work for Jesus till I die. I am determined to trust Him for my healing no matter what. I give the balance of my life to God.

Bro Sunday Rain Mwansabamba was the pastor of the Chinsali Branch Church which was under Northern Province but now under the newly created Muchinga Province. He was a lover of music and sometimes would present solos in his old age. He was youthful at heart and held on to his faith until his passing to glory on 14th April, 2008.

A STATEMENT OF THE BIBLE DOCTRINE

WE BELIEVE IN THE DIVINE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE, AND ENDORSE ALL THE TEACHINGS CONTAINED IN IT. FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF OUR BASIC DOCTRINES.

THE DIVINE TRINITY consists of three Persons: God the Father, Jesus Christ the Son, and the Holy Ghost, perfectly united as one. Matthew 3:16-17; 1 John 5:7.

REPENTANCE is a godly sorrow for and a renouncing of all sin. Isaiah 55:7; Matthew 4:17. **JUSTIFICATION** (or salvation) is the act of God's grace through which we receive forgiveness for sins and stand before God as though we had never sinned. Romans 5:1; 2 Corinthians 5:17.

ENTIRE SANCTIFICATION is the act of God's grace whereby we are made holy, is the second definite work and is subsequent to justification. John 17:15-21; Hebrews 13:12.

THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY GHOST is the endowment of power upon the sanctified life, and is evidenced by speaking in tongues as the Spirit gives utterance. John 14:16-17,26; Acts 1:5-8; 2:1-4.

DIVINE HEALING of sickness is provided through the atonement. James 5:14-16; 1 Peter 2:24.

THE SECOND COMING OF JESUS will be as literal and visible as His going away (Acts 1:9-11) and will consist of two appearances. First, He comes to catch away His waiting Bride. Matthew 24:40-44; 1 Thessalonians 4:15-17. Second, He comes to execute judgment upon the ungodly. 2 Thessalonians 1:7-10; Jude 14-15.

THE TRIBULATION will occur between Christ's coming for His Bride and His return in judgment. Isaiah 26:20-21; Revelation 9 and 16.

CHRIST'S MILLENNIAL REIGN is the 1000 years of peaceful reign by Jesus on earth. Isaiah 11 and 35; Revelation 20:1-6.

THE GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGMENT is the final judgment when all the wicked dead will stand before God. Revelation 20:11-15.

THE NEW HEAVEN AND THE NEW EARTH will replace the present heaven and earth, which will be destroyed after the Great White Throne Judgment. 2 Peter 3:12-13; Revelation 21:1-3.

ETERNAL HEAVEN AND ETERNAL HELL are literal places of final and eternal destiny. Matthew 25:41-46; Luke 16:22-28.

MARRIAGE is a covenant between one man and one woman that is binding before God for life. Neither person has a right to marry again while the first companion lives. Mark 10:6-12; Romans 7:1-3.

RESTITUTION is necessary, wherein wrongs against others are righted. Ezekiel 33:15; Matthew 5:23-24.

WATER BAPTISM is by one immersion "in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." Matthew 3:16; 28:19.

THE LORD'S SUPPER is an institution ordained by Jesus so that we might remember His death until He returns. Matthew 26:26-29; 1 Corinthians 11:23,26.

FOOT WASHING is practiced according to the example and commandment Jesus gave. John 13:14-15.

What must I Do to be saved?

If you are a new Christian, contact us and request the tract entitled "Starting Out."

ACKNOWLEDGE

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23). "God be merciful to me a sinner." (Luke 18:13)

CONFESS

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9)

REPENT

"I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." Luke 13:3
"Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out." Acts 3:19

FORSAKE

"Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him. . for he will abundantly pardon." (Isaiah 55:7)

BELIEVE

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16)



Apostolic Faith Mission of Portland, Oregon
Zambia and East Africa District Headquarters

www.apostolicfaith.org

