

Student Practical Report from their last Ministry Trip

During June and July our students were out on practical ministry with CFI churches or with other denominations. CFI has planted four churches and has relations with many churches all over Nigeria and in many nations, who ask us to send them students to help out in outreach, pastoring and teaching. This is also invaluable for the students' training.



While these practicals were going on Islamic riots were breaking out in various cities of the north. A brother to one of our staff had his house burnt down, though he himself escaped without injury. Many of our staff and students have family and friends in the affected areas.

We have put together just a few of the testimonies students have given us from their practical period. Apart from preaching, doing Bible studies from house to house and evangelism, they work in the homes and on the farms where they stay.

Murtala Ishaku

I had my practical among the Hausa called Maguzawa and Muslims. I preached the word of God among them. Five gave their lives to Christ. Two were Muslims and three were atheists or irreligious. Above all, my parents who were Muslims also received Christ. (His parents attempted to take his life when he became a Christian.)



Ibrahim Shago

I went to an interior place in Bauchi State. (This is one of the states that recent riots broke out in.) You have to drive in a taxi and then go on a motor bike taxi and then walk the last distance to reach these Zarandawa people. They are naked. Their women wear leaves. They are neither Muslim nor Christian. There is not even a primary school there. There is no church there. Their food is so bad that for some days I could not eat. (Henry Diamond is planning a trip to this area with CFI, to preach, plant a church and train a person and an indigene from this area to take over the church together.)



Barnabas Jesse

This is the first time I have been on a practical and in preparation for this I decided that one of the things I would do was pray for my father. I prayed that God would heal him as for the last twenty two years since I was born he has been sick.



In the morning before I left for my practical my brother called me and said he had good news but that I had to wait until I came home. On our way home before reaching Gombe State he couldn't hold back any longer and told me that our father had been healed.

Where I lived during my practical it was a place where you could not preach to unbelievers. In the house where I was sleeping there were unbelievers. I thought that since I couldn't preach to them that I would make sure that my lifestyle would be different enough to touch them. So as I lived out my walk with God, every body in that place was surprised at how I was not offended by them and asked me why. I told them it was Christ in me so nothing could offend the life you see now.

Some of these people then asked me for a Bible and I gave them my Good News Bible. I am so thankful to God for what he did in my life in the place where I did my practicals. May the Lord continue doing miracles in my life.

Hyeltsari

My testimony is about what happened in Maiduguri in Borno State. (This is a city where riots were strong.) When I first started my practical, I went into my closet and started praying to God, "Please give me understanding because I can't stand and am very ashamed." As I went out and started preaching to people on Sunday, people began to say what a wonderful surprise to hear Hyeltsari preaching like this.



I began to preach to them from the book of John 14 v 1 that says, 'Let not your heart be troubled – trust in God – trust also in me.' When I told them "prepare before you are troubled", I saw people from my home town repenting and I told them, "It is a good way that we follow Him, we have righteousness for we have chosen His way. We don't have anything we can give for it is a work of His grace!" I was very happy for them and began to encourage them as they said, "God help us." So we began to say to them "Don't be afraid, God is here" as many people began to realize the persecution they may face. We told them, "Don't be afraid, believe God is here, He says "If you ask in my name I will provide the answer for your problems." So this is my testimony, I thank God because I finished my practical.

Udechukwu Samuel

In the house where I stayed during the practical there was a little girl who was accused of being a witch. They said she refused to be delivered and told her to complete three days of dry fasting (which includes fasting water), but she was unable to do so. It was said that she needed to weaken the power of the spirit holding her and then they would be able to cast it out. After I prayed for her and spent some time feeding her with the word of God the little said to me "Uncle, I would like to follow you and serve



God all my life".

I was asked to preach on the last Sunday in the church and six people accepted Christ even though they had been in the church for long. The pastor publicly said "It is wrong to put human yokes on people. God we are very sorry". The pastor asked if he could enrol in CFI and another brother who saw what the Lord did is now at CFI as a new student.

Mador Dauda

I appreciate God for his love and kindness and how he has directed me in the practical placement in Lokoja. The pastor asked me to preach. After the message he was so happy and he said he would like to partner with CFI.



A guest prophet was invited to speak and the program started on Thursday night. When he was ministering the message he said to the people that tomorrow night they should each empty their bank accounts and bring all their money to the church and he would prophesy over them.

On Friday afternoon the prophet called me and said "this night will be a night of battle with Satan", referring me back to Eph 6 v 12. He said Satan is in our midst. The first thing I said to him is that it is a lie. The second thing I said was if Satan is in our midst will we fight him? That means what Christ has done on the cross is useless. I said to him that Ephesians 6 is talking about the helmet of salvation, the sword of the Spirit which is the word of God, the shield of faith, righteousness, truth and prayer.

To God be the glory after I said this to him that Friday night his message changed completely and he preached in Christ alone. No more did he tell people to empty their bank accounts and bring it to the church or sow their seed to be delivered from the devil. I give all the glory to God and the honour for what he did that Friday night!

Tabita Samaila

Having gone to the church I was asked to preach for them. After finishing I went with the pastor and his wife to evangelize between houses. Upon reaching one house we met a man and his wife who said they had once been Christians but were no longer.



The problem these Christians had was that they couldn't farm their land on Sunday and they were worried about what they would eat. I started preaching to them from the book of Matthew 6 v 25 which says don't worry about your life what you will eat and what you will drink, nor about your body. When I had finished the woman said that she would rededicate her life to Christ and has since started going to church. I thank God for the opportunity to preach in the church and for everything that happened.

Augustine Dasume

I want to testify of what the Lord did in the practical. I arrived safely and was received well, even by the pastor. The church was almost dead spiritually and was in darkness. The Lord started doing his work gradually. Through the word of God things began to change step by step. Then all of a sudden revival came into the church and they began testifying of the goodness of God.



I ask you to join me in praying for them. As well I want to say that the church is marching on and the gates of hell will not prevail against it. I thank God for his goodness.

They tried their best to take care of me there. They were such wonderful people of God. I personally prayed that what the Lord has started in the church he will continue. What God has done for me is beyond my expression and what I have mentioned is just one of the little things I have seen him do.

Moses Ekykoro

I went for my practical in Kaduna State. When I arrived with my practical papers the pastor glanced through and saw where it was written “support him financially, by doing so you are blessing the body of Christ.” He called my attention to the fact that the church was facing financial problems and said he just wanted me to know these things so that at the end I would not be discouraged. I said to him “Sir, I am here to serve the church as well as the body of Christ.”



I began my work. At first he only allowed me to lead prayers. But when he went through my practical papers he saw it was written, “the student has to be tested either by preaching, teaching etc...” So he said I should get prepared to take the Bible study in the service on Tuesday. After that meeting the pastor met me alone and said I had to get prepared to take the study again on Thursday.

At this point I thanked God in my heart. To God be the glory it went very well and so I finished the Bible study. The pastor came to the front and said to the congregation that I will be going back to school and before I go back I have to speak to them again on Sunday. Indeed I was very happy. So I ministered that Sunday very well through the help of the Holy Spirit. People were blessed. Lives were transformed by the gospel. I really thank God for the opportunity given to every student to go out for practical ministry. I learnt a lot.