

Teleios Ministry

Helping God-Given Visions Become Present-Day Realities

Business Of Honoring Christ Is Booming In Kenya

By Floyd Parker

On March 30, Tom Menefee from Atlanta and Floyd and Bonnie Parker met Bernard Kabaru in Nairobi to begin work on the partnership that includes the Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) program, developing the Lamuria property, and building relationships.

During this trip, Tom saw firsthand the impact of the OVC partnership in the lives of the families and children of Bellevue and Shalom. We walked the Lamuria property discussing the house and the future development of the property. The impact of an extended drought was evident.



On March 31, Tom, Bernard and I had the unique opportunity of assisting the water tower construction crew in raising the water tank platform about 40 feet at Lamuria. This proved to be a challenging process. So much so, that the construction crew finished setting the platform in place in the dark. The next morning, Tom and I woke to discover that the construction crew had quit and wouldn't return.

On April 1, Bill Kenny and Jesse Mayo from Nashville, along with Charles Wambui, LCI, joined us in Lamuria as Tom and I were finishing up a tour of the impact of the OVC program on the Shalom village area. Bonnie was with Mary Kabaru meeting with the Kieni West Pastors' Wives group.

That Sunday, April 2, we worshipped with Bellevue Baptist Church and met some of the OVC

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The Kieni West pastors' wives continue to grow in their walk with the Lord as they spend time studying His Word, praying and investing in one another.

Assisting One Another In Missions And Fishing

By Bonnie Parker

In one account of Jesus' call of His disciples, the Scriptures share of an amazing miracle. It is found in Luke 5:1-11.

Verse 7 stands out in my mind as a perfect description of why there is always a need for those who are "fishers of men" to recruit partners when God directs us to our work. It says: "...so they signaled to their partners in the other boat for them to come and help them."

The disciples' nets were so full that they needed help to haul in the catch Jesus had given them!

The eight pastors' wives in Keini West came to Teleios asking for partners to help them with what Jesus is directing them to do in their area of this world. The Lord blessed me with the task of coming alongside them with the training school. Over the past year, I began to feel that we might need a few more partners to help "lift this net into the boat!"

While in Romania in March, I traveled to Satu Mare to visit the Vekas family. The church, especially the women there, have been praying for me and Teleios since its inception. Each time we visit Satu Mare they

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ASSISTING ONE ANOTHER

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ask about the work in Africa and keep up with what we are a part of in Kenya and Tanzania. The women are strong in the faith and are mighty prayer warriors – refined in the fire through the days of communism! Who better to ask for help in “landing the nets into the boat!”

The Satu Mare women invited me to speak at their Monday evening meeting. I used Luke 5:1-11 to share of Jesus’ directions to Peter and the others and the call to become “fishers of men.” When I read verse 7, I then shared about the Keini West pastors’ wives, their burden for women and children in their area, the training school and the need for more partners. I invited the women at the church in Satu Mare to join us in the work. Praise God the women agreed to come aboard and anchor the boat with their prayers!

Floyd and I left Romania for Kenya, the last leg of the journey. It was a great blessing when I met with the pastors’ wives. They shared what had taken place within their group and individually since we had been together last year. It was overwhelming for me as they shared how they had implemented the teachings from the previous seminars within their churches and practiced consistently the spiritual disciplines we had studied. Most spoke of specific ways their personal “walk with the Lord has been strengthened” and “finding strength together.”

Ruth shared that it had been good to hear of similar experiences of others in the group serving in pastoral ministry. Irene said she realized thanks to the younger wives’ encouragement that she was not “too old to serve” like she had thought. (She is the oldest in the group at the ripe old age of 62!)

Beatrice and Anne had used the study on “Giftedness” in teachings with their women and discovered others God had gifted to help with children’s work and a variety of other things in the church. This freed up some time which allowed them to minister to the lost outside the walls of the church sharing the message of salvation and the transforming power of Jesus.

Jane said she had come to realize that it truly takes the love of



Jesus flowing through us to effectively minister to those around us when the work is difficult and efforts are underappreciated. Arabinah felt it was a “miracle of change in the hearts of the church leadership” for her contributions of outreach and teaching to be accepted.

Each woman asks for prayers about specific things within her family and church. I have already been able to share of their needs and praises with the sisters in Satu Mare. It was truly an overwhelming affirmation of what is taking place through the Pastors’ Wives Training School. I arrived back home on April 1 with a great sense of accomplishment.



Before we left for Romania and Kenya, I had accepted an invitation to be a guest speaker at the annual Women’s Dinner Meeting at First Baptist Church in Ware Shoals on April 4. Ware Shoals, our home from the mid-1980s until 1995, is an extremely mission-minded body and believes strongly in sharing resources.

The women always take up a mission offering which is given to support efforts designated by the speaker. I had decided that the offering would go to help with “landing the nets” of the Keini West pastors’ wives.

Having read previous Teleios newsletter articles, many of the women in Ware Shoals knew of the work in Keini West. So that evening, the Keini West project was promoted and a generous offering was received, along with pledges for support for the women over the next two years from several in attendance. Also, the group assured me of their prayer support in the days ahead.

What joy I have experienced watching sisters/partners come together to help with full nets, just like in Luke 5! If you are feeling led to help with the “full nets,” please let us know. Or better yet, join us in August as we travel to Kenya to tell the pastors’ wives in person that you are partnering with them as they answer God’s call to be more effective disciples in the Keini West region!

While we may find that we need others to help in the completion of the task, we know we can expect the miraculous when we follow Jesus’ directions as we fish!

Gypsy Children's Summer Camp Is Back!

Sponsorships Still Needed To Help Children Attend

Yes, July 13-20 will find the Teleios Team of Abigail Dover, Sarah Grace Dover and Floyd Parker with their leader, Bonnie Parker, at a new camp location – one that has actual dormitories, dining hall, a genuine soccer field and playground, and fishing pond (now this has Attila excited).

The team will join a team from Apalina under the leadership of Attila and Adel Toth to provide eight days of Bible stories, recreation and arts and crafts.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support. Everyone is excited for the return of the Summer Gypsy Children's Camp

after having to miss last summer because a location wasn't available.

The average cost per child is still \$60. If you would like to join in sponsoring a child, you can do so at www.teleiosministry.org or by contacting Bonnie Parker at 864-322-9775. You can send checks to Teleios Ministry, 28 Eula St., Greenville, S.C. 29609.

Please pray for the Teleios Team as they travel (July 10-25) and for the children attending camp, many for the first time. Pray that God's love will surround each person as He opens hearts and minds to knowing Him.

Tanzania Trip Bringing Many 'Firsts'

A team from Eastern Industrial Supply will join Floyd and Bonnie Parker in Tanzania in June to conduct a Holiday Bible Camp – a first for most of the children of Daily Bread Life Children's Home, Asante Sana Children's Home and students of Bread of Life Secondary School.

The Eastern Team of Kelly Dillavou, Martha Nelson, Donnie Brenner, Don Brenner and Lane Lesh will serve from June 1-11. This is the first Eastern team trip taken during the summer.

Included with the camp is a safari to Ruaha National Park. For many of the children, this will be their first time to see the animals – lions, elephants, giraffe, zebra and more! Please join us in prayer for the team, the staff and the children and students during this exciting week.

Specific times of prayer are needed as they drive across Tanzania on June 3 from Dar Es Salaam to Iringa and when they drive from Ruaha to Iringa and fly from Iringa to Dar to Amsterdam on June 10.

Bonnie and Floyd will remain and travel with Teleios partners Mpele and Neema Mwaisumbe to Tukuyu for a Pastors'/Church Leaders' Conference at Kibisi Baptist Church. They will join with Harry Mwasanjala for the conference for 40 leaders.

On June 18, Floyd and Bonnie will attend the wedding and celebration of Ekupa, one of the DBLCH staff members, and Harry's grandson (Neema and Bonnie's nephew). Following the wedding, Bonnie and Floyd will prepare to begin their journey home to Greenville from Mbeya on June 19.

Full Schedule Of Meetings In Kenya, Romania

Floyd and Bonnie Parker leave for Kenya on August 13 for the Kieni West Pastors' Wives Week being held August 15-20. Bonnie will again be leading the sessions with the pastors' wives. (See article on page 1).

Following the conference, Bill and Debbie Kenny along with Kim Darnell, Chaplain for Kenny Pipe in Nashville, will join them August 22 – September 4 for the LCI Honoring Christ Business Conference on August 25-26 in Nyeri, Kenya.

This team will also be hands-on with the Kieni West Women, Children, and Men's Ministries. In addition, they will be involved in the Orphan and Vulnerable Children's partnership in the Bellevue and Shalom areas.

Parkers To Romania

On Sept. 4, Floyd and Bonnie will part ways with the Bill, Deb-

JOIN THE TEAM IN KENYA

There is still space if you'd like to join the team in Kenya, but time is running out. For more information, contact Floyd Parker at 864-322-9775 or email him at floyd.parker@teleiosministry.org.

bie and Kim in Amsterdam and head to Romania where Floyd will be participating in the semi-annual meeting of the Barnabas Group at the Agape Hotel in Aghires on September 5-6. Following the meeting, they will head back to Greenville.

Please pray for safety in travel and for God to be glorified in the conferences, meetings and ministry work.

HONORING CHRIST

Continued from page 1

families and children. We saw the positive impact of the kitchen gardens and the “goat and chicken projects” in moving families from dependency to self-sufficiency.

On Monday, the team witnessed the slaughter of the goat and chickens for our Local Leaders Lunch that afternoon. Fifteen local leaders joined Bernard, Mary, Bonnie, Tom, Bill, Jesse, Charles, Robert and me in a full course meal of soup, goat, chicken, greens, tomatoes, onions, chapatti, lentils, cabbage and rice. As we dined, the local leaders shared what they saw as real needs and issues of the Lamuria community. They identified the most critical need in the area was access to a consistent water supply.

The gathering exceeded our expectations! Relationships were established and strengthened for working together to bring life transformation to Lamuria. We had a lot of fun, too. Tom reported to Rebecca, the Assistant Chief, that a goat and several chickens had gone missing that morning. Rebecca led in the laughter of the group as we enjoyed the “missing” goat and chicken.

Tuesday was a fast-paced day. Tom and Bonnie had a plane to catch that night for their trip back home. Before they left, we all visited Bellevue again to see the progress on Pastor Stephen and Ann’s house, made a few more OVC family visits, and enjoyed a meal with Stephen and Ann. We then took Tom and Bonnie to the Nairobi airport. Once their plane departed, Bernard and I took off during the night for Lamuria.

On Wednesday, Bill, Jesse and I made an extensive visit to Shalom village led by Robert Muteithia and Bernard. The newly established Shalom Kindergarten was closing for mid-term break, and we were able to participate in the closing program. This was a very special time. After touring the four-village area that comprises Shalom Village (population 10,000-12,000), we had lunch and heard from the Shalom leaders about what God was doing through the partnership. They also shared their dreams of the future. Bill shared with them God’s calling in his life and the importance of the partnership to him.



That Thursday, we left the hospitality of Mary Kabaru and headed for the Westwood Hotel in Nyeri for the LCI Business Conference on Friday and Saturday.



The Business Conference kicked off with lunch, followed by Bill leading the first session on Cash Flow and how to determine your real profit. During this time, emphasis was given to honoring Christ in the marketplace through how we conduct our business.

On Friday night with a delicious buffet at the Outspan Hotel, LCI hosted a dinner for LCI business clients, Nyeri County government officers and local business leaders. This proved to be a great time of fellowship, building understanding and growing relationships.

As Bernard facilitated the meeting, Bill shared his personal testimony as a follower of Christ in the marketplace while Jesse gave his greetings, and Floyd shared about the purpose of the partnership between Teleios Ministry and LCI for developing Christ-honoring businesses. Once again the topic turned to water a critical need for the development of Nyeri County citizens in every aspect of their lives. The evening gathering was a first for LCI and exceeded all of our expectations.

That Saturday, Floyd shared about LCI as a partner in Christ-honoring business through assisting each client according to their particular need and the foundation of Christ-honoring business. Jesse shared his testimony of serving Christ in the marketplace and the impact of the Kenya trip on him as a businessman.

Bill challenged the business leaders to become involved as a partner with Life Empowerment for Transformation, the non-profit formed by Bernard and Robert. The challenge extended to assisting Shalom Baptist Church in meeting needs in Shalom village. The business owners responded in a great way with an offering for specific needs as the church reaches out to the community.

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Leadership, Service Focus Of Women’s Conference

By Bonnie Parker

For some time, it had been a desire of Neema Mwaisumbe to have another Women’s Leadership Conference for women from various churches and different denominations across Tanzania. As we spent time praying, the Lord opened hearts, and partners came on board to help make this a reality in March.

The majority of the resources came from indigenous partners. New Life Ministry, a group of believers in Iringatown, graciously allowed Daily Bread Life to use their worship facility over a three-day period at no cost. A local businessman opened his hotel for the women from out of town to have housing, and Masoko Café provided meals for the participants. What a testament of God’s people partnering together for women to learn more of how to serve the Lord and lead in His name!

The conference was preceded by a worship experience on Sunday evening, March 26. Raymond and his wife Jessica, accompanied by Stephen, Maka and Brown, led the music. Raymond had written a new song praising God for blessing of the conference and dedicated it to the women. Floyd brought the message.

Forty participants representing nine different churches from five different denominations had come early and were in the worship service!

On Monday, March 27, the Women’s Leadership Conference was officially convened when a representative from the office of the Regional Commissioner welcomed the women to the gathering in Iringa. This is a legal necessity for all conferences, seminars or gatherings of any kind in Tanzania. He was an evangelical Catholic and encouraged the women to have more meetings such as this to develop themselves to be used by God to advance the Kingdom of God and women’s standing in the culture.

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The Women’s Leadership Conference underscored the importance of practicing spiritual disciplines in order to fully understand how to hear and define leadership using the model of Jesus as a servant leader.

HONORING CHRIST

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This contribution surpassed all expectations and was a significant point in the development of the vision of LCI.

Sunday was a great day of worship at Shalom Baptist Church. Seven people made decisions to follow Christ and become members of the Shalom fellowship. Bibles were presented to the youth leader to give to the young people...this was her “if you could have anything now what would it be” answer discovered in an earlier visit to Shalom. She wept with joy at the gift of the Bibles for “her” young people. Bill, Jesse and Charles shared their testimonies. Floyd brought the message from Isaiah 41:8-20 which he connected to Shalom’s situation and God’s promises to His people.

Following a quick meal with the Shalom leaders, the group drove to Nairobi to catch their flight home. After a little shopping on the way for coffee, tea and a few gifts, we had dinner and headed to the airport. Making our way home to Nashville and Greenville, we reflected on this life-changing trip honoring Christ in the marketplace with His people.



Happy July 4th

It's time for the annual

Teleios Fourth!

Join us on

Tuesday, July 4

at 6:30 p.m.

at the Parker Home
28 Eula St., Greenville, S.C.

BARBECUE - HOMEMADE ICE CREAM - FIREWORKS

Bring Your Own Lawn Chair

RSVP by JULY 1 ... call 864-322-9775 or respond to Facebook e-vite.

WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Continued from page 5

Monday's teaching emphasized the importance of an individual's practice of spiritual disciplines. This is required as the basis for every woman in leadership of God's people. It is in this practice that a leader hears her call to service. Thanks to the gracious provision from a U.S. Teleios partner, each woman was presented with a copy of a study Bible!

The morning session on Tuesday, March 28, began with a period of devotion and music. The topic defined women's leadership using the model of Jesus as servant leader. This led to an open discussion of specifically what is and is not real leadership. Unfortunately believers in leadership positions within the church allow Satan to confuse them on this.

The afternoon session dealt with intimacy with God and how this allows a woman to hear the Lord's call on her life. This calling will be defined by serving others as she follows Jesus Christ.



As the last day opened, the spirit among the women kept building in excitement, enthusiasm and deepening commitment to fulfill their calling in their communities. The session focused on practical matters of being leaders of vision, building a ministry team, developing next-generation leaders and the dynamics of practical, spiritual leadership. During group times, the women formed groups to link them together after the conference.



During the conference, Floyd and I also talked about the meaning of true freedom in Christ that women can experience even when there is oppression within the culture. Believers are called to help eliminate the suffering of women due to injustice using the power and guidance of the Holy Spirit, being cautious to not become distracted by the world's answers.

I was able address this in an interview on national television, noting that advocating for women in Tanzania needs Godly leadership from women who love as Jesus loved and believe that in Him all barriers for equal access have been cleared for them to be who He has created and purposed them to be.

It was truly a blessing and privilege from God to be a part of helping these women grow in their daily spiritual walk and to develop skills and practices that will help them answer the call to leadership and ministry to which the Lord has instilled in them.

This Just In...

From Romania...

Satu Mare – Condolences are extended to Elizabeth Vekas on the death of her mother in March. She was 96 years old and had been in declining health for the past several months. Pray for Elizabeth, Benjamin, Blanka and Elizabeth's two sisters and two brothers during their time of loss. Celebrate her life as a strong believer and follower of Jesus Christ as she has now arrived home with her Lord!

Sacele – Otto Kis and Lajos Fekete, along with others from the Sacele/Brasov area, took the first step to fulfilling a dream that is more than 10 years old! The group finally received permission



from the local government to tear down a huge barn on the Sacele Mission/Ministry Center property. Now, construction can begin on the Center which will include a multi-purpose sanctuary, all-handicap/disabilities accessible facilities, a handicap-compliant hostel, and housing for Otto, Elisabeth and their children. The dream has been a long time in coming for Otto and Elisabeth and Teleios partners – now we have begun!

Satu Mare – Teleios partners Barna and Judith Kovacs were in Greenville during May and visited with Floyd and Bonnie Parker. Barna is the National Director of Child Evangelism Fellowship for Albania, and he and Judith are the Hungarian Directors of CEF of Romania. Both are very active servant leaders in the Satu Mare church. They came to the United States to attend the CEF International Conference at Ridgecrest, N.C.. Praise God for the opportunities He has given them during their visit and pray for their safe return to Romania.

From Hungary...

Budapest – When leaving Europe for Africa in March, Floyd and Bonnie Parker flew through Budapest and had a chance to visit with Joseph and Adina Mike and family. The Mikes have moved from Romania to Hungary to be a part of a new church start in Budapest. Pray for them as they acclimate to the changes this move has brought to their family. Rejoice in the partnership that God has given us over the years with Joseph and Adina!

Come, Be On Mission With Teleios Ministry

There are still God-given visions to turn into present-day realities in 2017 with partners in Kenya and Romania! Check your calendar and prayerfully consider traveling with Teleios to help change lives in His name.

Please know that if you feel the Lord calling you to go on one of these trips, do not let cost be your determining factor! Funding may be available to help offset expenses.

For more information, you can contact Floyd Parker at 864-322-9775 or floyd.parker@teleiosministry.org.

Kenya

August 2017

November 2017

Romania

July

Gypsy Children's Camp

October

Construction Project

From Tanzania...

Iringa – On May 20, the Reverend Mpeli and Neema Mwaishumbe were presented the Distinguished Service Award by Mission to the World International at their annual conference in Arusha. This award recognizes their great contribution in serving the society of Tanzania from 1995 to 2017. During the conference, Mpeli had the opportunity to share of the vision of Daily Bread Life Children's Home and preach.

Nzihi – Floyd Parker recently traveled to Phoenix, AZ, to meet with the Reverend James and Anna Hayes, Founders of Vine and Branches Global Ministries, and Dr. Michael and Rene Hayes regarding a partnership with the Rev. Mpeli and Neema Mwaishumbe and the Asante Sana Children's Home in Nzihi. Teleios will assist the Hayes family in their partnership to develop a community health ministry to Iringa District villages, which was part of the Mwaishumbe's original vision for DLBCH.

From The United States...

Greenville, S.C. – The development of the ROAR/TELEIOS partnership in Greenville

got "hands-on" in May. ROAR's Mike Hudson and Teleios' Floyd Parker teamed up to remove small trees to make way for mowing the property. The vision of a multi-purpose property that is fully wheel-



chair-accessible for rediscovering the outdoors and recreational activities is moving forward. You can be a part! For additional information, contact Floyd at 864-322-9775.



HELPING GOD-GIVEN VISIONS BECOME PRESENT-DAY REALITIES

We're on the Web! Check us out — www.teleiosministry.org and Facebook



Reflections From the Green Chair....

In the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:48), Jesus said, *"You are to be Teleios, as your Father in Heaven is Teleios."* (Most often translated "perfect.") He was obviously making a reference to a common Old Testament phrase, "You are to Holy as God is Holy."

Jesus, as far as we know from the Gospels, never commanded His followers to be holy, but I believe He changed the last word of a common phrase for emphasis. Other New Testament passages do state that we are to be holy, and there are other interesting times that Jesus is translated by the word, "Teleios."

Jesus said to the Rich, Young Ruler, *"If you wish to be Teleios, go and sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me."* (Matthew 19:21)

Jesus, responding to a request from Herod, said *"Go tell that fox, 'Behold, I cast out demons and perform cures today and tomorrow, and the third day I will be Teleios.'" (Luke 13:32)*

Jesus prayed, *"I in them and you in me — so that they may be Teleios in one (my translation: they may be Teleios together). The world will know that You sent me and You loved them even as You have loved me."* (John 17:23)

Teleios is more than a Greek word used to name a 501(c) 3 (not for profit) corpora-

tion. Teleios is a goal, a lifelong destination — Teleios is where I want to arrive and I want you to be there with me. I am not trying to be cute or use a play on words. Teleios is not a dream, but it can be a reality. It is a Godly destination and an achievable reality.

We dismiss the goal of "perfect." I do dismiss that goal because Teleios has a different meaning than the word, "perfect" today. "Perfect" means not obtainable. Perfect is no wrinkle, no scar, no struggle, etc. When Jesus was on the cross, He cried out, *"It is finished — or Teleios has been achieved — my life has reached completion — finished well."*

Parallel that with His statement: *"The third day I will be Teleios."* Jesus arrived that day on the cross at Teleios. The third day, Teleios was displayed. He bore the marks of nails, thorns and beatings. We forget that Jesus did not appear all cleaned up on the cross or in the resurrection. Remember, He said, *"See my hands and my feet" — scars/wounds.* Jesus also experienced fulfillment of His calling by the Father. Teleios includes fulfillment.

I want a goal of Teleios because Teleios allows for scars, wounds healed, the signs of struggle, suffering and hardship that come with obedience to the Father's will. Perfect is too clean and unreal. Teleios means we finish obedient to the Father. To the Rich, Young, Ruler: If you want to

be Teleios, surrender it all to the Lord; don't hold on to what you trust in or that which props you up or gives you security — get rid of it. You, come and follow Me. This includes obedience born of trust. In the Great Commission (Matthew 28), He say *"Teach them to obey..."* You are giving them the pathway to Teleios.

I know this is my issue or bias, but holy can be so manipulated by rules: You are holy if you don't smoke or drink or create carbon emissions or attend meetings or give percentages or etc. Every denomination, church or Christian book has its steps to holy, but Teleios has a different ring to me. I think that's because it does not come to me from the Scribes and Pharisees. Teleios is an approach to life (that at one time the word, "Holy" represented). It is a goal given by Jesus, defined more by obedience in the practical living out of following Jesus. Teleios is not reached in mediation. Teleios is reached in active, practical obedience to the way of God; in following Jesus.

My prayer is that we will be Teleios together. My goal, my heart's desire, is to be Teleios. With my last breath upon this earth, I pray to cry out, "Teleios." Until that time, I am going to assist as many as I meet in following Jesus to be Teleios as my Father in Heaven is Teleios.

In Obedience,

Floyd