

# Pursuing God's Heart



AFRIKA WA YESU

November 2015



Dearest friends,

*It has been a journey since I wrote my last letter to you, so I pray that God will help me to communicate and bring in the intensity of some unique events that happened, together with some amazing reports of God's work in my life and in the lives around me. First of all, I am so grateful to our God for His amazing Love through all our ups and downs; when we are celebrating or when we are bending down in hurt. He loves to just hung out through everything is happening in our lives; bringing color and purpose when we just decide to give all to Him and let it go.*

*For the ones that didn't hear from me or saw me lately, first big news is that I am married since August 2015 with my 8 years colleague and friend in the mission field – Jeosafa Vasconcelos Ferreira. So, now I am a romanian, married with a brazilian that lives in Mozambique. We are sure that God has been involved from the beginning in our relationship and even we didn't see that in our first years in Mozambique, we thank Him for His special gift: a family together!*

*He is part of Afrika Wa Yesu team since 2008 when he came to be a Bible School teacher. For the last 5 years he moved to our base in Nacala (Northern Mozambique) where he also helped in the Vocational School. So, besides this giant change in my life (getting married), I went through another big step in my life: moving from Inhaminga to Nacala. Even I have been traveling a lot, the base in Inhaminga has been a place to come back for my last 11 years. Among sena tribe, a group of kind and gentle people but in so much poverty and suffering, God opened a way for us to help and be a blessing. The preschool Casa Esperanca and the Youth's Center in Inhaminga will always be a place where kids will find love and care but more than anything they will find Jesus. Abdul and his team will now lead the children and youth ministry there. We also believe that the church is ready to take responsibility for this amazing and hard work, as they have been trained and thought for the last years.*

*So, in 2015 God thought me how to let it go, trust Him more and get ready for the next stage in my live; it was full of meetings, packing, organizing and even some traveling. I have seen God's faithfulness and great work unfolding everywhere we have been sowing for the last years.*

## One of God's miracles = Our wedding

For us, just the decision to get married was a miracle. And the miracles continued during the preparation, at our wedding and...since then! We thank God for all our families and friends that celebrated with us, some of you even made it to our wedding, coming from far. But we know that many of our friends that couldn't come were still happy and celebrating with us! We were amazed to see how much we are loved! A great gift for us was that our leaders from Mozambique: Rodney and Ellie Hein and one of my best friends Susana, her husband and her parents came from Mozambique and Brasil to be part of our wedding!

We thank God and all of you for loving us through giving, helping and praying for us! Our desire was that Jesus will be honored and praised in our wedding and we believe that He was!



For those who would like to help support us, your tax-deductible donation can be send to:

Christ for the Nations  
(MAPS Program)

P.O.Box 769000, Dallas,  
TX - 75376 – 9000

(Include a note stating:  
For Simona Caba in  
Mozambique)

Simona & Jeosafá  
Vasconcelos

P.O.Box 67, Beira,  
Mozambique

simo\_caba@yahoo.com  
www.afrikawayesu.org



## Praise reports and news from Mozambique



At Casa Esperanca this year we registered in the 2 classes of our preschool around 60 children, age 3 – 6 years old. All this children are testimonies of Jesus in their families.

We also have new teachers for the literacy program at the Youth Center Inhaminga Wa Yesu and at Casa Esperanca. We believe that nothing was in vain and we will see every worker involved in this ministry growing at a higher level.

At Inhaminga Wa Yesu Church and actually in more churches throughout the country, we see a wonderful change in the mind-set of the leaders and parents. They are understanding the importance to minister to children and see how they can be used by God to build His Kingdom.

The greatest news is that we have water now at Casa Esperanca for the kids and for the community. A Romanian church from Chicago and a group of brasilians made our dream came true. It is not easy to drill in Inhaminga, where the soil is dry. Because of the great investment and hard work, water was and it is a big problem in Mozambique. But with God everything is possible! Thank you so much for all that are giving, sowing into a dry land bringing hope and joy!



**Kids Camps** are so important! For sure is not what comes in your mind when you think of Kids Camps; We are bringing together wild children directly from the bush, many of them are eating for the first time from a plate or sleep in a bed; and we preach the Gospel to them! It is still a hard task as we don't have enough trained people to do that but we are doing our best! We are having two Camps per year: one among muslims in North and one in *Inhaminga*. In both places we see many children reached with the Gospel, receiving salvation, baptised in the Holy Spirit and in *Racine* (in the North), we even had a Water Baptism. We believe that through the years we will be able to held more Kids Camps, all over Mozambique. On December, the 6th we will have 80 kids coming to one of the Camps in Inhaminga. For a year they had this dream and expectation that they will be part of it.



## Youth seminars and conferences



- At our leadership conferences we connect with the leaders and cast out the vision for Youth Seminars and Conferences and we are overwhelmed by their response. Youth is raising up in Mozambique with a hunger for God's Word and desire for holiness.

- Youth Conferences are the big meetings where we see great transformation in the lives of hundreds. If we listen to their testimonies, many are sharing how they had their first encounter with God during a youth conference. So, we are giving a lot of ourselves into planning and preparing for these important meetings. There is a weight on our hearts: a desire to see youth encountering Jesus and live in His presence. As we are getting closer to a conference, this weight is getting heavier. We pray in the spirit and we get our victories before we are starting the conference. We had already 3 big Regional Conferences this year: one in May (in the north of Mozambique), one in August (at our base in Inhaminga) and one in September (also in the center of the country). This way we reach both the north and the center of the country. We feel the hunger for God among the youth everywhere we go. Doesn't matter if the Gospel is preached for the first time, if it is in a remote place or in a city, youth are coming to us with the desire to know Jesus. Another amazing thing is that all of them are feeling called to prayer. We are waking up for 5am prayer meetings and we never want to stop interceding or seeking God's heart.



Regional Youth Conference in Inhaminga



Praise God! Lives transformed and hearts broken



What a joy and true celebration!



Jeosafa loves to teach and reveal God's heart

## Far away trips

• One of our focuses this year was to help the ones in great need. **Mozambique** was under **flood** for the first 4 months of this year. People lost everything as the flood came usually at night; some died, important bridges collapsed and of course as a result there was a lot of diseases. On top of a lot of destruction because of the civil conflicts, people were affected now by this terrible flood. Thank God and thanks to you and amazing friends like you, for we were able to go right away to help in their needs. We divided in teams, filled the cars with: maize for eating and for planting, pots; seed; hoses; plates; cups and purifying product for water and plastic sheets for shelter.

We are going to new places mostly, taking roads that noone went before, to some very dark areas with lots of witchcraft and dark traditions. Many are manifesting demons, but the blood of Jesus sets them free. Witch-doctors are giving their lives to Jesus, burning their evil instruments and then sharing their testimonies to the entire community.



• **Evangelism Outreach to Maringue.** My car was overloaded as usual: 11 Bible School students and me + all the food for one week, pots and camping stuff, and everyone's bag + a bicycle to give away + Jesus's film equipment. We were received everywhere with so much respect and openness. That gave the students boldness to preach the Gospel, pray for the sick and deliverance. Every one of us encountered God in a different way. We showed 2 times Jesus' film in the village. After the film, many people came in front asking for prayer, wanted to give their lives to Jesus. There was a big crowd that didn't want to go home, everyone from our team had people asking about Jesus, very interested and with so much hunger. Also, we went to a place, 20 km from the village – called **Nhawato**. The little road took us to a place in the middle of the bush. The kids there never saw a white person, so I did not have too much success in the first hours. Just seeing me from far, the kids started to run away scared. We got to a bush school: big tree, one board and small trunks for kids to seat. Both, the children and the teacher were not interested in studying, so they gave us some time to make friends. At night we showed Jesus' film. I understood it was for the first time in that place. During the film and after, was so quiet. Was interesting that there, nobody came in front for prayer. We heard later that they were afraid that doing that, they will provoke the demons and they will manifest. We preached the Gospel one more hour and still nobody wanted to leave. Someone said that all the witchdoctors from that place were there. But on the next day when we visited the people at their huts, they were ready to give their lives to Jesus. We should never underestimate the work of the Holy Spirit in people's lives even when we don't see the result with our physical eyes. An old man, one of the chefs of the witchdoctors came to our camp next day, asking us to pray for him and his wife. We prayed and rejoiced with him as he started his new life with Jesus. He also asked us to go to his house and burn all his instruments and traditional medicine. We serve an amazing God! During the week, the guys build a shelter for the church meetings, for the people that just gave their lives to Jesus. What a joy to see many of them coming and sharing actually what God did in their lives that week. What a celebration!

## Plans for the future



We found them "studying"... And this is their "classroom"...

First was fear!  
After was: who can get closer!  
Love always wins!



The shelter and the new group of believers

We found them poor, sick and without hope!



Setting up the equipment for Jesus' film is part of the training

Please pray for Abdul! He has given his life to serve the poor and the lost. He is now the leader of Children's ministry in Inhaminga



As a family, we will be living now in **Nacala**, where is one of our mission bases. Soon we will be back in Mozambique where **Jeosafa** will continue teaching in the **Bible School**. All the northern region of the country is mostly muslim. There are different tribes, all very strong, combining islam with witchcraft. Jeosafa is working specific with muslim men, so I will help now working with their wives and children. Our desire is to build a team that will understand God's heart for the children and youth in that area. Moving to Nacala is a big step for me, but thank God for all team and especially to our leaders that have been helping me in this transition. We are just enlarging our territories, growing in responsibility and opening new ways for Jesus to be known in Mozambique. In Nacala are different challenges: I am used to live in the jungle, among tribes that are very friendly and open. In the North, people are tough, strong and not so open. Because we will live in a small city that is a port to the ocean, there are many thieves that are breaking into houses every day. But we are ready and I am excited for this new beginning. I will still travel, probably a lot in the beginning to **Inhaminga** and in the Center. Everything we established in 11 years will continue, I am still leading but from a different location the work with the children and youth. Financially they are still depending on me, actually on you and everyone that is part of this work. It will be stretching but God's grace and strength will be always enough.

We are seeking God as a family, to find our place in the ministry as a couple. We are longing to reach to families in Mozambique that are so destroyed, alone and in suffering. But we know that first we need to learn and let God establish us.

We are counting every day precious and our desire is to live it at its full potential. There is so much to love, to give, to share, to plan, to establish, to comfort and there is a long run set for us every morning.

We are so grateful for all of you that are amazingly faithful in sowing your seed by giving, praying, sending encouraging messages or even coming over to help us in Mozambique!

With love, serving together in Mozambique,

*Simona and Jeosafa Vasconcelos*



### Prayer requests:

- That God will give a clear vision to us as a family for the next stage in our lives;
- That God will protect and help the team left in Inhaminga to carry on the work, strengthen them and help them grow;
- That God will bless us with peace in Mozambique (it has been so much conflict in the last 2 years);
- That the children and youth of Mozambique will know Jesus and will be filled with the Holy Spirit;
- For God's protection and health over our team that lives in the Northern part of the country;
- That more muslims will be reached for Jesus;
- For more harvesters of souls for God; we are praying specifically for people that are willing to give themselves for the young generation of Mozambique.