

July 2016

Istanbul Atatürk airport attack: 43 dead and more than 228 hurt



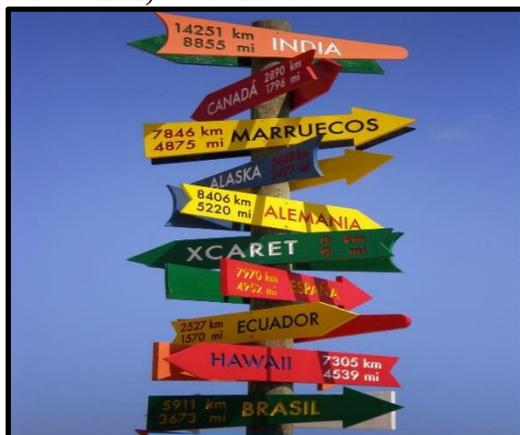
Unspeakable horror and carnage was unleashed in the Istanbul International Airport just a month after our Mbeya, Tanzania Team traveled with Turkish Airlines. We were routed through this same airport that was bombed by hate filled, desperate people. Events like this will not deter us from our vision to TRAIN and ENCOURAGE pastoral leaders who live under constant threats and daily persecution. *2 Timothy 1:7 tells us "God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and a sound mind."*

Our call is to GO. We have the matchless message of all time that has the power to change lives. One of the pastors who attended the Gateway Missions/Global Advance Pastors and Church Leaders Conference in Mbeya, was Pastor Joel Langu. Pastor Joel was raised as a Muslim. However, early in his life, he was exposed to the message of Christ through a Christian friend. I asked him, "What was the deciding factor that motivated you to convert to Christianity?" He said for him it was the message of the love of Christ Who gives the power to live a supernatural life!



Gateway Missions has a heightened sense of responsibility and urgency to go to the front lines of spiritual battle. We need your help! Would you pray today about sending a gift to help us GO?

Medellin, Colombia



Our next destination is Medellin, Colombia, where our Pursue Missions team will be with Leo Grisales and JUMP Ministry. We get to serve two children's foundations that feed and give kids a safe haven from the formidable drug and prostitution infested communities. We'll also minister to homeless, neglected people living on the streets and under the bridges in that area. On Sunday morning and throughout the week at night, we have opportunities to preach, teach and share in several churches. The last day there, our team will lead a Pastors and Church Leaders Conference for about 300 men and women.

The Thorn Patch

“Each time He said, ‘My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness.’ So now I am glad to boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ can work through me.”
2 Corinthians 12:9 (NLT)

You are in good company with the Apostle Paul (and me!), if you ever feel harassed, frustrated or annoyed by a recurring “thorn in your flesh”, be it physical, emotional or a personal weakness.

After seeking God’s healing on three different occasions, the Apostle Paul understands his real need is for God’s Grace. Though Paul says he has ample reasons to brag about his achievements, including visions and revelations, he continued to be aggravated by what he refers to as a thorn in his flesh. Instead of removing the thorn, God chose to give Paul the GRACE needed to sustain him. It was in Paul’s weakness that God was able to manifest supernatural power through him.

As I studied 2 Corinthians 12: 1-10, I observed three areas where God was working in Paul’s life message. It was such an encouragement to me that I want to share it with you.

Paul’s Thorn Patch

- 1. Humility:** Paul came to the realization that he was not self-sufficient. No matter how educated or gifted he was, his life lacked GRACE. God’s GRACE is manifested in our lives when we come to recognize that our own sufficiency is weak at best. (vs 1-7)
- 2. Dependency:** Paul learned that dependency on God was the solution for his “thorn in the flesh”. As Christ followers, one way we express our reliance on Father God, is by depending on the prayers and support from the Believers we fellowship with. (vs 8-9)
- 3. Transparency:** This attribute is essential in our relationship with God and with others. Paul was exposing his weaknesses to the Corinthian Church. He was saying, “We all have issues and I am baring my life before you so you may understand and enjoy the true freedom found by relying on God’s grace.” (vs 10)

God is not looking for perfect people. He is looking for people who are humble and dependent on Him, and who are transparent, not hiding from His presence. We are imperfect instruments with faults and weaknesses, but we are made powerful and usable by His GRACE!

Running the race to win,



Gary and Jane Ann Casey

Jane Ann and I will be leading a Pursue Missions team of 15 to Colombia, July 9-16. In August we will be in South Africa with Water Hose Ministries. Then in October I go back to Colombia with JUMP Ministry. I travel to Viet Nam for a Pastors’ Conference in December. We need your prayers and financial support NOW more than ever!



