



# CO-MISSION INTERNATIONAL, INC.

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Mayode and his parents, Ezekiel and Bumni Oyewole. Ezekiel is director of the Jesus Film Team.

## “And it came to pass . . .”

### REJOICE WITH US!

My friend, Les Herod (treasurer of CO-Mission) has told me several times that his favorite scripture is, “And it came to pass.” He explains, “No matter what situation you are in, eventually you will be able to say, ‘And it came to pass.’” We—the CO-Mission family— found ourselves in a very serious situation just recently, and I must confess, I wondered what “*and it came to pass*” would look like when we came out on the other side.



Over the last month, Ezekiel and the *Jesus Film* Team in Nigeria have faced extraordinary battles in their ministry—but the Lord has given them victory over their enemies. As we reported in our January Newsletter ([www.comission.com/newsletters/2009\\_01.pdf](http://www.comission.com/newsletters/2009_01.pdf)), just before Christmas the Team was attacked by machete wielding Muslim extremists. Several of the Team were injured and their equipment was destroyed. A few days

later, on their way to a Christmas retreat, a tie-rod mysteriously came off their vehicle and they had a very serious accident. Some ended up in the hospital, including Ezekiel.

Then, while Ezekiel was still in the hospital, he received a call from an unknown man who said, “We have your son, Mayode. If you ever want to see him again you must give us two million Naira,” (about \$14,000.)

You can imagine how distraught Ezekiel and his wife Bumni were. They called to tell us the situation, and to get folks praying for Mayode’s deliverance. They were crying and saying, “I do not know what we can do. Oh, God! Why has this happen to us?” We all began praying. I talked to Ezekiel almost every day as this dilemma unfolded. It was a desperate time for all of us.

The kidnapers called Ezekiel many times and made terrible threats against Mayode and the rest of Ezekiel’s family. Five days later Ezekiel called me and said, “They have lowered the ransom to \$4000. But I told them I am not going to pay them anything. I told them to return my boy. Brother Gary, if I pay them anything, the children of all the pastors in our area will be in great danger. We will trust the Lord.”

Ezekiel had his telephone turned off so the kidnapers could not call him anymore. If he wanted to talk to them, he called them. It was a bold move, but he took control, in Jesus’ Name. He also told the kidnapers, “You are not fighting against me. You are fighting against God.” But, of course, there was still great anxiety in his voice. We were all praying, and feeling the same anxiety.

Three days later Ezekiel called me and said, “I am trusting the Lord to have my son back within five days. I went to a prayer meeting up on the mountain. Many people gather there to pray, and they prayed for Mayode. A young woman came up to me and said she had a word from the Lord for me. She prophesied that I would have my son safe at home within five days. At first I did not believe her. It sounded too wonderful.

The Jesus Film Team, Nigeria.



CONTINUED ON BACK

How can this be? Then I decided, 'Why not believe this? This is the answer we have been praying for. Now here it is. Will I doubt?'

"Two days later I spoke to the kidnappers. They said, 'We want nothing else to do with this boy. Come and get him. We are through with this.'" They gave Ezekiel instructions where to find Mayode in Lagos. It took Ezekiel another day to get to Lagos, and to the street where they said his boy would be waiting. At 9:30, in the darkness of night, in one of the most crime ridden cities in the world, Ezekiel got out of a taxi, walked down the dismal street—and there, sitting beside the road was his Mayode.

Ezekiel called me and let me talk to his boy. Many people had been praying. Tears of thanksgiving went up all around the world. Thank you, Lord for delivering Mayode.

Needless to say, Ezekiel and his *Jesus Film* Team are eager to get back into ministry. They need their equipment replaced and they need a vehicle. All of this will cost about \$6500. Your prayers and financial help in this matter will bless many thousands of people who will be reached by The *Jesus Film* Team. ✚

## EVANGELISM IN *India*

### A TYPICAL OUTREACH TO HINDUS, SIKHS, and MUSLIMS—

"We helped conduct a special meeting in a guest house in Lucknow. We especially wanted to preach to Hindus, Sikhs, and Muslims, rather than preach to just Christians again. The secret police watched carefully over all the Hindus who came to this meeting.

"Also, we were concerned about the anti-Christians who were planning to create trouble. In spite of expected problems, we preached the Gospel boldly to all the people. Gospel tracts and New Testaments were distributed to more than 800 people who were present.

"The meeting lasted only about an hour,

and then we dismissed. Suddenly, a mob of anti-Christian men came with all their weapons to attack us. But they all left with disappointment. If we had not left the guest house in time, we would have been attacked by the mob and there may have been casualties. But praise God for His protection.

"It is always dangerous to preach the Gospel in northern India, but we take the risk and preach the Gospel of Jesus to win souls for the kingdom of God. We need your prayer for us." —*Pastor Charles* ✚



Preaching to Hindus, Sikhs, and Muslims.

## Special Projects

Some of you have told us to let you know about special projects we are sponsoring. Here are a few. Will you please pray about and consider these for your financial assistance?

Project	Amount
<b>Oi and Sam – Thailand</b> Van for church transportation.	\$5,000.00
<b>CMA church support for 6 months – Thailand</b> Support of a pastor for six months at \$100 a month.	\$600.00
<b>Brother Panit Ngi - Cambodia</b> Brother Panit has twenty-three children he keeps in his house and the houses of other church members. He needs assistance for the children.	We are looking for a partner organization to help sponsor this new orphanage.
<b>Good News Center, particularly Bihar efforts - Delhi, India</b> About two years ago, Kamelesh and his wife Phabra started a ministry in their home in Bihar. They now have about 200 people in their fellowship, though it is loosely organized. However, this is a very capable couple and they continue to win many to Christ. Several of the young men they have won were local gangsters. We can help sponsor this dear couple for about \$200 a month.	\$1800 for the year, or \$200 per month for nine months.
<b>Paul Mustafa and his brother, Peter Akbar - Warangal, AP, India</b> General support. Paul's ministry is in Hyderabad and Peter's is in Mumbai. They are former Muslims and do outreach in Islamic areas of India.	We are considering sponsorship for this outreach to Muslims.
<b>Yesu Ratnam - Kakinada, AP, India</b> We would like to purchase a laptop for Pator Ratnam.	\$432.98 one time for a computer.
<b>G. Benny, ticket to go to Singapore for training - India</b>	\$900.00
<b>Life Theological Seminary, Dr. Nimai - Bhubaneshwar, Orissa, India.</b> General support.	Approx. \$200 per month.
<b>Medical Mission Team, P. Charles, Lucknow, India</b>	Approx. \$3500.
<b>TOTAL</b>	Approx. \$18,732.98

**CO-Mission International is committed to sponsoring indigenous mission workers and their families. 100% of your gift goes directly to overseas native missionaries.**

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CO-Mission International Inc. is a non-profit Christian organization. Our purpose is to sponsor native missionaries in unreached areas of the world. Some names and locations have been changed in order to protect the identity of believers in areas where they are persecuted by government and religious leaders.