

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

September 12-19, 2011



Sue and I arrived in Ethiopia 24 hours after excellent flight connections. As soon as we stepped out of the terminal, the scent of Africa greeted us. The smells of late night cook pots, acrid exhaust, and unknown spices brought back memories of former trips. The ambience of the streets is hard to put into words. People seem to be walking everywhere, along the side of cars, trucks, goats, oxen and each other. Others open their portable street shops selling fresh fruits and vegetables, shining shoes, and offering a plethora of merchandise. Goat herders can also be seen with their herds on the way to the meat market. And others are waking up from their night's sleep on the street.



Epherem shared several stories from past trips. One of a young boy whose voice rose above the din of others saying with tears, "My father is coming, my father is coming." Over and over he kept repeating this. The next day, his father, who had deserted the family, returned. The child also said the Lord told him, "From this night onward you will never wet your bed again."

Epherem also shared how the Muslims have been occupying many cities in Ethiopia and building their mosques. In one city, the Muslims were all converted to Christianity, the Muslim symbol with the crescent moon was broken and a cross was put in it's place.



Our last meeting took place at an English speaking school. Six hundred students attend the school. We met in an amphitheater. It was overwhelming to see so many children and teachers gathered. The meeting started with the children singing several English songs including *Mighty to Save*. The amphitheater quickly resonated with the



voices of children praising God. They sang with such enthusiasm. I taught on Jesus, the Master Teacher, whose disciples asked Him to teach them how to pray. I, then, asked the children to ask Jesus to teach them how to pray. At first, one little boy sat cupping his face with his hands as tears flowed down his face. Soon, other children could be seen with their faces buried in their knees asking the Holy Spirit to come and teach them to pray. The meeting filled with the sounds of those seeking God. For many children, the presence of the Spirit was so strong they could not stand. Children were pushing to be the next one prayed for.

Stories from this trip have given us a sense of God's tangible presence. Many children wept as the Holy Spirit revealed to them that God is their Father, several children were healed from asthma, tears of repentance flowed from the hearts of many children and also down their faces. There are so many testimonies. I have chosen to highlight just a few of them.



In summary, approximately 100 leaders attended the two day Pebbles and Stones training in Addis Ababa, and over 2,000 parents and children participated in several Pebbles and Stones meetings. I want to thank Epherem Arega of Sharon Children's Ministries for hosting us and setting up the meetings.

I am thankful for your prayers and support.

Kathleen, with Sue from Ethiopia.



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October 1, 2011

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