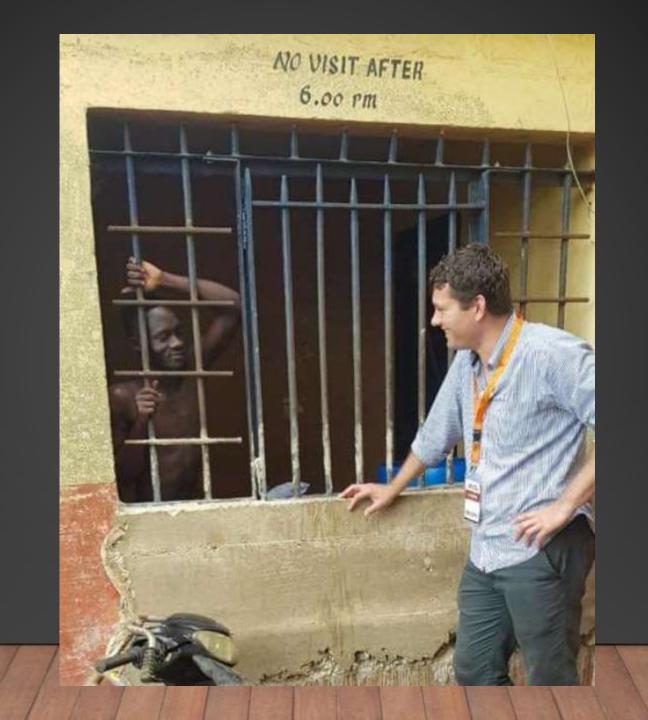
## BOLDNESS

DALE CILLIERS



### JESUS' MANDATE

Luke 4:18

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the broken-hearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed;

#### **OUR MANDATE:**

Matthew 28:18-20

<sup>18</sup> And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. <sup>19</sup> **Go** therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

#### **OUR MANDATE:**

Romans 8:29-30

<sup>29</sup> For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to* be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the <u>firstborn among many brethren</u>. <sup>30</sup> Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

#### OUR MANDATE: THE FAMILY BUSINESS...

Ephesians 1:5

<sup>5</sup> having predestined us to <u>adoption (into His family)</u> <u>as</u> <u>sons...</u>

#### **OUR MANDATE:**

To realise that EVERYONE is a prisoner and is in need of a Saviour.

To actively advance the Kingdom of God, despite resistance.

#### THE NEED FOR A SAVIOUR:

John 8:32-33

<sup>32</sup> And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

<sup>33</sup> They answered Him, "We are Abraham's descendants, and have never been in bondage to anyone. How *can* You say, 'You will be made free'?"

### THE NEED FOR A SAVIOUR:

Romans 3:23

<sup>23</sup> for <u>all</u> have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,



### **African Enterprise**

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Theuns was able to pray for this prisoner before we were chased away, although we had permission to visit before the mission. We need to keep pushing to get to the people.

#### RESISTANCE TO THE TRUTH:

- Trend in "Christian" institutions.
- Secular agenda of Government and other organisations.
- The "Favour of Christianity"

### DO NOT BE SURPRISED...

1 John 3:13

<sup>13</sup>Do not marvel, my brethren, if the world hates you.

### DO NOT BE SURPRISED...

John 15:18

18 "If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you...

### **MOTIVE? – WAS IT SOMETHING JESUS DID?**

The Gospels tell us he listened <u>patiently</u> to people's heart breaking cries. Multitudes pleaded with Christ to deliver them from their afflictions. And <u>he met their needs</u>: He <u>healed</u> the sick, opened blind eyes, unstopped deaf ears, loosed tied tongues, and made cripples to walk. Jesus <u>set captives free</u> from every form of bondage. He even <u>raised their dead.</u>

Even some nonbelievers agree: <u>No one ever loved humankind more than Jesus did</u>. He grieved over the multitudes before him, seeing them as lost sheep in need of a shepherd.

The truth is, nobody in history should be more revered, respected and loved than Jesus Christ. He should be honoured and highly esteemed by all the world. He performed works of compassion for the people he met, he wept over the world's spiritual blindness and he poured out his life for all.

(David Wilkerson, 2009)

### **MOTIVE?**

John 15:25(b)

"...They hated Me without a cause."

In spite of the goodness Jesus performed, the world hated him without cause.

# MOTIVE? IS IT SOMETHING WE ARE DOING?

Sometimes the disdain for the "church" is legitimate...

#### **OUR COMMISSION**

Matthew 28:18-19

"All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. <sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

#### **OUR COMMISSION**

To know Him and become like Him;

To accurately reflect His person, through the power of the Holy Spirit;

Matt 5:16

<sup>16</sup> Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

#### **COMMISSION:**

Matt 10:16

<sup>16</sup> "Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves.

#### SO WHY PERSECUTION?

1. A love of sin/power/control

Amos 5:10

"They hate him who reproves in the gate, And they abhor him who speaks with integrity"

#### SO WHY PERSECUTION?

2. A legitimate conviction that **goodness/righteousness** is actually evil

John 16:2

<sup>2</sup>They will put you out of the synagogues; yes, the time is coming that whoever kills you will think that he offers God service.

"Always come to a compromise, but never at the expense of the (Biblical) Truth"

Dr John Patrick

Acts 4: 23-31

<sup>23</sup> And being let go, they went to their own companions and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said to them. <sup>24</sup> So when they heard that, they raised their voice to God with one accord and said: "Lord, You are God, who made heaven and earth and the sea, and all that is in them, <sup>25</sup> who by the mouth of Your servant David have said:

Acts 4: 23-31

'Why did the nations rage,

And the people plot vain things?

<sup>26</sup> The kings of the earth took their stand,

And the rulers were gathered together

Against the LORD and against His Christ.'

Acts 4: 23-31

<sup>27</sup> "For truly against Your holy Servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the people of Israel, were gathered together <sup>28</sup> to do whatever Your hand and Your purpose determined before to be done. <sup>29</sup> Now, Lord, look on their threats, and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word, <sup>30</sup> by stretching out Your hand to heal, and that signs and wonders may be done through the name of Your holy Servant Jesus."

Acts 4: 23-31

<sup>31</sup> And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.

# A BOLD DECLARATION OF THE TRUTH: 1. GET SUPPORT

"23 And being let go, they went to their own companions..."

# A BOLD DECLARATION OF THE TRUTH: 2. PRAY & DECLARE HIS SOVEREIGNTY

"they <u>raised their voice to God</u> with one accord"

"Lord, You are God, who made heaven and earth and the sea, and all that is in them,

# A BOLD DECLARATION OF THE TRUTH: 3. PRAY & DECLARE HIS MASTER PLAN

<sup>27</sup> "For truly against Your holy Servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the people of Israel, were gathered together <sup>28</sup> to do whatever Your hand and Your purpose determined before to be done.

# A BOLD DECLARATION OF THE TRUTH: 4. PRAY & ASK FOR BOLDNESS

"...grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word,"

# A BOLD DECLARATION OF THE TRUTH: 5. PRAY & TRUST FOR THE SUPERNATURAL

"...by stretching out <u>Your hand to heal, and</u>
that signs and wonders may be done through
the name of Your holy Servant Jesus."

#### THE RESULT:

<sup>13</sup> Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marvelled. And they realized that they had **been with Jesus**.