

OPEN HEAVEN OVER CABO DELGADO

Moslem leaders are admitting that this northernmost province on the coast of Mozambique, once considered "unreachable" by missiologists, is being lost to Christians. The development of our base and missions school on the largest available piece of property in the port city of Pemba has caused a major stir. The Gospel is advancing whole villages at a time as the Holy Spirit's power is poured out.

How does this happen? Here is one example. Felito Utuie, a 22-year-old evangelist we have nurtured in the Lord, was trying to get a Moslem chief of a village to grant permission for an outreach. The chief repeatedly refused. Felito told him that Jesus would heal the sick. Finally, the chief asked, "If you come, will I see that happen?" "Yes!" Felito answered simply. So the chief agreed to a meeting in his village. On the night of the outreach, the meeting began with a very quiet, open atmosphere, unlike some gatherings we have where at first we face loud demonic disruptions. Felito preached the pure, simple Gospel and asked, "Who recognizes their need of a Savior?" Voices cried out in the dark, "I want forgiveness! I want forgiveness!" A great noise arose as the people pleaded for salvation and streamed forward to pray.

Then Felito announced that he and his team would pray for the sick. Healings occurred one after another. A mother brought her eight-year-old boy who was deaf, and he was instantly healed. Felito asked the chief, "Do you see?" Immediately the chief asked for the microphone and told his own people, "This is real! No man can do this! Only God can do this! Bring more of the sick! Bring all the sick!"

One man brought his little 7-year-old daughter who was totally blind. She received prayer, and her father urgently asked her, "Do you see?" And then tears began streaming down his face as his daughter looked and saw his face for the first time in her life! And the healings continued that night...

All this last year our outreaches have been frequently bearing this kind of fruit. We don't preach long or get complicated. The people respond in simple faith, and as soon as they see Jesus is real and will touch them miraculously, they want Him! They want salvation, they want a church, they want a pastor, now! Their chiefs beg us, "Don't leave us! You can't leave us like this! We've never seen miracles like this! You have to come back and teach us!"

Heidi especially has received a special anointing for the deaf, blind and lame, and sees them healed at nearly every outreach. Once she prayed late at night for a crippled and blind man who was not healed right away. But she told the village to send a runner to tell her as soon as he was healed. So then the following day she was with a good Moslem friend and leading businessman in town when a runner ran breathlessly up to the window of the car they were in. "He is healed! He can walk and see!" The runner had just run seven hours to tell her... In tears and awe, our Moslem friend cried, "Pray for me! Pray for me now!"

Report from the Iris Ministries Newsletter, the ministry started by Rolland and Heidi Baker, on September 14, 2005. Want to connect with Iris Ministries - then go to <http://www.irismin.org>.