

Special One Ministries, Inc.

"A Peculiar People for a Peculiar Cause"



Day 1 ~ Monday, July 13, 2015

My travels began early this morning in Little Rock, AR at the Bill and Hillary Clinton International Airport. I am so grateful I arrived so early. Though my flight did not leave until 10:30 AM, my mom and sister thought it wise to arrive at about 7:30 AM. When I tried to register and check my luggage, the stewardess let me know that until Bishop Sims checks in at the airport (in Kansas City) with the credit card that purchased my ticket I could not check in at the airport. I called Bishop right away because his flight did not leave for hours. I was sure he and mother were still in the bed. They were but he graciously went to the airport to ensure that I made my flight. A lot has changed since I last flew out of Little Rock. I have flown out of Memphis for the last 4 years and 7 flights so I was not aware that there is a "sniff" dog at the entrance of the TSA security check point. I had to lose my fear of dogs immediately if I was going to walk through. However, the dog handler was very nice and talked me through getting passed him because it was a major struggle. Everything went smoothly. I made it to Atlanta at 12:45 PM (EST) and Minnesota at 4:45 PM. When I finally saw my team—the Mt. Carmel Church of God in Christ of Kansas City Mission Team, we were getting prepared to board our flight to Amsterdam—7:30 PM. I greeted Bishop Ervin and Mother Mary Sims, and met Elder Michael Copeland and Sister Kathy McConico of Kansas City. We did not get a chance to debrief as we did last year; however, Bishop told me to get settled on the plane and he would catch me up on everything later. Once I got seated and settled I rested through the flight and we arrived in Amsterdam at 10:45 AM (their time—which was about 3:45 AM [CST] 😊 WOW).

In flight writing... "God be with us... It's about 3 AM at home but it is almost 10:00 am and we are about to land in Amsterdam! I slept a very long time. One of God's precious jewels made sure to leave me breakfast this morning. I have had a seat to myself and it has been very comfortable. Bless them and bless God! This has been a great flight... I guess I watched a few Disney movies and fell asleep. I am ready to get up and stretch now 😊!"

Day 2 ~ Tuesday, July 14, 2015

When we landed in Amsterdam and finally arrived at our gate, we met the Youth on a Mission Team! Elder Success and about 18 team members from all over the US. They had been in the Amsterdam airport for about 4 hours already and we had about 4 more hours before the flight left for Accra, Ghana. The Mt. Carmel team ate at a restaurant in the airport. I had Dutch chicken on a skewer in a peanut sauce... DELICIOUS... About 2 hours later we were on the plane and headed to Ghana...

We landed in Accra, Ghana at 10:05 PM (5:05 PM CST). There is more in the airport now but the hassle was not as bad and the hustlers were not as many... Everyone's luggage arrived. YAY! 😊 Our first night of lodging is at the University of Ghana Dormitory. It is a typical dormitory from the looks of things... The locks are different and the outlets but I felt like I was at UAPB for Youth Congress. Thank God for Arkansas First and Saint Dewitt Hill for the many experiences that prepared me for my destiny.

Sister Kathy from Bishop Sims' church and I were roommates. I called my mom to check on my dad and then we went to bed.

Day 3 ~ Wednesday, July 15, 2015

Today was our first full day of our mission. We will be traveling to Tema, Ghana (about an hour away from Accra) where the COGIC Headquarters are to drop off some things and pick up some of our supplies and then we will head to Kumasi, Ghana (about 6 hours away from Accra) for our first clinic and ministry day tomorrow. I was excited to go to Tema. One, I would get to see Supt. Anim and the members of COGIC Ghana that I met last year; and two, I would get to see the school (at his church) where my school's community service group sponsored items and sent this past school year. I want to take lots of pictures to thank my school for sending the supplies. Supt. and First Lady Anim's school services over 1000 students from ages 2 weeks to 14 years. We got to tour the school and interact with the children. I was in heaven on earth! ☺ It was truly an amazing experience—quite overwhelming!

When we finished in Tema, we headed to Kumasi. For a while everyone on my bus was talking and chatting. I learned that the wraps the women use on their heads to carry/transport their items is called a "katah". I will be honest though, as they talked and chatted, I kept thinking *God they're talking too much—we are getting ready to minister*. However, the Holy Ghost convicted me and impressed upon me that I was listening too much and needed to focus on the Lord and get my mind off of everyone else. In the quietness of that moment, the Holy Ghost ministered these words to me, "Purpose personified". I began to seek the scriptures to see what God was saying to me and what He wanted me to know. That hour of my ride was so unexplainable, as I sat in quietness and allowed the Holy Ghost to pour into me.

I spent time writing, praising and resting. I slept for the rest of the ride. Once we arrived in Kumasi we settled in yet another dormitory. We walked four flights of stairs to get to our room but thank God we did not have to walk 5 or 6 like some of the others. It was rough but I understand this is not about me. I just wanted to get in a hot shower and sleep. Once we arrived in our rooms, sprayed everything down with Lysol and sat down to rest a moment, everything went pitch black. After about 30 minutes we went right to sleep. We found out later that they turn off their generator every night to preserve fuel. They had only given us a couple of extra hours so that we could get to our rooms and get all of our things in the dormitory rooms.

Day 4 ~ Thursday, July 16, 2015

When we woke up this morning everything was back on—Praise the Lord!

What a day! Amazing cannot describe the experience I had. The Kumasi COGIC district and community was very receptive to our ministry. I worked with VBS with the babies and children. I worked with my roommate Sister Kathy, Sister Kara from COGIC San Antonio, TX and our VBS leader Sister Sarah Byrd from COGIC Chicago, IL. I also worked for a short time with the Pharmacy team. It is my intention to work with Hospitality and Evangelism before tomorrow. I want to experience everything. We did a great deal of ministry and ate a lot of late meals at Superintendent Boateng's house—his wife is an excellent cook. No one got sick! Praise the Lord! I have to open up devotion in the morning with Sister Kathy my roommate. I am extremely excited about what I will experience my 1st Friday in Ghana for the 2015 Mission.

Day 5 ~ Friday, July 17, 2015

Today was amazing! Elder Success asked me to do devotion this morning—it was a God experience. Today was much like yesterday, just more people. I did VBS, pharmacy waiting area, and street witnessing with the Evangelism team. We do a lot of work and it is extremely busy and loud. I am so overwhelmed by this experience. Street witnessing was different today but I am glad I had the opportunity to go out and minister this way. When we returned to our dorms (in between our work and the evening service) we only had an hour to get back downstairs. Sister Kathy and I laid down and we almost overslept but the Holy Ghost woke me up! I got on the bus and Elder Success said he wanted me to MC the service—we had another God experience. Elder Copeland from Bishop Sims' church testified and messed me up. It blessed my soul... All day long was amazing! God was with us and for us...

Today I met so many beautiful children. I met and fell in love with baby Blessing. She was with her big brother and got too hot. I got her and used baby wipes to wipe her face down and gave her some water. She fell asleep in my arms. I prayed for her and over her life while she slept but God blessed me while I held her. I met Jessica and sowed my book into her life. I met another little girl named Blessing. The children are a blessing. Tonight in church, we were blessed to be a blessing to First Lady Boateng. It was the most overwhelming moment we've experienced so far. She has fed us every day and it was a joy to bless her. However, we did not realize that our blessing her was a "God" thing. We actually had nothing to do with it—God just used Elder Success and the YOAM team. Elder Success obeyed God and had

us to give and God's business was taken care of for First Lady Boateng.
I am so in awe!

Day 6 ~ Saturday, July 18, 2015

Today we did not get up early. Devotion was great. Sister Sharon Notice said, "It is the truth that brings the trust!" Bishop Sims said, "Serving will always push you into worship and true worship will cause you to serve."

We went to another church in Supt. Boateng's district. It was the most active and busy day. We had service before we ministered to their needs because we will be packing tonight. We head to Cape Coast tomorrow after church. We serviced over 200 children in VBS. They overwhelmed us. We worked really hard today. These children were strangely aggressive—hitting each other and being very disrespectful. It was abundant and to the point where my roommate and I began to pray and rebuke the spirit of anger and aggression. We began to declare a spirit of peace over their lives. Poverty looks the same everywhere—its effects transcend races, cultures and gender. When we left that church we were joined by one of Supt. Boateng's members—and learned more about the nation and the country. They bury the dead the same day they die at the community's cemetery early in the morning. Then the next Saturday they have a big funeral. We passed two funerals as we traveled. The police don't carry weapons, only the military does. WOW... Traffic is still CRAZY but I was used to it this time and it was not as scary. NO WRECKS—all that traffic, lack of street signs and lights and NO WRECKS.

Tonight we packed up and prepared for our journey to Cape Coast tomorrow after church. Many things happened today and I brushed

them off and kept my focus; but, at the end of the day as I packed and meditated God allowed my roommate to speak up about some things she discerned. It brought me to tears. I just began to thank God for the spirit of discernment and thanked Him for equipping us with His spirit. She discerned the same thing as I and resisted the enemy's attack as well. It was an amazing "God" moment. We prayed that night together and rebuked the devil and rejoiced in the Lord for His wisdom and guidance. I am looking forward to greater in the days ahead.

Day 7 ~ Sunday, July 19, 2015

This morning we met Michelle from Canada at our dorm. She joined us for church. She is an exchange student and had been there almost 4 months and was so appreciative that we were there so that she could join us for church. Today was wild... I was excited for the YOAM team to see how the Ghanaians worship. We had an amazing time. We arrived at Supt. Boateng's church at 9:15 but Sunday school was over. The praise was awesome as usual. Bishop Sims preached.

Bishop Sims said, "There are those who feel it is not spiritual to ask God for blessings... I don't mind asking God to bless me—it doesn't bother me and I am not doing it for personal gain or status. When God enlarges your coasts, He is in fact expanding you for ministry." That blessed me...

It was hard to say good bye to the saints in Kumasi. We met some amazing people. One such person was Samira! Samira is a child I will NEVER forget. We exchanged information. She is my new little sister. I met her mom and her family. At church Friday night she went to the altar. She came back to her seat but she was not finished seeking God and God was not through with her. The Lord let her sit right behind

me so that I could minister to her. After church today God told me to bless her and tell her that seeking Him and living for Him even at her age (11 years old) will be a blessing to her life. She will suffer for living a Christ life but it will pay off for her abundantly. After sharing this, I was brought to tears because He reminded me of my own life. It was a beautiful experience!

When we discussed praise and worship and how people in America can be so disengaged at the most powerful time of manifestation during our fellowship with the saints, Sister Kathy said, "That's why we have so many worship haters." Love it... Yes...

We ate dinner at the Boateng's one last time before we left for Cape Coast. When we arrived it was very late. We stayed at the University of Cape Coast—a very prestigious University. Elder Success made the joke that our day of "rest" and "activity" was Bishop Sims' idea but God led Bishop Sims to say, "Don't let your guard down." God proved Himself immediately by letting a man give his life to Jesus right there in the lobby. There were many Americans at this University. They were happy to see us. This facility was nice—the best yet. The water was hot but not in my room (another cold shower but I am used to it now), air conditioner, etc.

Day 8 ~ Monday, July 20, 2015

Today was our tour day. We went to the Elmina Slave Castle and the Kakum National Park Hanging Bridges again, both seemed totally different experiences than last year. The castle tour was amazing. We got an opportunity to go into the museum and the tour guide was more detailed. I met a young Ghanaian girl and her brother. They were in our tour group. We talked throughout our tour. ☺ The

bridges were fun! I went ahead of most of the YOAM team—Praise the Lord because Elder Success cut up with those who were on the bridge with him—swinging and jumping and swaying... LOL... It was hilarious... 😊 We ate at Coconut Grove Resort beachside. We stayed there last year. I appreciate this moment to relax and reflect. Tomorrow we are at it again. This, of course was the best food we've eaten since we arrived. I love Bishop Sims; he made sure today was everything. He and Mother Sims are very balanced and humble. I admire them a lot.

Day 9 ~ Tuesday, July 21, 2015

We slept so well last night. This morning we travel back to Tema (4 hours). This morning while at breakfast, one of the American groups called Impact came in to the hall. One of the young men said, "Oh, Church of God in Christ—praise the Lord." He started singing, "Yes!" It was awesome. We experienced another "God moment". He stirred up a praise and worship in the room. He was from Bishop Iglehart's Jurisdiction in Texas. His name was Tim Swain and He was truly "old school" COGIC. He was a young man. The café turned into a sanctuary... My God...! He and his wife now live in Indiana and attend a non-denominational church but he is rooted. God is... He said God sent us to Cape Coast for him. We sang praises and Pastor Charles prayed until the kitchen staff came out of the kitchen. God is awesome...

Our travels back to Tema were pleasant. This morning prepared us and I believe it was God's way of getting our mind back focused for the task ahead. I slept and meditated most of the way back to Tema. When we arrived there, Bishop Matthews had already arrived from India (the other YOAM site) and met us at the hotel with Supt. Anim.

Yes, I said "hotel". God is great. The travel agent that Bishop Sims knows said the University dormitory where we were set to stay was not acceptable for the saints. So he and Bishop worked and the hotel gave them a discount where we paid the same amount to stay there as we would have at the dorms. We got settled in our rooms and then we met downstairs to head to dinner at Supt. Anim's church. Though we were not having church tonight, Supt. Anim's church has been on a 30 day fast and consecration to prepare for our arrival and convocation. They were in prayer. It was one of the most empowering and impactful prayer meetings I have ever attended. They read a scripture, make a prayer declaration using that scripture, and then the saints engage in warfare and thanksgiving. When it is time for the next prayer focus, the prayer leader says, "In the name of..." The congregation yells, "Jesus." Or the prayer leader says, "Holy Ghost..." and the congregation yells, "Fire". It was amazing... Tonight I got an opportunity to see some of my Ghanaian friends. It was such a blessing. Mother Sims brought in a seamstress who measured us and allowed us to purchase custom made African outfits. I am extremely excited about tomorrow's day of service and ministry. We are expected to serve twice as many here in Tema than we served in Kumasi. With the impact that God made in Kumasi—I can't even imagine what God will do here!

Day 10 ~ Wednesday, July 22, 2015

Good morning. Devotion time has been revival every morning. God has poured into us like never before. When we arrived to the church we immediately began preparing for the crowd outside and around Supt. Anim's church. The setup was pretty much the same as in Kumasi. There were so many to serve. I worked Pharmacy this morning and

VBS this afternoon. So many children gave their lives to God. Bishop Matthews participated in and visited all the stations. He ministered to the people just as we did. The people seemed to NEVER stop coming. We worked really hard but we made it through. They had another prayer meeting this evening. After dinner we all went over to prayer. I am excited because we get to hear Bishop Matthews tomorrow night. He shared part of his vision in our devotion time this morning and I believe many will come to Christ through what God has given him.

Day 11 ~ Thursday, July 23, 2015

We are ready to do it again... The clinic begins earlier today. There are more people here today than ever. Today I was able to get pictures with the many things my school sent to their school. Today, God gave me the vision to put a computer lab in their school. I am praying and asking Him to make the vision plain. I helped Sister Byrd today with VBS again. I am tired today but it is so worth it because God is still saving souls.

Bishop Matthews know he preached tonight... He blessed us...

We have one more day of clinics and then convocation begins. I'm excited about convocation. I believe God is going to pour out on us like never before.

Day 12 ~ Friday, July 24, 2015

This morning as we prepared for VBS Elder Success informed me that Sister Byrd was going to talk to me about something. When I got to her, she explained to me that VBS was going on the road 😊. One of the members of Supt. Anim's church had a small school in her township and he asked us if we would go and bless her school as we had blessed him

and his wife's school. So we spend the day with Sister Lydia at her school. Her school is about an hour away from Supt. Anim's church but still in Tema... It was an unexpectedly long ride. However, I got the opportunity to see amazing parts of Ghana. We got a chance to walk to Sister Lydia's home through her small community. It was beautiful and amazing to go there. Her school is in her house and services babies to 10 years old. We had a great time! When we returned back to Supt. Anim's church, it was almost time to pack up and leave.

God has confirmed the computer lab. I am feeling a bit overwhelmed. After researching and inquiring, it will cost me \$100.00 American dollars to supply 1 computer. I am so ready to get started with the vision God has given me. I am going to get people to donate computers in honor of or tribute to loved ones. I will purchase the tags at the trophy store back home to place on the computers as well as purchase a plaque for the lab.

Convocation started tonight. The power of the Holy Ghost overwhelmed us. Bishop Cole has such a unique anointing. I remember being a little girl in Memphis watching him blow the shofar (trumpet) in amazement. Now I get the opportunity to be around him and it was amazing. He is such a humble man. He worshipped for about an hour and preached in 7 minutes. I was like, "My God today..." I am ready for the teaching ministry to begin Saturday morning.

Day 13 ~ Saturday, July 25, 2015

This morning during devotion, Bishop encouraged us to understand and teach that our church is a holiness believing body. As soon as he said it the anointing of the Holy Ghost began ministering to me. I did not know He was preparing me for what I would have to do.

This year I taught the 12-25 years youth and young adult women class. I was so looking forward to teaching the babies and was willing to just assist Sister Byrd just to stay with the little people; but I obeyed my leader who asked me to teach the youth and young adult class—of course it was a “God” thing! Sister Kathy and I chose to team teach. The women seemed so hungry for ALL that we shared. We talked about holiness and the standard we live as young women who have been filled and empowered by the Holy Ghost. As I taught and as the Holy Ghost spoke through me, I realized this was His will all along. It was amazing to see the tears stream down the women’s faces as we shared God’s word.

Mother Sims brought a word today. She ministered about the five seasons Ruth experienced to get from where she was to where God wanted her to be. It was extremely powerful. She talked about Ruth’s season of joy; sorrow; decision; preparation; and reaping. She said, “Ruth was blessed with a great blessing because she moved in the right direction in every season of her life...”

The altar call was the most powerful and rewarding experience. There were many women but God had me minister to one woman. She received the baptism of the Holy Ghost. It was a life-changing experience. Her name is Esi or Elizabeth. She and I exchanged information after church.

Tonight was the most powerful moment we’ve had since we have been here. It almost topped Esi receiving the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

During class, Sister Kathy and I focused on holiness again. God told her to make sure these women truly understood there is a difference between the church and the world. It was powerful. Elder Success

preached tonight. That man of God was so anointed. It blew my mind the way God used him. God told him to call everybody ages 12-35 years old to the altar. As we stood there God told him to tell us that some of us were standing there, had been dancing and praising God, participating in church but NOT living holy. The anointing was so overflowing. He said, "God said if you are filled with His spirit, living holy and know without a doubt you are in God and going to heaven, go to your seat." There were 200 or more of us on the altar but only 2 or 3 of us left the altar. God let him say it again but no one left the altar. I stood on the podium weeping for my generation and this one but not for long because God allowed Elder Success to minister until the youth and young adults began to be delivered and set free. Many rededicated their lives to Christ, some got saved and some got filled with the Holy Ghost, and so many confessed their deliverance. It blessed us so... We were ALL impacted by what God did in the house and how he made Elder Success fearless to do what needed to be done! I'm in Awe and cannot wait until tomorrow.

Day 14 ~ Sunday, July 26, 2015

Today Bishop Sims will bless us with the preached word. We will teach Sunday school as well! Then we get to say good bye—I am already crying. I miss my parents a great deal though. Two weeks is a long time to be away from home. I am starting to say it every day now and others are noticing it... LOL... Sunday school was great. It was a perfect lesson for what God has done through this convocation. Bishop did an excellent job as always. His message drove many of us to the altar. Communion was great as well. The thing that impacted me the most was Supt. Anim. YOAM and our Mt. Carmel team gave away scholarships—one to a youth from each district. Supt. Anim allowed a

student in his district from another church to get the scholarship even though someone from his church was chosen because there was a greater need. We did not know that. Well when the team blessed him, he gave his blessing to her. He stopped everything and presented her his monetary gift to make sure she was blessed as well. It truly touched my heart. During dinner, I got a chance to say good bye to my friends and take pictures. Many young women came up to me and expressed how much they were impacted by my teaching and desired to learn more about holiness from me. Later, God allowed me to have my most impactful moment. I saw one of Esi's church members and asked them to ask her down so that we could take a picture together. She came down but asked if I would come up and take pictures with her and the other women from her church. As we walked upstairs, she grabbed me and fell on my shoulder crying—weeping. I was taken aback and inquired if she was okay. She wept and explained that she could not believe God could speak to her. She was so happy because God ministered to her and she felt like this was the beginning of newness for her. I just cried and praised our God. Her whole church came and took pictures with me. It truly messed me up. She walked me back downstairs to say good bye and said, "I pray God blesses you with more and more wisdom. I pray you write more books, so you can help the women of Ghana to live holy... women everywhere." I was so overwhelmed by her words, prayer and declaration for my life!

Tonight we had our last YOAM debriefing session. I cried real hard. LOL... It was very hard to say good bye to the people who have been my family for 2 weeks. God allowed one of the team members to prophesy over me. It was so confirming. I had to get myself together. We had an amazing night!

Day 15 ~ Monday, July 27, 2015

I leave Ghana today! I get to see my momma and daddy tomorrow. I cannot wait! We made it... We went to the cultural center. We ate lunch at Papaye's. Then we headed to the airport! To God be the glory. The Mt. Carmel Team debriefed at the airport. I was able to share with Bishop and Mother Sims my vision for next year and they were both excited. They pledged five computers to my efforts for the lab and also pledged to help sponsor a youth/young adult to bring next year with the youth/young adult I am bringing. It was so confirming and overwhelming to have my leaders to invest in the vision God gave me. We each had a rewarding time and look forward to coming back to Ghana. Bishop and Mother Sims and I discussed my computer lab and other things... God has already given the vision favor.

Final Entry ~ Monday, July 27, 2015 (Settling on the airplane close to midnight)

I am excited to plan for next year. I am more excited that God told me not to come back by myself. That was amazing. I am already excited for Ghana 2016. To God be the glory!