

**Dear National Presbyterian Church,**

**We arrived home at 01:00 am tired and grateful:** shaken by wild dark and dusty rural roads, but with a deep sense of joy. I was one of the speakers at Madoda Nzima's first night of seven evangelistic tent meetings in Mpumalanga (Place of the Rising Sun, South Africa) situated in a deep rural community West of the Kruger National Park...but there was a deeper reason for our exuberance.

Madoda's parents were sitting directly in front of us in the large crusade tent. I wondered what was going through Sam Nzima's mind on the opening night of his son's crusade. This nationally known and respected celebrity figure had no particular Christian commitment. He might anguish: *why would this well-educated son of mine turn to preaching and faith living!*

I had met Sam 12 years earlier. I felt an unusual kinship with him having worked at close quarters with Madoda for the same number of years. Especially as Madoda - having introduced his parents from the podium – once again thereafter; claimed us passionately - the only pale people present - as my other parents - Dad Ted and Mom Joy.

Madoda preached a no nonsense full commitment gospel message. As he made the appeal for a total heart commitment to the Lordship of Jesus Christ I reached forward and placed my hand on Sam's shoulder. This elderly once considered notorious photo-journalist – who never fired a shot other than clicking the shutter of his camera – who was now famous in the new political dispensation and had been honoured in Parliament and on National TV a month earlier – raised his hand as an indication of submission and stumbled forward. In tears and brokenness he fell into the quivering arms of his preacher son and finally to his knees. Dad and son embraced in personal oneness as Madoda led his Dad to the Father of all mercy.

What a dad and son moment for the whole Nzima family. What a powerful opening night confirmation of a prayerfully launched faith preaching and teaching ministry.

Sam was one of five people who responded to the gospel message on Sunday night with several supporting pastors present at the first inter-denominational Phaphuka Ministries crusade led by Madoda and a supportive team. The Tsonga name pronounced Papuka means *Wake Up*. Madoda's tagline is *Preaching the unadulterated word of God*. Africa needs that emphasis. Madoda will be working with and invited by pastors across denominational lines. I continue to function as his mentor and advisor. He has my confidence. We minister in collaborative fellowship.

Afterwards as Sam returned to his seat I placed my hands on his shoulders. To the loud-gusto of African gospel singing we drew our heads together and I whispered, "Sam now your real life begins."

National Presbyterian Church partners we could not be more grateful for your friendship, prayers and care as we serve together in fields white to harvest.

*E Hosini* - meaning...in Jesus name,

Yours and His,

*Ted&JoyCarr*



+27 (86) 513 6851 (fax)

+27 (82) 900-0649 (cell)

[ted@provision.org.za](mailto:ted@provision.org.za)

*Isaiah 33:6*