# Life is Busy, Time is Short

Tania Botha 1 December 2015






After Andrew Selley's teaching on partnering at the October 2015 Four12 conference in South Africa, I immediately asked my husband if I could go on an outreach, which happened to be an outreach to Four12 partners in Benoni (Covenant Life Church). I can't say that God told me to go, but I was definitely stirred to go after that teaching. I think it was even more special because I love Patti and Roland Barnard, who led Covenant Life Church previously and are now based with us in Joshua Generation Church (JoshGen) that meets in Durbanville. I really felt like I was going to meet "the in-laws".

As a mom, there are obviously a lot more responsibilities to consider when "going" (if you aren't able to go as a family). I love my boy so much, and of course I considered what I would be

missing out on if I went without him, but then I thought of what he would be missing out on if I didn't go. Growing up, my own dad always put God and His Church first, his passion for God (even though it wasn't always easy to understand when I was younger) was one of the things that helped me prioritise the kingdom when I recommitted my life to Christ as an adult.

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After my battle with cancer last year, I realised how short and fragile life really is – we don't know when we will be called home. For months, I sat up in the church gallery, weak and unable to express myself in worship, unable to raise my hands, jump or dance in His presence. That season of illness gave me such an appreciation of being able to get up and serve Jesus every day. My capacity is a lot less than it used to be, physically, and this was something that I had to take into consideration when planning to serve as a part of the outreach team.

However, of course God took care of all the details. I was hosted by the wonderful Alida and her daughter, Courtney, which was a real joy. As much as I missed my incredible husband and son for the weekend, it also meant that I had more availability to jump in 'boots and all' from the get go. I made sure I got adequate rest in between meetings, but also didn't miss out on anything God did over the weekend. I was able to serve in Benoni while my husband served back in Cape Town by caring for our son, giving me an opportunity to step out for the weekend on my own. We were able to team up in a great way; a different kind of partnering.

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As a team from Josh Gen, we were overwhelmed and humbled by the hospitality and generosity of Covenant Life Church. It was so encouraging to watch as they grabbed hold of what God was doing, and to see how every member of our team made an impact and was impacted by what God did. Everyone always says it, and I will say it again – we came back blessed.

I always thought I was too busy to stop and do a lot of things I really wanted to, until I got sick. I watched my family, my business, friends and church all carry on without me and realised how true it is: life will always be busy, but our time is short and tomorrow is not guaranteed. So don't waste your one precious life. Use it. Go!

**Photo:** Tania with her husband Jacques and their son Caleb.