Loaves & Fish

Four12 29 August 2023



1This year, many saints and leaders have stretched their faith to go on local and international outreaches, trusting in God for the finances and leave to go. Here are some faith-building testimonies from faith-filled saints who felt called to go on an outreach and dared to put their hope in God to provide the rest.

Testimonies



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(Oxygen Life Church, South Africa)

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God's provision in all of this has taught me to trust Him and rest in Him, which is such a beautiful gift – plus the friendships that have been formed with the saints in Spartanburg.

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possibility of the outreach was announced a few months later, Dayna and I very quickly felt a desire to be a part of the team.

The first big hurdle I had to overcome was finding faith for the trip in the face of what seemed like unattainable funds, and for a few months, my faith waxed and waned in light of this. However, Jesus was incredibly kind in the way that He revealed my misplaced dependence: I was completely relying on my own abilities to generate the required amount of money.

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At the beginning of 2023, I had my own ideas about how God was going to provide for my trip, all of which required very little faith on my part. I felt God remind me, though, that He is my provider. When the plans that I had made to finance my trip fell through, I was left with nothing but that gentle reminder and the knowledge that nothing is too hard for Him.

For my birthday in May, my church family got together and surprised me with over half the amount of money I needed for my ticket to the US. After this, my dear friend and incredible artist, Dayna-Gay, gifted me with a painting to raffle off in order to raise funds for the outreach. Another dear friend and talented make-up artist, Kristin, offered her makeup services to be raffled off. I advertised these raffles on WhatsApp, Facebook and Instagram, and I was blown away at the generosity of friends, family, acquaintances and even strangers in buying raffle tickets. With the money from my birthday combined with the money from the raffles, I had above and beyond what I needed for the trip. The Lord provided creatively and abundantly, and showed me in a tangible way that He truly is my provider.

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Three days before the trip, I had been given the full amount of leave and my visa and passport were ready, but I still didn't have money to buy a ticket. God tested my faith, because every door I had explored to try to pay for my ticket was closed, and when I was done, God proved Himself faithful. At the last minute, a friend paid for my ticket! I'd like to encourage everyone that when God calls you to do something, He will come through for you. The Scripture He made alive to me was, "Whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours." (Mark 11:24)

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I started the ball rolling by contacting some people I knew in San Clemente, California, to ask if they would host me. Once they said yes, I confirmed with Luke Hulley that there was still space on the outreach for me, but I needed a visa and there were two problems with that. One was that the earliest visa appointment was for the 28th of June, which was well after the outreach. The other issue was that I had just enough money to pay for the appointment, but then no money to buy plane tickets. I was at a crossroads and once again thought I might need to abandon the whole thing. It took me three days to finally book the visa appointment, and I did so as an act of obedience to the Lord, whether I got an earlier date or not. Lo and behold, God came through within a matter of hours with an opening for four days later! And hallelujah, my visa was approved in record time, totally because of God.

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