Loving the Bride in Africa

Lance McIntosh 26 March 2019





The world stares in unbelief at the irony of a drought-stricken nation, now flooded after the heavy rains in mid-March that developed into a cyclone, striking Mozambique, Zimbabwe and affecting Malawi severely. Cyclone Idai brought destruction, death, injuries, and the devastation of many homes. River banks collapsed, washing away any harvest that may have survived the extreme drought. The humanitarian need is enormous, but what should our response as Christians be? The world is facing a constant state of decay with sin, brokenness, corruption, poverty and famine as an unavoidable reality – what are we called to be, if not humanitarians?

We are called to be lovers of the bride of Christ. What does this love look like? 1 John 3:16-17 clearly shows us that ‘Jesus Christ laid down his life for us and we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers. If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on

him, how can the love of God be in him?'



If one member suffers, all suffer together

Since relocating from South Africa to Malawi in February 2019, we have had the privilege of seeing many new churches partner with Four12 as they seek God's face and desire to live according to His ways, despite the chaos that is going on around them. Right now, the bride of Christ in Malawi is broken, hurt and hungry. These are our brothers and sisters in Christ, those that are partnering with us in the gospel. 1 Corinthians 12:26 refers to the body of Christ and says: 'If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together.'

We (our team based here in Malawi representing Four12) have been and are continuing to take relief in the form of food, clothing and bedding to the church families who have lost everything in the floods. Most of them are being housed in the relief camp at N'gabu, about 550km from where we are based. Sadly, about ten Four12 churches have been totally washed away.



We have been able to provide 20 bags of 50kg maize and 150kg of dried fish to our partnering churches along the Shire River districts. As we go, we are preaching the gospel and praying for those that are ill and injured. The task is great, and we are being sustained by the prayers and generous contributions made into the Four12 Malawi fund.

Find Four12 Malawi on Facebook:

If you would like to give towards the relief efforts in Malawi:

Account Name: Four12 Global NPC
Bank: First National Bank (FNB)
Account #: 624 6022 4951
Account Type: Current
Branch code: 203809
Swift Code: FIRNZAJJ
Reference: Malawi Relief