



José's Motorcycle!

Last year I wrote about a pastor in Ribaué that is doing a tremendous work of church planting and evangelism. He is an incredible man of God, with vision and initiative that is not seen often in Mozambique. The church planted their own field and made about \$400 selling green peppers. They built a beautiful new church and the members themselves made the 15,000 bricks they needed by hand. There are 22 young men in that area that José has sent to Bible school. After visiting Pastor José I felt in my heart to bless him with a motorcycle and many in the United States helped with that challenge. I really wanted to be able to deliver the motorcycle personally, but since Ribaué is 600 miles from my house I was not able to visit there until April. It was quite an adventure to get there from my house (big surprise, right??) First I had to travel to Caia where I planned to catch a bus that goes straight to Nampula where a friend would pick me up. The trip to Caia was uneventful, but I waited and waited at the bus stop and the bus never showed up. When I finally got through to the company they said, "Oh, the bus passed there a LONG time ago, they stopped but didn't find anyone there!" Since I arrived at the stop at the time they told me and I never left I suspect that the bus came early and they didn't want to tell me! Fortunately, the pastor from the church in Caia stopped to greet me, so I asked him to help me find transportation to get to Nampula. I could have gone back home and come back another day, but I really didn't want to. After some time we were able to get a HUGE truck that was going to Nampula.



There were a few other passengers and the driver was careful so I made it to Nampula at about midnight (only 6 hours later than I had planned). The following day Pastor Armando and I shopped around to find the best motorcycle at the best price and arranged to pick it up on the way to Ribaué. We had to disassemble it a little to get it in the car, but we managed! A church service had been planned for the evening that we arrived so we decided to give José the motorcycle in the church so everyone could appreciate the blessing. We had to send José on an errand in order to put the bike back together without him seeing it! We had a nice candle light service and at the end we presented José with the motorcycle. In general, Mozambicans are not very expressive, most of the time they don't even smile when they receive a gift, but José was different! He was very happy and even danced around at the front of the church. Even with the added adventure of the trip, it was definitely worth it to be able to deliver the bike personally.



The next morning I talked to José a little more about his plans and how he will use the motorcycle. He said, "I thank God who is doing great things in my life. I believe that with the transport that God gave me I will work to spread the Gospel, opening new areas where we have not entered. For example, Malema, 90 miles away, and I also have a vision to open a work in Lalawa, 54 miles away." The mother church is in Namigonha, and José started this church in 2008 after returning from Bible school. His wife and three kids were the only ones at the first service, but now the church has 130 members. He has also started seven cell churches in different areas of Ribaué.

- Pecuaría- 6 miles away has 10 members (opened in 2010)
- Namirabwe- 8 miles away has 5 members (opened in 2011)
- Kunle - 9 miles away has 10 members (opened in 2010)
- Sawa sawa- 9 miles away has 25 members (opened in 2010)
- Nacuculo- 18 miles away has 25 members (opened in 2010)
- Matária- 24 miles away has 30 members (opened in 2010)
- Mope- 31 miles away has 8 members (opened in 2010)

A big thank you to all who participated in this great blessing! May God bless you in return!
Serving Him,
Christa



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