

SOUTH AFRICAN CHRIST LIFE CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 2011

Flying down to Port Elizabeth from Johannesburg on Thursday gave me time to consider Warren's subject for the conference, "The Holy Spirit". An expectancy and excitement started to grow within me, as I was going to hear about the person that teaches me about the Christ that lives in me. I asked Father to start deleting the rubbish in my mind that religion had taught me regarding this subject. I would like my mind to be "formatted" to receive only the truth regarding the work, personality, and mind of the Holy Spirit.

I was also looking forward to see my Brothers and Sisters, many of whom had been praying for Yvonne and I as we walked through many C & S sessions during this year. This was going to be a great conference, and I trusted Father to make it so for me.

Arriving at the Port Elizabeth airport, we saw the smiling faces of those who had also just arrived on our flight and other flights. We hugged and were hugged by many and soon we arrived at the conference centre. There, more hugs, and greetings from our Christ Life family. Settled into our cottage, we were off to have our first tea time of this conference. Soon it was time to settle down in the conference hall, and await the arrival of Warren and Robbie.

What a delight to see them again, our Pastors, who at great expense and hours of discomfort fly to teach us Christ. No matter how Warren feels in his body, whenever I enquire regarding his health, he always says, "I'm just fine my Brother." Thank Father for Warren and Robbie.

The first session Warren introduced us to the Holy Spirit, and as always, the first session for me has the greatest impact, for in that session a foundation is laid for the rest of the conference. This was no different. Each session built upon the previous one and reached the climax at the last session. The depth of teaching was like chewing on steak, but there was also some gravy to assist with the digestion of the word. Every conference is better than the previous one. But, alas, all too soon the last session arrived and the conference was over.

During the conference at two of the sessions Robbie shared her heart with us, what moving words. There were very few dry eyes as she related how she was alone through her times of hurt and bereavement. Her sharing on the practical things we face in our lives touched us and brought the realisation that during our "hard" times, we ONLY have Christ to run to and Him to cling to. During those times of hurt and sorrow the things we say we believe are tested. Do we really believe what we say we believe? What a moving testimony from Robbie.

Another aspect of this conference that made an impact on me was that a time was set aside after the evening session for fellowship. This was a tremendous blessing as we could interact with others at the conference and get to know each other better. On the Saturday evening we were blessed with a "sing along" time led by Johann playing a ukulele and Annette playing the guitar, what a joyful time was had by all. Looking across the hall, people were sharing with each other, others were laughing together, some were singing, clapping their hands, others were listening to the music, what a great time of fellowship.

As with every conference I have had the privilege to attend, this one was unique, and I am looking forward to the next conference in 2012. I have much to learn from the teachings of Warren and Robbie, and by listening to the Holy Spirit as He teaches me Christ, and as He, in His time, reveals the depths of Warren's teachings, this conference will be life changing to me.

Thank you, Warren and Robbie.

Chris Goosen from Johannesburg, South Africa

