

Beyond Devotional - Week 3

Allie White is an International Mission Board (IMB) missionary working with exploited women in the slums of Kampala, Uganda and was sent out by Brazos Pointe Fellowship in 2020.

My term in Kampala has been filled with highs and lows, but God has been present through it all. When I'm overwhelmed with the darkness of this place I crawl back to the promise that God desires ALL who are weary and burdened to come to Him for rest (Matthew 11:28). I'm slowly learning to trade in my pride, stubbornness, and selfishness to be lowly, like Him. This requires me to be a learner, to be quiet and listen to my national friends. This means pushing through difficult and uncomfortable situations for the glory of God. This means to submit my will and my desires for His sake. Living cross-culturally, learning a new language, and being far from home can be difficult, but it keeps me weak so that I rely on God.

Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body. In your anger do not sin: Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foothold. Anyone who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with their own hands, that they may have something to share with those in need. Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. Ephesians 4:25-29

One beautiful picture of this outward change in our lives is displayed by the women that I work with. Many of these women have been in prostitution for years and stealing, fighting and lying were a part of their everyday lives. That is until they meet Jesus. We were able to see some of these women's lives radically changed by being saved. They took off their old life and ways and put on the characteristics of Jesus. This doesn't mean it was easy to leave their old ways, but they realize how broken and desperately they need a Savior. They went from lying to being truthful and vulnerable. They went from constantly acting out of anger to being slow to speak and quick to listen. I'm so thankful that God is overflowing with mercy in my own life.

My job consists mostly of going to a specific slum in Kampala with national partners to disciple women in prostitution. We sit on the steps outside the brothel and share the gospel with them or we have a weekly bible study with the women who have a hunger to know more. We have around twenty women on average come to our weekly bible study and around seven of those women are now active members of our church in Kampala. I'm so thankful for the IMB because their work allows me to stay focused on my job. I am fully supported by the Southern Baptist Convention and offerings like the Beyond Campaign.

Allie White IMB Missionary