

2019 – Q3



STREAMS

Quarterly Report

Birthing life, wherever we flow...

Founded in 2010, Flowing Rivers has grown from a small team regularly gathering in an Essex living room to a large organisation now overseeing various projects locally, nationally, and internationally.

As you are a part of our journey and projects, our quarterly reports seek to provide an update on all we have going on from ministry to mission work.

We are passionate about equipping young adults with the tools needed to develop great values in leadership and servanthood in their local, national, and international communities.

We believe the church is a representation of the Lord's hand extended to humanity in love, expressed through teachings,

healing, humanitarian support, economic empowerment, and leadership development for posterity.

Our mission is to preach Christ at all times and only if necessary, use words!



A new expression is here, and we like it!

Christian Mutyambizi

My experience joining Flowing Rivers was quite a unique transition. I became aware of the ministry whilst at a speaking engagement that both Pastor Sam and I had the privilege to minister at in July 2019. Earlier in the month, Pastor Sam had been

I began to read the book about a week later and to my amazement, I finished two thirds of it in just a few hours. I was captivated and gleaning so much from it and upon remembering my friend's recommendation and Pastor Sam mentioning Flowing Rivers has recently launched Sunday Expression, I decided to visit.

My first Sunday, August 11th, 2019, was an opportune one as Pastor Sam was concluding the vision series exploring the heart, ethos and direction for Sunday Expression as well as the ministry. From this service and the few Sundays that followed exploring what church is, I knew this was where I not only wanted to grow and serve but where I was being directed to grow and serve.

Although I was initially drawn to Flowing Rivers by Pastor Sam's book, the principle reason I've remained is because the heart of the ministry is biblically sound, and the relationship between inward discipleship and outward impact demonstrates the earthly mission of Christ very practically and powerfully. Equally, my decision was affirmed by the Word being both unadulterated and uncompromising. In all, I'm delighted to not only have found a house where I can personally meet with God through the Word, prayer and worship, but also one where I could collectively serve, fellowship



and develop. Thus far, the most significant thing I have learnt, without disregarding anything as irrelevant, has been the distinction between the Children of God and the Sons of God. This wisdom has challenged me to persist in pursuing maturity and as such, I look forward to bearing fruit, keeping my hand to the plough and by the grace of God, birthing life wherever I flow.

Tessa Malungu

All these years of hearing that we (Flowing Rivers) would soon start a church; Sunday Expression is finally here, and it's here to stay! I haven't been to a Sunday service for about 4-5 years (unless I was invited for special service) because I truly believe God didn't want me to be committed elsewhere as He was preparing me for Flowing Rivers' Sunday Expression, so the transition was smooth.

Our latest series 'This is Church', has so far taught me what the foundation of Church is and what it should look like. We've been taking it back to scriptures to where it first mentioned how God designed this body called church.

I'm proud and confident that in the next decade I'll look back and be able to say I was there when we started.



recommended to me by a friend - who was in fact co-hosting the engagement where we met - suggesting I visit Flowing Rivers once I had completed university but such wisdom I did not immediately consider or hearken to. But during Pastor Sam's ministration, I was stirred and convicted by an excerpt he highlighted from his book to which I jumped at the opportunity to receive a free copy, unfortunately not signed - yet.

We won't let the crown slip!

Crown of Glory - previously known as Elderly People's Project - is an incredible project that has continued to serve our local community, specifically people in residential homes.

Once a month, we pay a visit to Alexander Court where we hold group sessions with the elderly. We host games such as bingo and charades to keep the residents in

high spirits and to help them retain fun memories from the past. Additionally, we spend quality time interacting with them over tea and biscuits whilst checking on residents who for one reason or another could not participate. We also have the privilege of offering prayers to those interested.



Honour your father and your mother that your days may be long upon the land which the Lord your God is giving you.

Exodus 20:12

Crown of Glory is not without its challenges, as recently we were informed of the death of one of our very dear residents Christine, who sadly passed away of pneumonia.

This was truly heart-breaking for the team and other residents as Christine was a beautiful lady, full of life and always a pleasure to be around. Not only did she make sure to attend every session, but she always spoke fondly of how much she looked forward to the team's visit; she will surely be missed.

In the new year we look to extend our activity to include one-to-one sessions with residents. We hope to address loneliness by providing continuous visitations, excursions to parks, shopping trips and outings away from the home.

Keeping it real with Gen Z: The LIFE Workshop

The LIFE Workshop was a program designed to equip university students with practical advice in relation to time management, finances, healthy relationships and stress. To encourage discussion, we invited speakers who shared their personal stories to prompt our attendees to also share their experiences and struggles. It was a fun day but most importantly a day where our young adults were given practical advice about how to maximise their current season and thrive.

Following the event, we have attendees the opportunity to opt in for follow-ups and we've since kept in touch after the via email as well as a conference call where they were asked share how they had been putting the taught skills into action. One participant bought a diary in response to the time management segment, while another had become accountable to a confidant with financial expertise to prepare for the first year of university.

We are glad to have had the privilege of hosting our young adults and look forward to opportunities like this in the future.



When the Church take over the streets of the capital!

It's been a great quarter on the Street Mission front where our service is to rough sleepers and the homeless. We continue to build relationships with the people that we encounter and see their lives transform over time. It always nice to see an old face and catch up. We constantly hear testimonies of people we serve regularly or have been praying for that we haven't seen for some time because they've been given accommodation or have moved to a better location.

When the church takes over the streets of London you can be sure that things will be done in an unconventional way.



We decided to switch things up one day and served food from the boot of a car. Yes, you read that correctly, you could call it a 'free boot sale'. It was very different and fun to be a part of as the people loved it and it opened more dialog between the volunteers and the people we serve. It was a lovely experience and was also a reminder of how the Street Mission has evolved over time and how we've

embraced change in the group. It's safe to say that we won't be doing another 'free boot sale' for a while because the cleaning up isn't as fun.



Tricked, abused, found Christ and changed forever

Rahab was rescued from a dumpsite in Kenya at a young age and was fortunate enough to be sponsored to go to Primary school. But when the time for Secondary school came and the sponsors required an identification card from her. She did not have this, and a gentleman told her he could get one for her if he came with her to Nairobi.

The story took a turn and he literally turned her to his slave. Unfortunately, he raped her, and she fell pregnant. Rahab felt she had no choice in the matter as she really wanted to go to school and believed this was the only way. She gave birth to the child but sadly the child passed away within a year. But still, the promise of an identification card went unfulfilled.

Unable to withstand life in Nairobi, Rahab ran away, and ended up back at the dump site from where she was initially rescued.

Flowing Rivers held a medical day at the dumpsite, and we were introduced to a girl with some medical issues. This girl was Rahab, and this is how her story came to light. We asked what she wants, and her desire was simple: to finish school.

Flowing Rivers offered to sponsor her and send her to school. Strangely, she had a look of suspicion as our Pastor told her the great news.

Looking back, thinking of what she had gone through, she was probably thinking "what do we want from her". Thankfully, we just wanted to help her. Now 17 years old, Rahab is in school, thriving and loving Jesus. We are so proud of her progress and cannot wait to see her again in December!



Here's why I'm excited about Kenya this December

[Pippa Searle](#)

Other than the winter sun, I'm so excited to serve people and further God's Kingdom in a completely unfamiliar context.

A few years ago, I volunteered with a group in Tanzania building a kitchen for a local school, and the experience was so much fun and incredibly rewarding.

Since then, I've given my life to Christ and I can't wait to see what volunteering overseas looks like with God at the centre!



My experience of God so far is not one of mundanity or limits, but of passion, wild adventure and deep love.

For me, going on this trip means totally surrendering to The Spirit and relinquishing control, which is both terrifying and exhilarating.

More than anything I'm eager to bring the love of Jesus to people who really need it.

I love to love others and getting to practically demonstrate this love to those less fortunate than myself is an amazing opportunity to do just that.

The Story Continues...

...A closing note from Pastor Samson Baptist

Welcome to the Sunday Expression! Many have asked me why Sundays now and why is it called the Sunday Expression?

For many years (about 10 years) Flowing Rivers resisted Sunday meetings because of the core belief that ministry should not be limited to a “special” day and to imprint this in the psychology of our members we stayed away from tradition and focused on the mission which was and still is to reach out to the maligned, hungry, lonely, and so on.

With the go ahead from command central - The Lord, we are now meeting on Sundays to cater for young families for whom our customary Tuesday evenings wouldn't have been practical for. However, most importantly it is because the people, having had so many years of serving our generation outside of a Sunday trap, have matured to see ministry as an everyday and any day affair!

So why the Sunday Expression? For us, Sunday service is not the pinnacle, it is simply a different expression of what we've been doing already that happens to occur on a Sunday - and you thought it was much deeper than that! Until next time remember that the greatest investment in life is the investment in a life!

To get involved in any capacity, please feel free to email us at info@flowingriversfoundation.org our team are readily available to provide further information and respond to your queries.

To contribute financially towards any of our projects, please feel free to use our online donating system on our Giving Page:

www.flowingriversfoundation.org/giving

Thank you and look forward to your continued support this year.



Flowing Rivers' Glossary

Child Sponsorship – We support orphaned children in Borneo and Kenya with the aim that children are upheld in prayers, contacted on a regular basis, and receive financial procurement through monthly sponsorship. This vision extends beyond just the members of our team as we also encourage those who are financially capable to invest in a child's life.

Conferences – A collection of seminars focused on inspiring people to be current, relevant and influential in their generation. The impact series focuses on relationships, business, career, investments, personal development, healthy living, mental wellbeing and much more.

Crown of Glory – On the last Saturday of every month, a team of us visits a residential home and spends two hours with the elderly. We often plan fun activities varying from bingo to board games and on occasion even charades!

Food Bank – To assist members of society who are unable to afford food and in collaboration with a number of food banks, we regularly donate non-perishable foods to our surrounding boroughs. Additionally, we offer assistance with the organisation and storage of the food. We also host Tin Tuesdays every week to collect donations from the Flowing Rivers congregation.

International Missions – Through annual trips to Kenya, Flowing Rivers supports Sure24, an orphanage based in the Nakuru region, as well as Living Waters Village foundation located in a village within Borneo.

Just Church – Just Church is a campaign to get other churches and organisations to come together under the umbrella of simply "church", stripping down names and labels to take second place to the work given to the church body to do.

Prison Visits – Flowing Rivers recognises that the re-offending rate of inmates is on the increase. Therefore with targeted training sessions to address self-esteem, failure, true success, gang life, among other things, we hope to minister God's love and comfort to those incarcerated.

Street Mission – We visit Lincoln's Inn Field in central London twice a month and provide food, drinks, prayer, amenities, and advice where required. We believe that faith without work is dead, and as such we recognise that we are God's hand extended in love, specifically to those who are homeless on the streets of London.

University Visits – Flowing Rivers understands the relevance of the university institution, not merely as a hub for learning, but also the residence of potential leaders. Collaborating with other organisations, we host business seminars, industry specific talks, entrepreneurship boot camps, and so forth. These conferences consist of atmosphere changing worship, heart changing, love and life changing teaching.

Winter Giveaway – Launched in 2011 to cater to the needs of homeless people within London during the coldest months, every year our team of volunteers assembles and distributes Love Bags to homeless people in the capital.