



"Helping ignite culturally relevant heart worship, especially in places where Christ-followers are restricted, persecuted or unknown."

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Worship and the Sweeping Awakening in Malawi

A Great Move of God



A great move of God over the last 25 years has birthed many Christian churches throughout Malawi, Africa. From the beginning, the movement was fueled by exuberant indigenous singing and dance.

Our multi-national Heart Sounds International team from South Africa and the USA were hosted by three local church leaders during our first visit in 2007 to capture the wonderful worship expressions of five of the seven language groups. Our team was not expecting what it was about to discover after

arriving in Malawi, Africa. Hearing Christian music in the public airport was our first clue to the breadth of worship expressions which we would soon discover.

170 Songs On Nine CDs



As is often the case in Africa, simple yet powerful drumming accompanies the passionate combination of voice and body movement. We knew that in order to sufficiently capture the essence of their worship it would be necessary to view it through video as well as hear through audio. All in all, we recorded about 170 songs in five languages totaling nine CDs and 57 hours of video from 3 different live cameras. Selections from these recordings are now being played by radio throughout the entire country.

The Least-Reached People Group



We discovered that the least-reached people group in Malawi, the Yao in the southern Muslim region, have a few recently birthed churches that desire to compose new worship songs in their own language and cultural styles. The country leaders



decided in 2007 to plan a subsequent song-writing workshop among the Yao the following year. As the August 2008 dates approached, our USA team found itself unable to make the return trip to Malawi due to high airline costs and scheduling conflicts. The project was adjusted so that it could be accomplished by the local leaders through gifts of equipment and with help from Joyce Scott of South Africa who is a seasoned song-writing

workshop coordinator. The result was a tremendously successful workshop as 21 new worship songs were recorded by Yao believers. These songs are now being used in radio programming throughout the Yao region of Malawi as well as extending into the Yao region of Mozambique to the south.

Passing Along the Torch

We were delighted to begin this project, imparting the vision to the indigenous leadership and then working collaboratively to empower them with equipment and resources to complete it on their own. Plans are already in the making for a follow-up songwriting workshop and recording in 2009.



Warmly in Christ,
Ken Davidson, for the HSI team



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