

***Maybe God will speak to you about making a difference where no one else is in this day.***

## Why Not Ask Him?

Jacques Van Bommel's Testimony

A day in the African bush that changed my life!

It was about 10 years ago and I was at the start of a very important journey in my life. God has stirred my heart to reach out to the Lozi people in Zambia. The area we would reach out to was the Sioma area and there were no churches for miles from this little unreached part of Zambia.

I asked a friend of mine Pastor David Crabtree to accompany me on this trip so that we could scope out the land. The poverty was excruciating to watch. We brought a few pieces of clothing for little children and when handed out we could see how they would be used as the children in the area must only have one piece of clothing and it was what they wore. We had to walk through a small river to get to the chief's home. A mud hut with a flag pole showing the difference to those who may not know. It was similar to the rest of the villager's huts and we were received with joy.

It was then that Pastor David and I walked off in a distance. David asked me: "Jacques what am I doing here? I pastor a church in North Carolina. I do not know how to relate here. We live thousands of miles away. What am I doing here?"

In the moment I asked him: "Pastor, do you see anyone else here?"

This has become the rallying cry to get people involved in the ministry in this place. We sometimes compete for ministry in parts of the world but in some places, there just is no other answer than us. Francis Chan says something that resonates in my heart. He states that everyone in the church is called to go unless God says otherwise.

The decision to start this work in Zambia was significant. It has changes tens of thousands of children's lives. Today about 10 years later we celebrate over 10 000 children in churches across villages in this part of Africa. We have seen with the help of many over 200 wells dug and pumps put in place as a gift to the communities. We are seeing hundreds of young girls being rescued from child marriage with our imagine Hope Centres. All this hung on the moment where we had to decide. The power of a decision is incredible. Maybe God will speak to you about making a difference where no one else is in this day. Why not ask Him?

– Jacques Van Bommel