



May 2018

Dear Friends,

“I am 86 years old and no one has ever told me the story of Jesus,” the old man said with tears in his eyes. His voice crackled as he added, “Please send us someone to teach us about Jesus.”

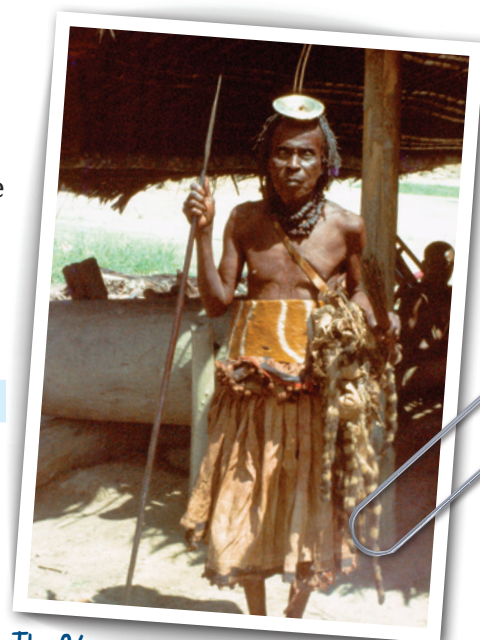
I was in Zaire (now the DRC), using a Sabbath School picture roll and telling the story of Jesus to people in a village far into the Congo Ituri Forest. This was virgin territory, and young people who had never seen an American before would run and hide in the forest when they saw me coming.

It all happened more than 30 years ago when I was a young missionary, but it’s significant because something unexpected took place back then that completely transformed my ministry, and I believe something similar is about to happen again soon.

The laws in Zaire had just changed, creating what was called a “People Movement.” It stipulated that more than 1,000 independent churches had to join one of the legally recognized religions. The Seventh-day Adventist Church was one of those recognized by the government, and suddenly, we had thousands of people coming to our mission in Lulengele! Forced to choose, they were searching to join a church that believed in the whole Bible.

In a short time, our church in the Kasai region swelled from 300 members after 20 years of work, to more than 100,000 members!

It was a thrilling time, and we were energized to share Bible truth with all who would listen. I was part of the Kasai Project, and my job consisted of clearing people for baptism and baptizing them. What a job for a young missionary!



*The 86-year-old man in the Ituri Forest said, “Please send us someone to teach us about Jesus!”*

It was during a 16-day safari—on foot and far into the Zaire jungle—that I met the old man in the Ituri Forest. By the time I returned home, I had walked more than 100 miles. But I didn't mind because I was excited to share the message!

Yes, we would try to send a Bible worker to the village at the end of the trail as this 86-year old man had requested, but there were so many requests coming in back then, that to this day, I don't know if it was ever done.

Now, more than 30 years later, as we talk about high tech and many advanced forms of cell phone and digital evangelism, I am sure nothing at the end of the trail has changed! I've never forgotten that old man, nor the fact that many jungle trails still exist today with people waiting to hear the story of Jesus. Whole villages are waiting for someone to share the good news that Jesus is coming again!

That's why I'm committed to Adventist World Radio. You see, the one thing most villages had back then—and still have today—is radios! We can reach them through radio broadcasts!

But how can we do this in the Congo without a radio station or without the proper licenses? It is an extremely difficult process to obtain a license in some countries like the Congo.

God is opening a door! We knew He would, but we just didn't know how—until now. Let me share it with you.

The assistant to the president of the Democratic Republic of Congo just contacted Dr. Lela Lewis, president of one of our church's health initiatives called *Your Best Pathway to Health*, which offers free medical clinics and other health-related services. He made an unexpected invitation: The president of the Congo wants a medical team to hold a free medical clinic event in his country—and is giving us total use of the Congo Parliament in the capital city of Kinshasa!

That is amazing! Dr. Lewis and a team of doctors will join AWR for this event, which will run concurrently with multiple evangelistic meetings to be held throughout Kinshasa!



*Volunteer health workers will provide much-needed free healthcare to residents of Kinshasa, the capital city of the Congo.*

We know God is working, because now that the government has invited us to come and is willing to open its doors and accept our services, we pray that those elusive broadcasting licenses will be granted! We'll need to advertise the medical clinic and air special health messages to the public—and a radio license is needed to do that!

In just a few weeks, we will hold a trial run of this event in the Philippines. AWR is now broadcasting on the whole island of Palawan. In June, we will be holding more than 60 simultaneous evangelistic meetings across the island—and the medical team will be there! While they attend to the people's physical needs, we will be sharing God's Word, tending to their spiritual needs—all this while our radio broadcasts are preparing the way.

By God's grace, the same thing will happen next year in Kinshasa. We know God has opened a door, and all we have to do is step through it! God is constantly working in favor of His people, opening the way for the gospel to reach every corner of our planet.



Now the grandchildren of the 86-year-old man in the Ituri forest will be able to listen to the AWR trumpets in the jungle of the Congo! They'll be able to hear the story of Jesus in their own language, Lingala, being broadcast from our AWR radio station.

God has a thousand ways of opening doors that we know nothing about! This brings me back to the Kasai Project in Zaire all those years ago. What God did back then to hasten the spreading of the gospel almost overnight—something that would have taken us many more years to accomplish—He can do again. He has promised the day will come when almost overnight the earth will be lighted with the glory of God's truth. People will be eager to listen to the

message! And I think we're already seeing it today.

At AWR, we want to be ready for that day, faithfully working at our post, knowing that God will finish the work He began in us. I know that you look forward to that day as well.

We are praying for this new opportunity in the Congo, and as we work together, I want to ask you to please join us in praying for this initiative, and for a few others that are in our hearts.





I know that together, by God's grace, these too will be accomplished and many people will be led to make decisions for Jesus. That is what AWR360° is all about—Broadcast to Baptism!

- ▶ Pray for the new radio station in Kinshasa, Congo, that God will open the way so that by next year, it will be fully functional.
- ▶ Pray for a new AWR station in northern Uganda that will broadcast to the largest refugee camp in the world—282,000 people.
- ▶ Pray that we may obtain 5,000 GodPods for the refugee camps in Rwanda.
- ▶ Pray that we may buy 10,000 GodPods for India—and for the thousands being trained to do cell phone evangelism there.
- ▶ Pray for the 167 evangelistic meetings about to begin in Japan, prepared in part by AWR's broadcasts and medical outreach seminars—all a first in Japan!

There are many more projects and plans, but if together we can pray for these, I know God will work miracles. He did it more than 30 years ago—surprising us by opening an unexpected door, he's doing it in the Congo, and He does it every day for His children around the world.

Thank you for supporting the work of AWR—for your prayers that bless and uplift us as we carry forward the precious message. Please take a few moments to fill out the enclosed card and return it with your prayer requests, because even as you pray for us, we pray for you—and we love to hear from you!

Yours in the Blessed Hope,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Duane McKey'.

Duane McKey  
President



P.S. God is opening unexpected doors of service in the Congo, just like he did more than 30 years ago in then-Zaire. There are people everywhere—like the old man in the forest—waiting for someone to share with them the good news that Jesus is coming again. Thank you for supporting the work of Adventist World Radio. Soon, the whole world will be lighted with the knowledge of truth and Jesus will come again!