

A CHAT WITH DR. MARGARET MENSAH - A MEDICAL MISSIONARY

Voice of Missions (VOM): Can you tell us about yourself, your parents?

Dr. Margaret Mensah (MM): My name is Margaret Mensah, a medical doctor by profession. I graduated from the Ghana Medical School as a Community Health Specialist. I was born more than 7 decades ago into a polygamous but very religious Roman Catholic family. I had all my education through a Convent where I served as a Nun for 37 years. I became born again in 1999 while serving at St. Luke's Hospital in Ejura. As a young convert, in 2002, I joined my brother Apostle J.F.K. Mensah together with his family to Mauritania for 4 years under Pioneers Africa and I spent another 5 years serving with Pioneers Ghana as a Medical Missionary at Banda Ahenkro, in the Southern part of Sunyani. Presently I am with Theovision, also as a Medical Missionary.

VOM: What in your childhood prepared you for your missionary service?

MM: I want to believe my training at the Convent prepared me for what I am now doing. I had my 13th birthday at the convent where we were trained to live a selfless life that is dedicated to the good of mankind. We were expected to be rich in good works. My professional training as a Community Health Officer also prepared me for the work of mission. I worked as a Community Medical Officer for 9 years at the Manya Krobo District of the Eastern Region. That period was the advent of AIDS /HIV

in Ghana. I was involved in what was termed “Meet them at home.” This was how we ministered to the AIDS patients then. I was trained for selfless dedication to mankind and the need to show compassion.

VOM: Were family/friends supportive?

MM: I have and continue to enjoy lots of support and encouragement from my brother J.F.K Mensah and his family.

VOM: Who or what was most helpful in preparation times (Books/People etc)

MM: As a single missionary, a book by another single missionary, Dr. Helen Roseveare was very helpful. It still serves as a source of great inspiration to me.

VOM: If the clock could be turned back, what changes (if any) would you want to make in your preparation for ministry or/missions?



MM: I will seek training, i.e. preparatory training before venturing into mission work.

VOM: *What do you perceive are your strengths in ministry/missions?*

MM: I consider my love for rural areas and my desire to lift people as my strengths.

VOM: *What do you see as your weak points in ministry/missions?*

MM: I am too rash in making decisions; often I don't think or pray through before making decisions. I am like Peter "Lord, I will die with you".

VOM: *What parts of missionary work do you enjoy the most?*

MM: I enjoy medical missions the most. I derive a lot of joy when I see the sick and the vulnerable being healed. This is because I know it is not our medicine that heals them. After all, more often than not, all that we have to offer them was just our First Aid medications.

VOM: *What parts of missions would you like a change or do differently?*

MM: It will still be the issue of training. The need for training, spiritual mapping, language acquisition, raising of prayer and financial support before venturing into the field and the need to have mentors for would-be missionaries.

VOM: *What is your greatest disappointment or disillusionment?*

MM: None. The Lord has been faithful, His grace has always been sufficient.



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VOM: *What are your most treasured memories?*

MM: When people turn away from idols to Christ. I remember a Muslim man in Mauritania who gave his life to Christ and was going about with Jesus Film video Cassettes even to the point of playing it at the Mosque before he was driven out; this is one of my treasured memories.

VOM: *In what specific ways has life been richer because of your commitment to missions?*

MM: When I was working as a Nun, I experienced a lot of burn out but working as a missionary is different; because of the privilege of laying every burden at the feet of the cross. I have also enjoyed renewed strength.

VOM: *What is/are your favorite scripture(s) that relate to your experience?*

MM: Psalm 121. The Lord used this Psalm to lift me at one of my very low moments after which I received a definite miracle. Also Psalm 103.

VOM: *Who is your missionary model?*

MM: Dr. Helen Roseveare

VOM: *What advice will you give to women or people who are in missions or about to go into missions?*

MM: I will advise an aspiring missionary not to be rash in making decisions. They should seek training. Know themselves very well, as in their strengths and weaknesses, as well as their breaking point. They

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should seek to know the culture of the people group they want to reach. They should be mature Christians, who observe regular Quiet time and know the Bible. They should work on character development before venturing into the missionary field. They should seek to

know the specific area they will function in on the

mission field and then pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance or direction.

VOM: *What is your view on this COVID-19 Pandemic?*

MM: I see it as a wake-up call to mankind to acknowledge the sovereignty of God. It is one of the signs of the last days. Considering the alarming increase in wickedness and lawlessness in our society, even in the church; it is a wake-up call to discipleship and the need to go back to the Bible.

Interview conducted by **Rhoda Oluwkemi Appiah**. Rhoda is married with three children. She is a pioneering missionary of Fullstature Missions International together with her husband, Rev. Daniel Hyde Appiah. She is a lover of God and His word, with an overwhelming desire to see God's kingdom advance in every sphere of society. Contact: kemiappiah@gmail.com

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