

Louange Cote Ouest 2010

Dear Friends,

As I write this report it has been two weeks since the end of the Conference. This year it was particularly difficult to bring things together. At some points it was just like walking through mud but finally everything came together. I wonder sometimes how we manage to do these things but then with the Lord all things are possible if it is in His plan and purpose.

We were organised with about 60 team members, which is enough in itself. We want to say a big thank you to everyone who played their part both seen and unseen. We cannot do anything without the practical and spiritual input that was given. The team this year had a rather international feel about it. We were particularly blessed to have a team of six from South Africa with us. Thank you to Suzanne & Simon for acting as house parents for the team. We also thank the Lord for the good weather, which always helps things along.

It is difficult to put into words the sounds, sights and emotions, concerning what took place. One thing that I am sure of is that Heaven is open over the Vendee (West Coast of France). The Lord was manifest amongst us and I know that he was at work by His Holy Spirit.

We were making preparations "on the ground" well in advance of the conference. For those of you who don't know, prayer intercessors from the UK were on site preparing both spiritually and physically a month beforehand. I walked into the marquee on the Wednesday prior to the conference to find that all of the flooring had been removed and was being repaired. I was rather shocked. Thank you to those who worked so hard in making everything good again. We believe that not only was a new physical foundation being laid, but Our Father was also laying a new spiritual foundation for His conference

Thursday saw many of the team members coming together and by the afternoon the marquee was a hive of activity. As I put it, the painters and decorators came in and transformed the place. We ended up with an Angelic Host suspended in the air thanks to Sarah and the children. By Thursday evening the transformation had taken place and we were ready. Thank you to all who cleaned and moved chairs and tables. Also for Chris (John'Son & Light) for setting up the lighting and sound system.

By Thursday evening the team and early delegates came with expectancy to the foundational informal praise and prayer meeting. This had naturally followed on from our once a month prayer meetings. Led by Patrick, Marie-Noelle & Colin, we just came into the presence of Our God. It was a time of reflection and preparation. Some of us felt so tired we just needed to re-focus on what the conference was all about.

On Friday morning many delegates arrived along with local day visitors. The amazing administrative skills of Malcolm were at full stretch on the welcome desk, at some points. But, thank you Lord, many difficulties were overcome. It was good to see some new faces as well as those who had been to previous Conferences. Again one hour before every main meeting there was group prayer in one of the houses. I feel sure that one day there will be a real, physical manifestation of fire, in the house of prayer. When you got to the door, you were almost overwhelmed by the presence of the Lord.

Following on from a vision received at the start of the planning for this year's conference; people were asked to take a stone and write their name upon it as they came into the marquee. At an appropriate time they were invited to place the stone symbolically at the foot of the cross. Each stone to represent a burden laid down.

The worship in the first session was lead by our friends Rob & Cynthia. One of the striking songs is the battle cry from the west written by Rob. Yes, Louange Cote Ouest, (West Coast Worship) rose as the Shofar called us to worship Our God. We must remember that we are in a Spiritual battle and sometimes it is hard but we are on the winning side no matter what. David Champion was our first speaker and

brought us to the theme of the Conference (Eph Ch3 v14-20 Ch4 v1-16). As with every session we allow the Lord to minister and opportunity for prayer was afforded to all those who wanted it.

In the afternoon the workshops were up and running and it was good to see everyone involved. We were particularly pleased this year, to provide two workshops for children and young people, which required us to invest in another marquee. Just one look into their tents and you could see that they were engaged and all having a great time. I even think the leaders were having a good time as well. Thank you, Chris, Harvey & Neil for your investment.

In the evening, worship was led by Simon who had stepped in at short notice. Again it was a pleasure to have Fr Timothee with us and we received an encouraging word. It was also interesting to discover that he was bi-lingual. It is great to know that there are no barriers with language. At the end of the session, people took advantage to come forward and receive prayer from our wonderful prayer team. It would also be appropriate at this point, to say a very special thank you to our team of translators, who did a marvellous job

Again the evening was not over as we had arranged for a special late night event in the bar area. We were privileged to have with us Tina Provenzano. Tina is an American lady singer who owns a café bar in Royan. Besides good food she ministers to her customers by singing about the love of her life; Jesus. We thank her for her sacrifice in coming, especially as this was the start of her busy season. It was great to be able to pray for her and her bass guitar player and to see Wayne healed.

By Saturday morning it was just as if the Spiritual gear stick had been moved from 1st and crashed into 3rd. The prayer house again was on fire in expectancy. The house was full of prayer warriors and what a formidable group they were. Brothers and sisters on fire for the Lord.

The worship was again led by Simon. Everything was rolling and it was good to have Didier with us sharing the Lords Heart. We were challenged not to be sitting back but to advance on and attack the enemy. It was a stirring message and one, which had to be responded to. There was a Holy Spirit pause and as I made the call for a response I was not prepared for what happened. The whole congregation on mass stood up and came forward like a wave. The prayer team again were in action for over an hour.

I know from various quarters that the workshops were well appreciated and I actually decided to join myself with the flag/banner workshop for the afternoon. I was glad to see that I was not on my own (especially as I had challenged men over 40 to participate). There were about 22 of us in the workshop lead by Sophie. Whilst in the workshop and moving around I realised that this was truly international. There we were on the west coast of France but somehow many nations were represented. So is this another dimension for LCO? I began to count the nations, France, Belgium, Holland, Australia, USA, UK ...I felt to cry out "Welcome to the United Nations". I will again come back to this later. We had a great time of teaching and worshipping.

The evening worship was led by Marc. He had previously warned me that his style would be slightly rock. When the Lord is in control then worship is worship. Jean-Philippe was with us and the unconventional evening was to continue. We are again especially thankful to Jean-Philippe for coming considering that his wife was about to give birth to twins within days. We are pleased to say that the twins Paul-Emmanuel & Maylis have arrived and they and Mum, Caroline are doing well. The double act of Jean-Philippe preaching and Andy West translating gave that special touch again.

Later in the bar we had another late night live which included classical guitar pieces played by Chris and a testimony time. It was good to have the testimony update of John from Dudley. and we were especially pleased to have Alistair with us. It was the first time that Alistair had shared his testimony after being saved from a life of drugs and prison. We thank them both for the physical work they also did behind the scenes. Unseen, appreciated and not forgotten, guys.

Following on from the theme of welcome to the United Nations I made a call asking to know what nations were represented and again I was in for a surprise, added to the nations were Syria, Switzerland, Philippines, Nigeria, Madagascar, Scotland & Wales. Who knows where from for next year?

When Simon stepped into the gap in leading Worship I called them the "Scratch Band" but I was wrong. The Lord said these are my "The Anointed Band". So again we went into worship on Sunday morning expectant of what the Lord might do. We were not to be disappointed as Leon from South Africa came to speak. So the question posed to our French brothers and sisters was, "Why has God sent all these foreigners to France"? The simple answer was because they were the Lord's Blessing to the Nation. This was a powerful message and again how could we have been prepared for the time of ministry that followed. Leon went on to explain that one of their team in SA was a jeweller and that a special ring had been made. It was a sign of a covenant promise, (alliance in French) which had been made to and for France. All the nations represented and everyone from overseas were asked to come forward and pick up a flag and stand in line at the front. The South Africans were in the middle. Our French brothers and sisters were then asked if they were prepared to accept this alliance. They were then invited to come under the tunnel of flags and receive prayer. The SA team prayed over each person after symbolically placing the ring on the finger of each French hand. This was an awesome sight to see and Hearts and Lives were touched. As if this was not enough some children came in dressed a bride without any prompting and then walked past and in front of the people. How prophetic this was. The Bride was ready. Amazing, the tears flowed. The ministry took so long that we ran right over time and into that allotted for the final session.

The decorators were in again and another transformation took place at the front. There was a river flowing right from the Cross down and across the floor to the lectern. In it's flow were the stones with the delegates' names on them. Again a powerful visual aid. The final session had arrived and the challenge for David was how do you follow what was such a specially anointed time. But the words were not for David to give but those of the Lord. We cannot comprehend what the Lord has done and continues to do in this land of France. What we do know is that Spiritually, Heaven touch Earth in the Vendee. The conference ended with one of our SA team playing and singing a song of benediction over the conference. The song inspired and composed whilst she sat in her car 8 thousand miles away from France. But I believe that in Heaven the perfect composer gave the words he wanted sung.

There were also prophetic words given at the Conference and I believe these are worthy of note.

The gate in the east of France was open and now the west gate is open. The wind of the Spirit of the Lord is galloping east like horses and cavalry on ancient Christian pathways. It's also Interesting to note that a boat race started the same weekend going east from Saint Gilles to Saint Petersburg. Since when do boat races from the west coast of France go eastwards? Following the conference, we received some belated gifts, which arrived in our letterbox, at the same time as some publicity from a local building firm. The heading said "En robes Cote Ouest". In other words "West Coast Covered" Hallelujah! On the publicity there was a before and after picture. One was of a new house where the driveway was just broken ground. The second picture showed the same house with a perfectly laid, red, tarmac path. It brought to mind Isaiah 62...France is being redeemed!

On a practical note thank you all for your help in packing everything up at the end and leaving the marquee tidy. Once again we can tell you that all the costs of the Conference were covered. Thank you too for giving so generously. We have sufficient funds to set a mandate once again for Louange Cote Ouest 2011. Remember if you received, were inspired, challenged, healed or released we want to know your testimonies. Finally thank you to Spring Harvest – Pas Opton for providing your superb facilities.

May the Lord Bless You until we see you again.

Colin, Sue, Colin, Martine & Anabel

PS Keep an eye on www.louangecoteouest.com
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