



**“So we don’t look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever.”**

**2 Cor 4: 8**

Turning Point’s Chairman & Treasurer, Peter & Paul, have just returned from a visit to Kenya. It’s so vital that they go and whenever they do, they come back energised! Why? Because the people “over there” become the people they sit and eat with, the friends and colleagues they listen to and learn from. It makes it relational and it makes it real. It makes the harsh struggles real as once again they walk into the heart of a slum and their physical senses attempt to grapple with what it would really mean to have to live this life every single day. But it also makes real the incredible good news of what God is doing through Turning Point in a place like Kibera. These two realities stand in stark contrast. The one that gets reported in the West shouts, “Despair!” and yet the evidence they encounter on each trip also shouts, “Hope! Life! Joy!”

Kenya right now is as corrupt as it has ever been. People who have lived there for many decades are worried in a new way. What’s more, there are elections in August. Those three sentences give ample cause for fear and cynicism. And yet, in Kenya right now there are also lives being transformed. Families given dignity. Children given opportunity. A fruitful harvest blossoming. The tangible love of Jesus being shown in a myriad of ways, of which Turning Point is just one tiny part. Because God is Sovereign over all and the promises He has made are timeless and unaltered by circumstances! (1 Pet 1 : 25)

What we see, is largely the result of what we look for. If we are not careful, our expectations become so shaped by the constant noise of the media that there is no room left for the peace that comes from the unchanging word of God. That’s why Paul tells us to focus on what is true, pure, excellent or praiseworthy (Phil. 4 : 8). In these current times, surely, we need to be even more vigilant? That’s not to say we should be naïve. We can be informed and aware – yet grounded in HIS truth and choosing our focus with intention. Doing so marks us out as His people : people of hope! There is always room for the love of God to flourish in any conditions. That’s the truth!

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