

God told me that if I'd make myself willing and available,
He'd send me around the world to spark His hope.
So I've gone...

For the one | For the One

State of the Adventure

SUMMER 2022





Welcome!

It's been a wild ride, a journey of the unpredictable, the impossible made possible. I've seen light shatter darkness, good overcome evil, and the move and whispers of God like the breeze and like a roaring ocean. I've seen people find new hope and freedom in Christ like never before. **It's been the most humbling adventure, and I couldn't have done it without you.**

THE STATE OF THE ADVENTURE is a snapshot and invitation for you to taste and see what God has done around the globe through **The Hope Adventure** in the past year. It's a small glimpse of a radical God who goes out of His way in the form of Jesus' relentless love to encounter us as we are, and to call us to abundant life in Himself.

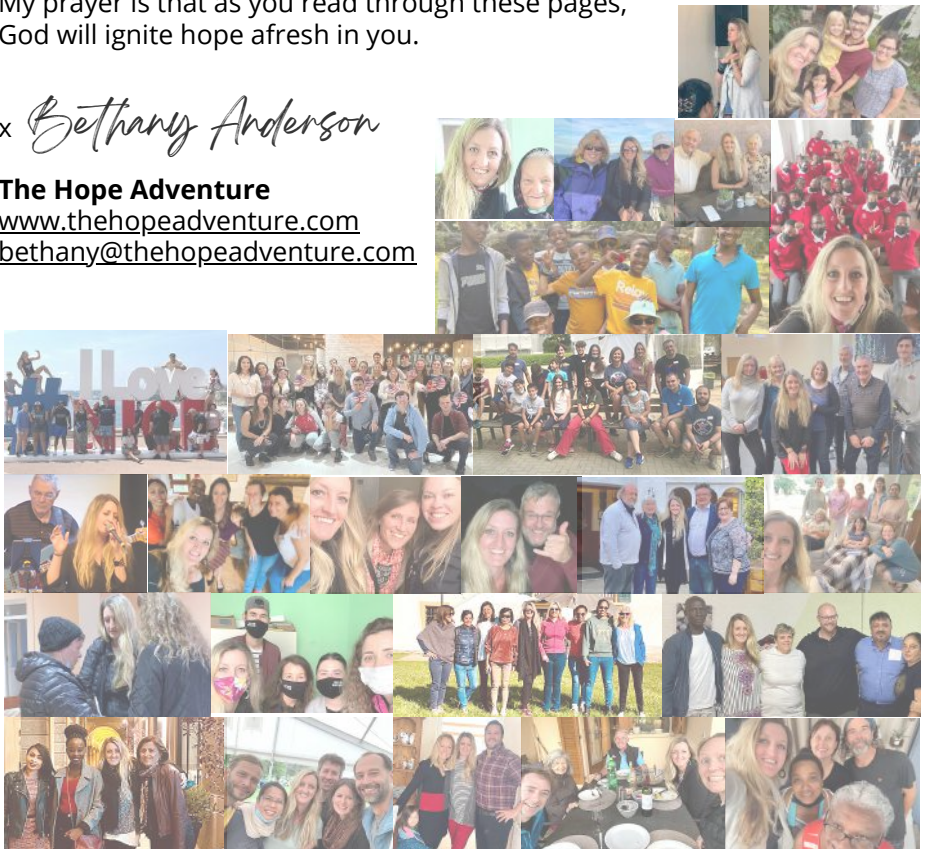
My prayer is that as you read through these pages, God will ignite hope afresh in you.

x *Bethany Anderson*

The Hope Adventure

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The Calling

In the Spring of 2021, a series of events became the catalyst for The Hope Adventure Project:

Two God Encounters

1. On a walk with God, He reminded me that though I couldn't see the path ahead, I could see Him and that's what mattered. He then showed me a **field full of people from the nations that were waiting on me to come to them.**
2. In prayer, I saw a picture of Jesus at a feasting table inviting me to set the table with a hand-carved cup and serving tray. When I reached out to set the table, I looked up and saw a **single-file line of "ones" waiting** to receive communion that I would serve them.

Missing Person

My dear friend, Sia, went missing in broad daylight for 3 weeks in South Africa. As I prayed fervently that she'd be found safe, the Lord reminded me that back in 2008, He sent me to South Africa to love on three specific "ones" that needed hope, including her. Eventually she was found, but **this re-awakened my heart to be sent back out to the nations.**

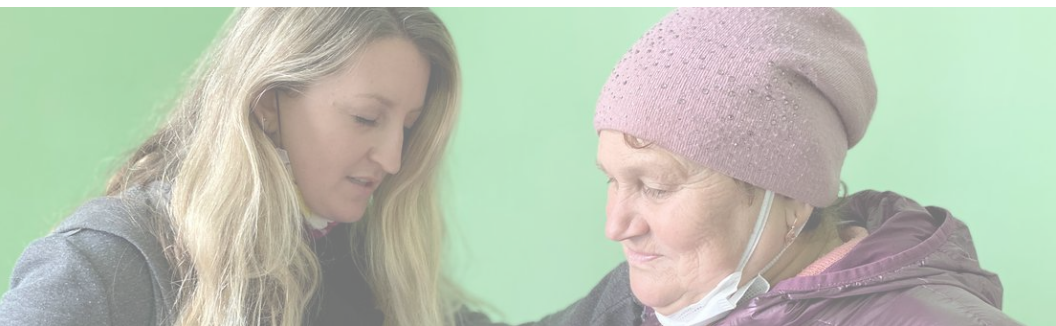
Lunch with a Friend

A friend divinely spoke two words over me: **missionary** and **go**. Through this, God confirmed that it was time to let Him clear the table of my life and **surrender all once again to follow Him wherever He would lead.**

I heard God whisper this:

Bethany, if you are willing and available, I'll send you around the world to 1000s of "ones" to spark my hope in their hearts.

Three months later, I was on a plane to embark on the greatest adventure of my life: 9 months of following the breath of God around the world to meet people *where they are, as they are*, with the desire to encourage and inspire hope in them afresh.



"One" Stories

My favorite thing about Jesus is that He saw individuals and met them where they were. In my desire to live and follow the way of Jesus, it's been my greatest joy to try and emulate this posture - looking for the "one" that needs Hope. Love. A smile. Or kind word. Or a hug. Or a listening ear. Just to know that Jesus is with them. They are not alone. **And neither are you.**

The stories on the following pages are short stories of encounters with "ones."

To get the full version of these stories, check out *The Hope Adventure* on [YouTube](#) or at thehopeadventure.wordpress.com.

Thomas on the train

LONDON, ENGLAND

I saw him walking towards me with his scruffy hair and tattered clothes. I felt God whisper, "Pay attention." The man walked near me and said loudly to the captive audience of train commuters, "My name is Thomas. I'm homeless, a drug addict, and my life hasn't panned out like I wanted. I'm just asking for 10 pounds to get a hot shower and meal."

I asked Thomas to sit next to me and share more of his story. I listened. I then prayed a blessing over him: "God hasn't forgotten you. He sees you. He loves you. You're not alone." Then I handed him 20 pounds.

With tears in his eyes, he followed me off the train and said, "You know what? I was just cursing your God, asking 'Where are You? Why have You forgotten me?' And then, He sent me you. **You gave me money, but more importantly, you gave me God.**"

I watched Thomas shift from disdain to wonder that day.

Wonder is the beginning of worship.

Who might you know that is cursing God under their breath? Who do you know that needs to see the wonder of God again? Maybe it's even you.

Dustbin Babies

INLANTSI CHRISTIAN SCHOOL, SOUTH AFRICA

She spent the first few days of her life discarded in a dustbin on the street corner of a busy, bustling township in the heart of Cape Town.

She was rescued by someone who found her, knew whose she was, and took her to her father, where she was raised until she was sent to live with her aunt in the rural Eastern Cape.

And now the bravest 13-year old I know sat next to me at our closing dinner, joined by her friends and schoolmates, where we shared how we encountered God on our Retreat Weekend.

As I sat and listened, the black in her eyes turned into stars as she faced me. **"Miss Bethany, Jesus was with me in that dustbin. I know that now."**

God has been with each of these precious girls (and with me - with you) every moment of every second of every day of every week of every month of every year of their lives.

Hope Doses

EGOLI INFORMAL SETTLEMENT, SOUTH AFRICA

As I sang a song of declaration over the women from the informal settlement community, women who come from abuse and poverty, disease and trauma - began weeping. Freedom came knocking. An unlocking of the heavy, ushering in the light of the Light.

And then, as I stood there with my arms outstretched singing from the front, I felt a woman grab hold of me in the tightest embrace. She had walked up to touch me, and began weeping over my shoulder as I sang. I held her and we both cried together. Another woman who had knife scars potted across her face came and belted out a song of faith in Africaans, declaring her own freedom in Christ to the listening room.

The power of the Holy Spirit had overtaken the place. Women were set free that day - healed - redeemed - loved - prayed over - anointed - dosed with hope. Five met Jesus for the first time in that gathering and we all walked out knowing we're not alone; **God is with us.**



Angus on the Beach

CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

I sat on the beach and asked God to use me. Just then, a man walked up and said, "My name is Angus and I need to tell you my story."

He shared the tale of his release from 20 years in prison just two days before for murdering his dad who he found stabbing his mother with shards of glass. He told me about his new-found faith, his master tailor skills, and how he'd now been sleeping on the beach because his uncle was trying to kill him to avenge his father's death. He then asked me if I could help him pay to stay at the shelter down the road.

I prayed a blessing over him, handed him money and then he said, "The money you gave me didn't change my life. **You sat and listened to me, you valued me, you saw me for who I am.** You took the time. This moment will be part of my testimony forever. In fact, I prayed this morning that God would put the right person on my path. **He sent me you.** Thank you."



Whose path might God be putting you on today?

True Sight

CHISINĂU, MOLDOVA

We distributed 100s of reading glasses across three villages in rural Moldova, preaching from [John 8:12](#), where Jesus said: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

Afterwards, Natalia walked up to me and said, "**Thank you for seeing us today.** It's been a very hard time through Covid and your love and the gift of Jesus' sight goes a long way."

VEVANCY, FRANCE

Girl in a Chapel

I was praying in my favorite chapel in France overlooking the Alps, and a little girl in a pink dress walked in alone while her family waited outside.

The Lord whispered, "**Sing over her, Bethany.**" It was an odd request, but I mustered my courage and began to sing out, "A-le-lu-ia. For the Lord God Almighty reigns." I don't know what happened in that girl's heart in that moment, but **I know the Lord asked me to create a moment for her to ponder Him.** Sometimes it's as simple as that.

How can you create a moment for someone to reflect on God today?

Thank You!

For your faithful prayers and support that empowered me to follow the breath of God around the world from

JULY 2021 to MAY 2022

THE JOURNEY:

- 13 countries: *France, Monaco, Italy, Switzerland, San Marino, England, Moldova, Turkey, Mexico, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Ireland, Scotland*
- 32 flights
- 37 train rides
- countless bus & underground rides
- 11 cars driven (manual transmission)
- 7 cars driven (left side of the road)
- 43 beds slept-in at various friends' homes / ministry centers
- 9 times sick
- countless Covid tests, travel delays, restrictions
- over 1,000,000 steps walked

IGNITING HOPE:

- 5 women's retreats led
- 27 individual Spiritual Direction sessions led
- 33 churches visited globally
- 3 ministry vision-casting sessions facilitated
- 13 internationally diverse projects supported
- 6 worship services led
- 6 Bible classes taught
- 5 sermons preached
- 5 "ones" made decisions for Christ
- countless new friends, ministry partners, and "ones" met with the love and hope of Jesus

GLOBAL FRIENDS | MINISTRY PARTNERS:



Join the Adventure

"The Lord is my portion," says my soul,
"therefore I will hope in him."

~ Lamentations 3:22



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Join Prayer Team

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