



*Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> June 2012:* We were up with the birds, listened to a Bible Class and had a word of prayer. Knowing we had a phenomenal support system of the entire Battalion of Prayer Warriors behind us, we set out in the early dawn to our destination - the South Africa Police Academy (SAPA).



We were greeted by a courteous young man who helped us unload and set up. Then we waited for the “troops” to file in; and file in they did – about 180 of them, smartly and proudly decked out in their Police uniforms and spit-shined boots. On the screen was the slide Tom had put up: “**Advanced Weapons Training.**” We didn’t know what they had been told they would be learning, but knew it would be nothing they’d ever heard before. A Trainee, who had been assigned to help us with the set-up, warned us that they may be quiet for only the first 5 minutes after which they would begin to be distracted and talk amongst themselves. We expected that, realising that this was not part of their “official” training. Together with a few other trainees, Cheryl stood in the very back and was therefore able to observe the entire auditorium.



After the introduction, Tom opened with a word of prayer. Throughout the over one hour lecture, Tom likened the “Weapons” to being the strength and courage of Esther, the humility and teachability of Onesimus, the integrity and leadership of Joseph and the grace and honour of Paul. They were respectful, attentive, and laughed when Tom tried to pronounce a couple of Zulu words; they certainly seemed to follow him.

In the last fifteen minutes, Tom told them what had made a difference in his life – the Lord Jesus Christ! He proceeded to give the Gospel, telling them if they had taken in nothing else, this would be *the most critical* information of their lives. One could have heard a pin drop! At the end, he asked them to bow their heads, and to a man (and woman), *everyone bowed their heads!* Another thing we found quite encouraging, was that when Tom finished his class and dismissed them, no one left; no one moved. Tom asked them (kiddingly), if they wished him to keep going, and surprisingly, they hollered out, YES! So Tom continued for about another fifteen minutes. Following that, they were dismissed and went out into formation.



Another Trainee, Rekesh, who was IT and electronics proficient, was of Indian descent and a Hindu. He was positive about what he heard and stayed with us until we departed, about an hour later. We may not know how many, if any, would have accepted Christ as their Saviour today. But we do know that even the soul of one who does believe in Him, is far more precious to our Lord than the millions who only give lip service. Several hung around after formation, came up and thanked us, and showed genuine interest in some of the basic books of RBT, Jr. Rekesh himself took some books. A young lady called us later and told us how much she appreciated what was taught; then actually sang to us - over the phone (as they do when they sing a “Praise Song.”)



So once again, we thank you, most gratefully for your prayers. This was an “assignment” like no other; something completely “unknown” and “foreign” and thought it would be far more of a challenge than it turned out to be. For that, we realize and gratefully acknowledge, the **Power of Prayer!**



This 5ft Constable, named Patience, carries a deadly Beretta and is as tough as Bill Kesler’s encounter with a lady prison Sheriff.