



Missionaries to Malawi

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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

II Kings 6:17a And Elisha prayed, and said unto the Lord, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see....

If only people could see God at work and what he wants to do through us and to us!

We have continued to work within our ministries at the Mapanga Good Samaritan Baptist Church while our home in Ntcheu is being built. I have had many opportunities to preach and teach. Darcy has been teaching in a woman's Sunday School, and a Sunday night Junior Church. Elizabeth and Sarah do a Wednesday night Junior Church and Johnathan helping out wherever he is needed. We have been going out soul winning with many people repenting and accepting the Gift of God!

Darcy has continued teaching a Bible study at a private girl's school in Njuli with about 30 girls in attendance each week. Just this last week 3 girls memorized 13 to 18 Scripture verses and they received a hard bound copy of God's Word! What a blessing!

We also have continued to go to remote villages in the area of Ntcheu and at one village 36 people came to know the Savior, including the Mafoom and his Madam, (wife). Many of these people walked approximately 1.5 Km the following Sunday to attend church at the new orphanage church by Kasinji. Also, many of them were part of the 39 people baptized by Pastor Joseph Mawata in a small stream after the church service.

Three weeks ago Darcy and I conducted a "Pastor's School" for 25 pastors and their wives in the area of Kasinji/Monkey Bay. I and Pastor Joseph taught the men and women during the morning sessions. During the afternoons Darcy taught the women and I the men. We had a wonderful two days with these dear people as we taught, learned, and fellowshiped with them. We camped out in the back of our vehicle during the night, and it was not too bad. They presented us with a special lunch on Thursday of Sima, (corn porridge), goats lungs, liver, kidney and intestines. These are considered the choice cuts and we were honored. Pastor Joseph and his wife Mercy translated for us during the day, and at night we traveled to Pastor Joseph's house for his nightly bible study.

I would like to share with you a little about Pastor Joseph. He is about 28 or 29 years old with a wife, Mercy, two small biological children, and two adopted orphans, 14 & 18 years. They moved to Kasinji from Zomba, about 2 hours south, just before we arrived in Malawi. They are currently renting a very small house, 16X20, in Kasinji and they have had to make new friends

and acquaintances. They are not from that area thus people look at them as outsiders. His income is very small; \$47 this last month, and the only furniture Darcy and I have seen in their home is a table and two very rickety chairs. This young man is a “choice” man of God. He travels 5 Km to the new orphanage every morning and has devotions with the workers. He soul wins during the day and sets up contacts so that when I come up we can go together and he translates for me. Every evening he has a Bible class for the people of Kasinji that have accepted Christ as their Lord. I have been there for several of these studies and he has had between 90 & 120 people in the home, on his porch and standing in the front area listening. He is Biblically sound, and he is very interested in making sure the pastor’s in the area of Ntcheu & Monkey Bay are well grounded and trained in God’s word. He has a heart for the Lord and I have not found him lacking!

Neither he nor his wife has ever complained to Darcy or I and they have been a tremendous blessing to our family. Last Friday Mercy miscarriage and lost their baby. They had no money to get to the Ntcheu medical clinic, (90 Km away) for medicine, and for her transportation home. We helped out with some finances, and Darcy made up a basket of food for her as well as some encouragement gifts.

To God’s glory they have again not said one discouraging word.

Several weeks ago the District Commissioner of Ntcheu had a meeting with us and he informed us that the land we have in Ntcheu has come under scrutiny and they are talking about reducing the amount of land we have. We have a meeting with the District Commissioner this coming Saturday and our lawyer will be there. Without going into a long detail we are going to have to give some of the land back to the government so that they can give it to some of the local villagers, but the amount has yet to be determined. When we purchased the land from Unilever of South Africa last year we thought we were purchasing a clear title to the land, but in fact we were purchasing a 99 year lease from the Country of Malawi. Things can change very quickly here, and I know God will allow us to have the amount of land that is good for His Glory.

More and more we see the needs of the people, communities and government of Malawi. Please pray for:

1. Wisdom with the District Commissioner concerning the land.
2. Pastor Joseph, his wife & family
3. The construction of our home in Ntcheu
4. That we would be sensitive to God’s leading with the National Pastors
5. Electrical Power at the new orphanage site
6. Funding for new orphans and the construction of the new orphanage

Thank you for all your prayers, support and thoughts!

By His Grace & Mercy,

John, Darcy, Elizabeth
Sarah & Johnathan