

MADISON WENGER

SERVING IN AFRICA NEWSLETTER

APRIL AND MAY UPDATE

Time is passing very quickly, and though hard to believe- almost seven months have come and gone since my arrival in Victoria Falls in November. If you were to ask what I have learned through my short time here, I would answer, "I have learned how much I have to learn."

The African people are warm and inviting people. Their needs are great both physically and spiritually. Finding the balance of what to prioritise and how to help is something we greatly depend on God's wisdom for.

April was a full month of school visits, discipleship, outreach, and different programs for the children. The church hosted a Holiday Bible Club, or what we in America would call a vacation Bible school.

For many weeks ahead, the small discipleship group that meets in Lupinyu, worked hard to pass out pamphlets and invitations. We had many helpers from the smallest child to our young adults spending their days going homestead to homestead, encouraging the community to come. I was greatly encouraged to see the result of their hard work and I believe that the Lord blessed the effort. Many, many children came from the village. (I have included pictures of the event and also the outreach and leafleting.) They sang the Gospel, heard the Gospel, and watched the Gospel from the reenactment of the life of Paul.

A portion of the month of April I spent traveling. This served many purposes, but mainly I was able to reunite with family, grab needed supplies for the work in Zimbabwe, celebrate my cousin's wedding, and graduate from Crown College with my Masters of Education. I praise the Lord for guiding every step and granting me travel safety, but I am too thankful not to share how my Heavenly Father allowed me the opportunity to present at a missions conference only 1 hour from where we were celebrating my cousin's wedding.

My precious Mother, who happens to be one of my greatest friends, willingly drove me. I praise the Lord for her; and even though it seemed to be a 'spur-of-the-moment' coincidence, the night at the missions conference filled my cup and gave me a renewed vision of serving the Lord. We know the Lord directs our steps if we call upon Him to.

Once I returned to Zimbabwe, doors into many school opened and many schools responded to the school rally saying that their learners were hard at work memorising Scripture, studying for the Bible quiz, learning the Romans Road, and much more.

The door is open! and the harvest is great! and we need more labourers!

Highlights of February:

-- Our discipleship group has been growing slowly, and those attending have been faithful. Pray that each of them truly grasp what is being taught from God's Word and apply it in their lives.

-Our efforts in the schools of the area has been rewarding. The community loves their children, and are thankful for the team's investment. Something incredible has been 'Scripture Union'- a committee dedicated to teaching the Bible in schools. God has given us favour with that community and this allows us a full green light into a majority of primary and secondary schools. WOW!

- On my travels, I was blessed to meet Christians in every leg of my journey. This is an answer to prayer. I believe we encouraged each other.

-We have seen God work in the lives of those that we are discipling. We have seen the light the Gospel shine bright in a spiritually dark world. Just as with planting a tree, it takes time to water, tend, and allow the seed to grow strong. Pray that we have patience and vision for what One day could be.





Highlights of May

- We celebrated Mother's Day with our church. Many beautiful families attended and I believe the women were made to feel very special. Also, we have begun forming a singing group with all of the ladies of the church- mothers or not. THIS has been incredible. I wish everyone could hear the power behind the Ndebele hymns and the strength of the voices of these women.

-The school ministry has been growing. The Lord has been blessing us with favour within the school administration both in primary and secondary schools. There are dozens of schools and thousands of children just within the city limits of Victoria Falls, not including the rural areas.



PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Growth in our Young Adults. We have many that come from so many different backgrounds and home lives. It is difficult for them to pull away from the distractions when it requires so much of them to survive.
- Establishment of Victoria Falls Baptist Church. Our God is working and it is wonderful to see His hand guiding believers together.
- The Crown Zimbabwe Team. Lord-willing we will have two more members joining our team here. Pray for unity.
- School Event June 6th!! This is a great event that has required much preparation. Pray pray pray for souls to be saved.
- Finances for a personal vehicle.
- Finances for Building Needs. With the new team members coming, we are needing to build living space. As well as, on church property.

PRAISES:

- Protection of the Lord throughout travels and working in a foreign country.
- My TEP came through! I no longer need to go to immigration monthly.
- God's continued provision.
- Spiritual growth in our young adults and in our Sunday schools.