



Missionaries To

Botswana, Africa



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CAMPING – CRIME – COVID

JULY / AUGUST 2020

A week ago Cindy and I were packing up from a 6-day camping excursion in the wilderness of Botswana some 8 hours away from home. We had no cell phone or internet service for five days and called to check in with Emily when we got a signal. She informed us that there had been 3 (now 4) break in armed robberies in our neighborhood that week. Also, government put our capital city back on lockdown with only 3 hours advance notice as Covid cases increased. Two hours from home we had problems buying diesel fuel due to an 8 pm curfew that shut down the stations. THEN, we were just barely let past the military checkpoint that allowed us back into our part of the country. BUT Cindy and I enjoyed a wonderful couples retreat in the bush! Couples retreat you ask? Yes, because it was just she and I, (with no social distancing ☺) and we encountered over 18 lions. And when **A COUPLE** of them (2 full grown males) came walking into our camp it caused us to **RETREAT** into the truck. And brother...“I ain’t lion (lying).” My names not Daniel but I definitely prayed three times a day! The Lord kept us safe and gave us some much needed time together. Cindy made an awesome video of the highlights which can be seen on YouTube by typing in: Mabuasehube Holiday

Covid 19 hit close to home when my (Mikes) parents contracted the virus in July and some of our dearest friends have also been afflicted. Botswana has been mildly affected compared to much of the rest of the world. It seems that all of us (Christians and churches) are being affected most by the spiritual oppression and economic impact of the pandemic more than anything but we continue to trust in the faithfulness of the Lord in these troubling times.

VISION AND PROVISION

Last week, as we travelled across a different part of the country and through many villages with no evidence of ANY kind of a church, my vision for evangelizing ALL of Botswana was renewed. By God’s grace it will be done through the preaching and teaching of the Word of God in legitimate churches pastored by trained & Spirit filled men that are fulfilling the Great Commission with **BIBLICAL VISION**. In America, *anarchy* and *apathy* is at work to destroy the Biblical heritage of our nation. In Africa, there is an overwhelming *ABSENCE* of Biblical knowledge. In spite of the progress that has been made in years gone by, this is still the dark continent and Satan has effectively blinded the minds of the masses with the prosperity gospel, ancestor worship, traditional healers (witchdoctors), animism, and so much more.

As we have prayed for co- laborers, God continues to raise them up from within Botswana and has called others from outside of Botswana to form a ministry team with a mutual goal to love, win, disciple, and train a generation of Christian men and women to reach their country with the gospel. The present setbacks of this Covid crisis can make that seem like a far-off fantasy but our faith and vision is rooted in the promises of God! In these last days, the spirit of anti-christ is definitely strong but the Word of God is not bound. As I observe how the Lord is working in spite of the difficulties I am encouraged that the greatest days of ministry in Botswana are just ahead and the Lord is sending in the help needed to get it done before the Lord takes His church out of this world. Please pray by name for these folks that are in preparation / waiting to come and join our ministry team here in Botswana:

1. Foremost being the Grace Baptist Church family - especially Monty & Boitumelo, Morris, Donald, Cindy, Emily, and me
2. Pastor Harly & Rosaline Catalino are church planters in the Philippines on deputation to come to Botswana
3. Ms. Pamela Wieler is in Uganda settling her affairs this month. Please pray for her safety in travels as she returns later this month to the US to finish her furlough and make preparations for the move to Botswana in December / January.
4. Ms. Monica Yoder is from Indiana and came on a mission trip last year. She’ll be returning in January for a 5-6 month mission and survey trip.
5. Bro. Albert & Elizabeth Krause & their 3 daughters are from Germany, served as missionaries in Tanzania, and are now praying / planning to come to Botswana. They’re on furlough in Germany and Albert is travelling to Tanzania later this month to settle their affairs there. Pray for safe travels and for the Lord to confirm His will in their heart.

In closing let me express a word of great Praise and Thanksgiving. Last month we received an anonymous gift of \$1100. We prayed and the Lord led us to divide it out amongst our families in the church most of whom are very impacted financially from the pandemic. It worked out to be about \$25 per family / individual - not much to most of us in America but a lot of help to people here where an average income is about \$350 a month. “I’m going to buy electricity.” “It could not have come at a more needed time.” “We’re going to be able to buy groceries this week.” I wish you could have heard the joy in the voices of those who have called to express their appreciation.

Thank you – all of you – for giving to the Lord! You are always in our heart and in our constant prayers!

The Haley Family