

A C R O S S A F R I C A

Field Report from the Hafler Family in Zambia

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Box 21443 Kitwe, Zambia • cell: +260.978.277.882 • www.stevehafler.com • Gospel Fellowship Association Mission

Cornerstone Baptist Church

Sunday mornings and Wednesday afternoons find us driving on the deteriorating roads of Wusakili where chickens run the streets and children play near ditches filled with sewage water. The people look inquisitively and yell “*musungu*” (white person). We arrive to a dirty and unkept rented classroom. Our children help pick up trash, dust the tables, and sweep the floor. Last Sunday Micah erased graffiti on the wall behind where the pulpit is placed. We swatted mosquitoes that were aggravated by the moving of the classroom desks (probably anopheles mosquitoes since malaria is so prevalent right now). We are also told that Typhoid and Dysentery have its grip in Wusakili as well. As we gather for prayer at 9:15 AM dirty children wearing torn clothes hang on the bars of the window of the classroom looking in to our simple gathering. They are a distraction but Kennedy and Sandala have learned how to show loving firmness. Some of these same children return for the youth outreach at 4PM. We remind ourselves that a church is not its meeting place but its people. We are seeing growth in those who do attend and a family atmosphere has developed. We have been told that the locals believe we are Satanists. This seems to be a tactic to keep people from hearing the teaching of the white man. It also reveals a cultural fear that despises anything new. This fear from the national is in part due to the fact that we are the only white missionaries working in this township (being a novelty is not always a good thing since people tend to fear what they do not understand). Please pray that we will cross this chasm with joyful and patient endurance as we face their fearful resistance. Pray that our family and team would set our light before men that they may see our good works and glorify our Father who is in heaven. Pray for the men that are being trained to humbly lead Cornerstone Baptist Church. Sandala leads prayer time, leads singing, and shares in the preaching responsibilities. Kennedy leads prayer time, leads singing, and teaches the children. We are all involved in evangelism, visitation, and training. Pray for me as I continue to study and work towards speaking Bemba. The locals certainly appreciate our effort to speak their heart language even when we do fumble the linguistics ball. The Wusakili outreach is approximately 90% Bemba so I have a ways to go.



Sandala teaches with puppets.

12 Seater Toyota Van Arrives!

During our last furlough Cornerstone Baptist Church in Greenville, SC took on a project to raise funds for a vehicle that was suitable for a growing family of eight (two of us are trying not to grow :) These dear folks under the leadership of Pastor Gary Reimers took the brunt of this task. Our children have outgrown our off-road vehicle, yet we remain in need of a truck that can go where a van can not. A special thanks to Lee Popwell who made all the phone calls and followed up with contacts!

The children are so excited to have leg room and we thank the Lord for this provision. Several of our supporting churches and individuals gave towards this field need. Thank

you. In the picture above our children are in the new Toyota Hiace (it is several years old but it is new to us). That is Emilee in the front seat not Toni :)



Wusakili Youth Outreach

Pray with our church planting team that the youth outreach in the afternoon will build a bridge into the homes of skeptical adults. When we drive up to the school compound at 4PM the children are waiting at the gate for us. Maureen and Axion are especially faithful. They also attend the morning service. Last Sunday we had seventy children which seems to be our average during the rainy season. Two weeks ago there was huge thunderstorm and there were only 4 children when the team arrived. We sing several Bemba songs with the children and we are



Mission team we hosted in Kenya.

teaching them a few English songs. Last week they learned the first two verses of Jonah written by Ron Hamilton. This outreach continues to bear fruit and bring great encouragement to our team as children who walk in darkness are seeing Jesus Christ the light of the world.

Summer Mission Teams

This year it is our privilege to host several teams and groups. During the month of May we will host the Maranatha Baptist Bible College Men's Soccer Team. This team will be led by Jeff Pill. Our plan is to use soccer to reach out to youth in the townships and communities so that these troubled and drifting young people will hear the Gospel message. We also have the opportunity to host the Bob Jones University Africa Team. This team will be led by Dan Olinger. Please pray for these teams, the

leaders and chaperones, and the many opportunities they will have to teach God's word. Both Toni and I traveled on the BJU Kenya team and the Lord used that time in our life in several important ways (marriage and missions :) Many of our coworkers in Zambia have also traveled on mission teams and it is obvious the Lord does use these summer outreaches to direct young people.

"Hope" for Africa?

People have been making a connection between the words "Africa" and "2010" for the past several years. *Football* (soccer) enthusiasts have been anticipating World Cup. This huge event will be held in South Africa this summer and people will gather from all over the world to witness this mega sporting event that occurs only once every four years. I enjoy a good soccer game but it is difficult to get excited about World Cup when Africa remains in such desperate spiritual need amidst all the glitz and hype. Sports gods will be glorified while God and His truth continues to be exchanged for a lie. Pray that this year across Africa (1) God's Word would be preached to those who have never heard, (2) biblical preaching would come from His men rather than personal preferences, politics, and a prosperity message, (3) energy would be put toward careful evangelism rather than mass "decisions" and ministry "photo opportunities," and (4) people would be radically changed (born again) through the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ by His Spirit through simple faith in Christ's death and resurrection. "For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him" (John 3:17).

Your missionaries to Zambia,

Steve and Toni, Emilee, Stephanie, Joshua, Annabelle, Micah, and Isaiah



Kennedy leads games with the children.