



Saved By God's Grace Newsletter



February 2016

My Friends,

We are well into 2016 and it seems to be going fast. Maybe I am just feeling some age, but to me the months are going by quickly. It seems I deal with the same issues, go through the same emotions, see the same small victories, and pray a lot for the Lord to have mercy and give grace to those we try to help. Most we work with are in crisis mode....some live in crisis mode. They go from one issue to the next, not knowing if they or their children will eat tomorrow; stay dry when there is no dry place to be found and the roof is leaking and the mud floors are sinking; get their kids in school when they don't have money for fees; not knowing if anyone cares about their situation or even knows the situation they are in...hope can fade quickly. While I think time is going by faster, I can imagine how slow it can go for those in daily need.

The funny thing is, it doesn't take that much to give them hope, to show them there are people who do care, and this can change lives. Some of the programs we run simply have elderly women get together and talk and have some food. Just by doing this they can share their hardships, see there are others that can empathize with them, and there are people who care. They are told there is a hope beyond earthly things and that hope is found in Jesus.



Other programs assist kids, who would lose hope and self-esteem, get back in or stay in school. Without education the future is bleak for most kids in third-world countries. Another program is getting involved with a local church to assist in building up the knowledge and love for Jesus and help them find hope and fellowship in a local body of Christ.



I have to remind myself that amidst all of the pain and suffering we deal in, Jesus is my hope too. I do not deal with hopelessness because I have family and many friends who, if I were in need, would be at my side. Also, my faith in Jesus, who will make all things new, gives me a peace and contentment which I pray shows to those who do not have that hope and I pray they are moved to find it in Him. I pray that by the grace of the Holy Spirit I am a good example of what living a Christ-centered life is and it would encourage others.

So, while things continue to move a little quicker timewise to me, the issues seem to be the same issues and the answer to me remains the same...it is Jesus. Like I said, I will never understand the hopelessness felt by those we serve because I simply have hope through people around me and an Ultimate Hope which I find in Christ. As the great philosopher, Toby Mac (LOL), says, "Speak Life" today...give someone hope who seems to have lost it and direct them to the true hope found in Jesus.

Tammy is doing a great job of keeping the [blog](#) current on all the happenings in the Ministry...let it affect you on a daily basis. Being back in the US has had its challenges. I believe almost all missionaries who have spent an extended time in a foreign country working in corruption and poverty will tell you the US is so unique and most Americans don't have a clue how blessed they are...I will tell you it is true. I know one of the blessings the Apostle Paul experienced is being "content" in all things. I am getting better at it, but being content after seeing and knowing what I saw and lived continues on a daily basis, while I am now very happy being with my kids and friends again, it is tough at many levels. Even though I am in touch with my friends and coworkers in Kenya on a daily basis, it is almost a guilty feeling which overcomes me as I sit in my son's house, very comfortable, share coffee with friends, talking to my kids every night, and basically enjoying being alive with thanksgiving. I literally ask my self, was I more content dealing with death, staring it in the face each day, than being content in my setting with my family and friends....I am still unsure about it, but I know I need to be content in both situations. My kids are a priority in my life, but they are going on well. My wife was at the end of her rope in Kenya and when we go back we will be doing it differently so she won't get there again. I understand the effect dealing with all the issues had on my health and sanity and are now looking to be more guarded going forward...but I will tell you we will go forward. The call God places on each of our lives to work within the body of Christ cannot be shirked if we truly live out our belief that Jesus is our Lord and Savior. That relationship is of the utmost importance and we must embrace it and live it to the fullest extent possible, abiding in Him and doing His will for our lives. Don't have any regrets, seek Him always and find your contentment in Him and your service to Him wherever you are and at each stage of life.

Heads up...we are hosting a Kenya trip the end of this summer...want to go? Tammy and I will be heading back to Kenya sometime in the near future, but our immediate plans have been put aside because of an accident we were in. We are both undergoing physical therapy and it is a slow and painful process. With that, we are not sure of what will be happening in the immediate (next three months) future, but we do know, God willing, we will be heading to Kenya in September of this year. We have a woman who has made plans to travel to Kenya to stay and participate in the ministry at that time. Tammy and I will therefore be planning to be back in Kenya for about three months anywhere in between August through November...we would be happy to have you join us. If you are feeling led to do so please contact us immediately and we can begin to work with you to get ready for an experience you will never forget. It may seem like August is a long ways away, but not for getting ready to go to Kenya. My email is chuck@savedbygodsgrace.org and tammy's is tammy@savedbygodsgrace.org. You can reach us at those emails and we can begin to talk about you coming to Kenya...I assure you it will be a life-changing experience.

If you would like to support any projects we do, please take time to go to our website at www.SavedByGodsGrace.org by clicking [HERE](#). We are showing the love of Christ daily through many outreaches and would love to have you participate with us. Once at the website you can peruse it and see what is happening. You can go to the [blog](#) and see what is occurring right now and the immediate needs. You can click on the "[Donate Now](#)" button and make a one-time or a monthly recurring donation. Anything you are led to do would be appreciated. Everything done is

for the glory of God and the good of His people to show them love and hope. We truly believe by doing this they will come to know the true God, Jesus Christ, who is the True Hope. Thanks for your consideration.

Serving with you only by His grace,

Chuck

Missionary to Kenya

