



Saved By God's Grace Newsletter

October/November 2014

Hi Friends,

When is Jesus not enough...never. Never will I leave you nor forsake you. I will remember your sins no more. The Father knows every single hair on your head. Scripture tells us many things about how He thinks of us, yet we cannot get that through our heads. I believe it has something to do with our "human nature" (which we were given by Him) which was corrupted by our sin. There have been many times this last month when I wondered "why aren't you moving your people to help...you told me to get the need out and they would respond". Then there were other times I thanked Him for how quickly He moved people to assist. When will I truly rest in Him and allow Him to handle everything?...probably not until this life is done and He completes what He started in me. I try to balance my strengths (given to me by Him) and His strength (perfected in my weakness). I know if I continue in my strength I will never accomplish what His will is. I also realize that He created me to do what He has called me to do so I must act...not just sit around and pray "something" will happen. What I must remember is when I pray "Your will be done", if I simply allow it to happen by His grace it certainly will happen...in His timing and in His way. My faith is built upon a God who loves me so much that He was willing to take the lowly form of His creation and die a terrible death, all the while knowing He could stop it at any time and let me suffer eternally for my sin. I understand the concept although I can't grasp it at the level of our Lord. But to give unselfishly for the good of others, with little concern for your own welfare...that I understand...and embrace. We talk too much and don't act enough. We are coming to the Christmas season. I would ask you to look into your heart and see if Jesus is truly enough for you and that fact is evident in your life by how you act. There are many distractions which occur which sabotage our total devotion to the One who saved us from eternal death. Let's not give into them and instead look into the life and heart of Jesus to know where our true dependence should be and how to live that out....Jesus is enough!

So is this newsletter late...early...what is up? Actually it was planned like this because...I AM GIVING YOU A CHRISTMAS LIST. I didn't want to hit you up before the first holiday of the season, Halloween, but I certainly wanted to get it in before the starting of the most massive spending spree of the year, the day after Thanksgiving. Every year people ask me what I want for Christmas...I tell them I need nothing and truly don't want anything relative to the "normal" Christmas gifts. Today I would honestly tell you I would like some day to be with my family for Christmas (we haven't been with them for Christmas for over 5 years since we have been serving in Kenya)...maybe next year. But, this year I am going to give you a list of things I would like. You will notice none of them are of personal benefit to me, but the hope and joy they will bring to others is certainly a gift to me. So, here it goes:

1. I would like to celebrate Christmas with two sets of kids in regions where we have been supporting the kids and the community through the benevolence fund. These are in Luanda and the slum of Nakuru called Rhonda. These kids don't celebrate Christmas due to the poverty (it was very interesting that no Kenyan child we interact with has any idea of a Santa Clause concept...probably not so bad, but the reason they don't, extreme poverty, is earth shattering). What they do is simply beg for some flour to make chapatti (which is a treat for them). I would like to do this for these two groups so no begging this year is required. It will be another awesome opportunity to assist and tell about the love of Jesus. Both communities have about 200 people we would like to serve and we believe

\$5/person will make it, so this is a total of \$2,000 for feeding the 400 people a special meal that day...it will be a treat...I assure you God will be glorified.

2. C4KK would like to get another cow. We have 6 dairy cows and right now we have the capacity for seven. A cow runs about \$2,000. We would like to get another to fully utilize the people we have working with them and the capacity of the cow stalls. Thanks for what you have done on this in the past and thanks for the continued support.

3. I would like to finish the study areas for the kids. We have two rooms we built specifically for studying in the upper section of the mission home. They are nice big empty rooms. We would like to get the desks, chairs and tables finished so they are ready this next school year (begins in early January). Since the kids are leaving for their distant relatives it will be a great time to complete them during the month of December. It is going to cost approximately \$1,000 per room for a total of \$2,000 to complete them.

4. I would like to give the people at C4KK a Christmas gift. They work here on average for \$100 a month. I would like to give them a bonus of the same. The total would be about \$2,000 so they could celebrate Christmas with the same things we talked about above for the kids...family meal which can be afforded.

5. I would like to get a table tennis game for the upper mission room. We built a section so we could put a table tennis game there so the kids would have another activity to play when the rainy season hits. I have found them in Nairobi at a cost of \$650....would love to have one sitting there when they come back from their relatives.

Honestly I could go on, but these are the things which are on my heart. No matter what happens, we will attempt to give the people a little extra something this Christmas season. As you have heard me say before, it is hope that we try to give. When they see we give without wanting anything in return, they see we aren't trying to cheat them out of anything, they will listen to us when we tell them it is simply because we know they are loved by a God so great He died for them and we are to show them His love as His followers...amazing things happen...small hope turns to big Hope found in Jesus. Thanks for your consideration of the above. You can donate at www.SavedByGodsGrace.org.

No more...that is enough...except to say THANKS! People always tell me, what a great thing you do, what sacrifices you have made, you will be rewarded in heaven. My reward will be to hear "Well done faithful Son" when I meet, in person, my God, King, Lord and Savior, but I also have a reward here. I love seeing and hearing about the hope and joy we bring to people when they believe they are the forgotten and no one cares. When we were able to move an 87 year old grandmother and the four small children she was caring for (mom and dad dead) from a cow barn where they had been living for 4 years with the animals into a simple house and she danced and praised God for the assistance...that is my reward. When a whole community is wondering who are these people who are giving food to so many (again most we will never meet) and they begin to wonder who this God is we serve (sad, but it is "christians" who wonder what "religion" it is we are involved with because these actions are not what their pastors teach nor have them do) and then turn to Jesus, that is my reward. Through these acts we have an opportunity to tell them of the hope we have found in Jesus....and we take it. As I have mentioned, we will probably never meet many who have benefitted from our assistance, but tears always come to my eyes when I hear the stories of what the consequences of our actions have been. People acknowledging that the Lord is great and merciful and He has come to their village...and directly into their lives. **Do you understand that you are such a major part of this?** I truly wish you could see the transformation which occurs because of what we (yes, we, you and Tammy and me and the people who work with us on the ground) do in response to His calling, commands and love. I have no doubt we will know and meet the people whose lives have been touched in the eternal Kingdom by the grace of Jesus...again tears come to my eyes knowing we have been used by our God for such a purpose. So, during this month of Thanksgiving, please know that I am truly thankful for what you have done and continue to do for me...you allow me to have joy in knowing by our actions the Lord is being glorified and His people are beginning to hope and come to know the true Hope, Jesus...thank you for your partnership and faithfulness to us and the Lord Jesus who calls us to service. Happy Thanksgiving!

Serving with you only by His grace,

Chuck

Missionary to Kenya

