



Saved By God's Grace Newsletter

April 2014

Hi Friends,

I am a few days late with this newsletter...I know...I've changed it twice and still not really happy with it, but this is it. April was a very hectic, traumatic and ugly month...but it was also the month of the celebration of the most amazing event in history, the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The month for me was marked, or marred, by attempting to follow the Lord as He led me to simply continue my life as a missionary in Kenya. It consisted of more death threats by satan, illness, moodiness and just downright depression...still there actually. This morning I actually changed the newsletter again and maybe this is why I have been pushed to this point. To simply tell you...God is always God...He doesn't change...we do. This month because of activities which have been difficult, the attack of killer bees (see my Facebook for more info) and being stung over 200 times as we have now determined, the emotional turmoil of getting 25 kids back to school and leaving Tammy and the kids for a week to go to the "up-country" of Kenya to work on a community well project, I have just felt alienated from God...and I don't like it. I have been very curt to people, certainly not showing God's grace, restless, not feeling physically well at all, and just over all in a lousy mood. That said, once again, God is still God. He doesn't change, we do. I have allowed the circumstances and my mental and physical condition affect how I have related to Him (and others) this month....wrong on my part. My relationship with Jesus is still "good", but it certainly can always be better. I should simply chalk this up to having the Lord assist me in "dying to self" and move on, but as I have said, April was a bad month to do so. What I have to remember is no matter what the circumstances He controls it all. I may have a "bad" month, two or three, but I should still rely on Him and His Spirit to pull me to where I need to be. He is the same yesterday, today and forever. Me, sometimes I change on a daily basis, but my hope is always in Him...may my actions show and be my evidence of where my hope continues to be. May you and I continue to embrace His sufficient grace whatever the circumstance may be we are facing...even when life is getting us down.

So, did we get things done during the month...yes sir we did! Other than the progress on the community well project in Luanda (it should be done within two weeks I pray), we have also gotten the second floor (first floor for you Kenyans) plastered on the outside. With this up-coming week we should have it almost done and will move to the windows to have glass put in. Since the doors are in, once the glass has been done we can move to the inside as it will be secured and we can start to work on plastering the inside. The well project on the compound has been waiting for the first slab to cure. Now that it has, we can start with the columns to build up to the second story where another slab will be poured to have a total capacity of 40,000 liters sitting on the structure. Also, we have made a lot of progress on the cow shelter and are getting ready to bring in the cows. I had anticipated we would have them by the end of the month, but...this is Kenya...so it may take a little longer...but it is coming. See, even though I have not been in the "right state of mind", Jesus continues to have His will done by His grace.

Where do we sit on the matching project...you have been generous and we are close! As you may know, we are in the middle of a matching program where two donors are matching a total of \$7,500 for the remainder of this month. To date we have \$6,277 donated toward this match...we are so close to having it

fulfilled. These funds are specifically going to be used to complete the farm well, work on the upper floor of the mission home, and for general needs of the children's home. If you would like to participate in this, simply click [here](#) and select "Children's Home (C4KK) and Farm Project" in the allocation drop-down box and write "Matching Program" in the comment box....your donation will be doubled for the rest of this month! Thanks for your prayerful consideration of participating in this most generous offer by these two donors.

The kids are ready to go back to school. We have been fortunate to have tutors here for the month of April for both the primary (up to class 8) and the secondary (high school) kids. They have been taught three hours a day this past month and everyone says it was an excellent program. We hope to expand this program when we get the upper floor of the mission home done to include neighborhood children as well. With that, 3 of our boys go back to continue toward their form 4 exam which will determine if they can proceed into college, and 6 of our younger kids will be taking their 8th grade exam which determines if they can continue to secondary school and, if so, where they will be allowed to go. We are confident our Lord is making way and we will see successful outcomes by His grace. It is always a challenge to keep the kids in school as there is no free education in Kenya (even the "free" education for primary kids is not free). That said, we have all but two kids paid for and are simply waiting for some clarifications for these two and then all will be completed for this next term....God will once again provide.

As I mentioned above, I am still in a "funk", but know I continue to pray for you. While I will admit my prayer life has taken a hit over this last month, I continue to pray for you daily. My prayer is generally the same (for you to be in relationship with our Lord and Savior Jesus so you have access to the Father through the One and only mediator), tailored with any specific prayer requests you send me. So please do not hesitate to contact me or feel it is burdening me to lift you up to our God....I believe it is a blessing and a humble honor to do so. As I continue to move "back" to where I should be, thank you for being a part of that by allowing me to pray to our Father, your God and my God, Jesus Christ, in the Holy Spirit, to have us all stay in union with the Trinity...that is my prayer right now for you.

Your love and prayers for me, Tammy and the mission we have been called to are so appreciated. We know as we, the Church, the body of Christ, pray together the Lord is honored and hears our prayers. Let us continue to be together in prayer for one another and give glory to the One who makes salvation possible, Jesus. His sacrifice is complete, but our journey continues towards our communion with Him. It is made possible by the Holy Spirit and His love for us. Let us love Him back in the same manner as He shows His love for us...unconditionally. God bless you my friends

Serving with you only by His grace,

Chuck

Missionary to Kenya

