

Saved By God's Grace newsletter

My Friends,

Well June came and went...quickly. Just a month ago I was really trying to get back into the right attitude. I will admit I am still not back to normal (maybe that is not so bad), but I am feeling a lot better. I did continue to seek the Lord and He responded as Satan fought...guess what...God won. As I let the Father heal me, I slowly came back mentally to a better state. It was a very hectic month working on the mission home, but it came to a state of completion so our friends Rod and Bobbie could stay in it with us (how good it is to be on the same compound as the kids...thank you Lord for this blessing). It is funny, and I knew this would happen, slowly by slowly I was drawn back to Jesus. The situation did not matter...things are basically the same as they were a month ago, but I simply kept going and praying and reading Scripture and my attitude got better. Once again Tammy's saying to me many years ago came to fruition..."God hasn't moved, you have".

It is so important to understand how we respond to a situation can lead us closer to God or farther away. The apostle Paul tells us over and over again to not give into our flesh...don't use crass speech, keep our tongues in check, don't let your mind wander to things that are not holy. I don't know about you, but the Holy Spirit is the only way I have found to be able to navigate these areas in my sanctification process. It is easier at times and more difficult at others, but the more I continue to stay in Scripture and prayer, no matter what comes, I find myself being pulled back to the Lord easier and easier. I find myself being convicted of sin so much quicker. I find my understanding of what I am called to be in Jesus clearer. I find myself being able to resist being "in the world" more and more this side of heaven. I find myself understanding my eternal position in Christ more real and this time...right now...is just the beginning of my service and life with God.

I will continue to pray for all of you reading this newsletter and those of you who write me for prayer that in the end you are simply being drawn toward Jesus more and more each day and He will be your "all in all" as we both become the saints we are called to be.

We are literally in the short term count-down until we step back on US soil...I remain a little conflicted. It is literally 30 days until we leave Jomo Kenyatta airport for the US (you can see Tammy's count down by clicking [here](#)). I have told you before I have a little anxiety about leaving my kids here in Kenya. Each day brings so many challenges that many of you in the US can't imagine. For instance, we have to drive about 12 miles to get cooking gas. The home uses about a tank every week. As I was bringing one to the home last week I thought, and verbalized out loud to Bosco, my dear friend and project manager here at C4KK, "how are you going to get cooking gas to the home?" as we usually pick it up when I travel to assist someone in an area where we can get a tank or I am purchasing food for the home. He thought for an instant and replied, "I guess we will take the empty tank with us on a matatu (a mini-bus which transports most of Kenya since cars are a luxury in this country which hardly anyone can afford), travel the 12 miles to a filling station, get the tank exchanged, and get another matatu to take us back" (which can take up to an hour to get another traveling through the area since there is no such thing as a schedule)...this will be done every week. This does not only take a lot of time and effort, but it will also cost a lot of money in transport. !!!!!!!!!!!!!WAIT!!!!!!!!!!!!...I just came back from jumping up to run outside and can give you another example. Apparently our shamba manager turned on the pump to pump into our 10,000 liter water tank, he forgot he was pumping and left the compound, and it was literally forcing its way out of the top lid blowing through the seams...just another everyday thing that will occur again...yes, I said "will occur", when I come back to the States for four months. Now I know God is always in control, and He certainly does not need me to do any part of this work, but He has called me to do this. Am I not doing what He calls me to do so I can get "refreshed"? Am I being selfish to want to see my kids, parents, brothers and sisters and friends after 3 1/2 years serving in a third-world impoverished country? I am not really sure of the answers. In any event I am sure things will go forward, difficult as they may be for both us, our kids here in Kenya, and the workers at the orphanage. I know for four months as we talk about God, our calling, our challenges and living out Scripture as a follower of Jesus, our kids will adapt, the workers will manage and while difficult, they, and I, will manage the separation. The most important part of this for me is that I continue to serve and am very discerning of what God continues to call me to do for Him so He is glorified no matter what I am doing or where I am doing it...I pray the same for your life.

Thanks for the help...and another request. As you may know from reading last months newsletter we were short by about \$2,000 because of extra school fees and expenses which we did not anticipate. Tammy and I were told by the Lord when we started serving in this ministry we were to tell people of the need and He would move those He wanted to assist us...well once more He did just that. A few donors were able to dig deep and assist us and we are now back to "even-steven" as they say. A big thanks goes out to God and those who were faithful to the call in this situation, as well as those of you who have been so faithful over the years of this ministry to allow us to take care of the kids on a daily basis...what a blessing to partner with you in serving our kids.

I do have another request (which I hope you don't see as too selfish). As mentioned, we will be back in the States in about 30 days. We would like you to consider assisting us with expenses while there for our four month stay. We have been given funds for the ticket to return and now need funds for the stay and the traveling we will be doing for our speaking engagements while there. If you feel led, please click [here](#) to donate to this effort. You can click on "other" in the allocation drop down box and put "Come Home" in the comments section. These funds will be used for our stay in the States.

Also, we are always looking for speaking engagements. We enjoy talking about God and the ministry He has called us to as well as encouraging others to follow Christ. We have been blessed to have many engagements already, but we can always make room for more. Please contact Tammy at tammy@SavedByGodsGrace.org and she will work with you to get something scheduled.

Tammy keeps a blog to keep you informed. You can find it on the website by clicking [here](#). We want you to know what is happening on the ground as you partner with us in this ministry to our Kenyan kids. You can also contact us at chuck@savedbygodsgrace.org or tammy@savedbygodsgrace.org for specific questions. We are also on Facebook under Chuck McDonald and Tammy McDonald. The Lord knows we must work together for His glory and the good of those who love Him. We are on the ground and you are the support in prayer and finances. We are so grateful to partner with you.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as we can while in the States. Please don't hesitate to contact us to get together.

Mungu akubariki marafiki zangu (God bless you my friends)

Serving with you only by His grace,

Chuck
Missionary to Kenya