

My Friends,

Easter is about choices...as a matter of fact it is about the most important choice you will ever make. The world began by God making a choice. He chose to create. From the cosmos to man He had a choice to create or not to create. He didn't have to do it, but His nature compelled Him to, He wanted to, He loved (loves) us too much not to. He even knew what we would do by rejecting His love and He still chose to create us.

Then it was our turn. God created a paradise for us to live in and commune with Him daily. He gave us everything and made everything as perfect as it could be and gave us one restriction...don't eat the fruit of that tree. You would think the choice would be easy. Living in a literal paradise with your Creator with only one restriction...no issues...right?...wrong. We chose to rebel and eat the fruit...actually two choices were made by two people. Eve made the first one and Adam made the second...both bad choices. Both made out of greed and pride. Kind of amazing God allowed us to make the choice we did since He could have stopped us...He is God...He can do anything. But, as our loving Father, He allowed us to make our own choices...and to live with the consequences of those choices. He did not create robots to simply do His bidding. He still allows us to make our own choices today.

Back to God's turn. He made another choice. He chose to give us another opportunity to be with Him...not to leave us to our own suffering forever. I think between God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit a decision was made to do the unthinkable (at least to us). The Son was asked to step from His "God shoes" into His "Creations shoes" and become like one of them (sort of like having the CEO become the person who is digging the latrine)...another choice was made. He didn't have to do it and it was going to be "ugly", but He did it...voluntarily...and continued to the end...His physical death. A death which was necessary to take away all of our sins and allow the resurrection to occur...the defeat of death which came into being because of our first choice. To give us another chance to make another choice.

The ultimate choice was then given to us. Jesus, God incarnate, said He is the Way, the Truth and the Life. He told us to get back to the Father we must go through Him...Easter's Choice! Once again He is not forcing us to do anything...we simply have to accept the gift He is giving us...choose to follow Him rather than the world. Accept the grace which was made available because of Easter...the choice is now ours. You would think it would be easy (just like the first choice we had to make), but sin is so tempting, our pride, ego and greed are so influential in our life. We seek pleasure above sacrifice which Jesus told us we would have to make if we were to follow Him...the choice is difficult for many. BUT, can we focus on what we are gaining if we choose Him...we are literally choosing life. The life we choose to reject when we were first created...and so much more. To live forever in a place especially created for us. To experience things we can not even imagine as we commune with our God, our Lord Jesus, physically. To experience a dimension of life which we can not comprehend at this time...all of this if we choose "wisely" (as they say).

Easter has given us a choice and it is the most important choice you can make. If you have already made the choice to follow Jesus then make sure you tell others about this opportunity. One aspect of loving Jesus is to spread His Gospel...His Good News. The Good News that through Him comes eternal life. If you are still "thinking" about what you should do, continue to seek. Talk to others who are serving Him fully to see what the choice entails. Pick up the Bible and read the book of John to know why and how much Jesus loves us to make the sacrifice He did to "bring us home". I assure you, the choice is totally up to you..you will not be coerced. God loved us so much to send His Son...voluntarily...to die for us so we can have eternal life. Choose wisely.

There has been much happening at SBGG and C4KK in Kenya and the needs continue, but I would rather you remain focused on the decision we have talked about above...either making the decision or renewing the decision for Christ. Out of that decision comes a life changing moment. The rest of your life should be transformed so you will seek to love God above all things and love your neighbor as yourself. Supporting SBGG becomes a small outflow of that lifestyle, but the decision to live for Jesus starts the progress.

You can take a look at Tammy's blog and the website by clicking [here](#) when you get a chance to see how you can assist us with the projects the Lord has called us to because of the choice we made to follow Him fully, but contemplate the decision as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus...HE HAS RISEN...HE HAS RISEN INDEED!

My prayer for you...is you will contemplate making a decision to follow Jesus and accept the free gift of eternal

salvation made possible by God's grace. That for those of you who have accepted His gift you do not take that choice lightly. That you will endeavor, each day, to come closer to Him through prayer and reading of Scripture. That the fruit of your life will be evidence to others that you are His follower and they will want to know what is so special about your life to make you live it in the way it is being manifested in the world. That you will then have the opportunity to tell them about the Easter message, the choice, and allow them to enjoy the same gift you hold so dear...the gift of eternal life. Have a blessed Easter Day!

Mungu akubariki marafiki zangu (God bless you my friends).

Serving with you only by His grace,

Chuck  
Missionary to Kenya