Saved By God's Grace September 2013 Newsletter

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My Friends,

Midway through our US visit and what a time it has been. As you may know, I am the type of person who likes order and planning. What I have learned is God also likes order and planning...but He thinks His way is better than mine...how dare He (please hear the sarcasm). In this second month of being in the US I have had my plans changed many times when I thought they were well thought out and a good plan. The most recent was relative to a speaking engagement at a church we were graciously asked to talk at. I don't usually prepare in advance for speaking engagements other than pray the Lord will do the talking and I won't embarrass Him in the process...this was no different. The night before I was supposed to speak I had my Bible marked and asked the Lord to make His words known and keep my mouth shut other than speaking what He wanted me to talk about. As the worship music began to subside and I was ready to speak, the Holy Spirit told me to scrap what I was going to speak on and continue with what the pastor of the church had begun preaching...about the church of Laodicea and how they were "lukewarm". I walked up, put my Bible on the pulpit...closed, and did a sermon on being lukewarm...using myself as a prime example of what I used to be before God blessed me with His grace and let me know life was all about Him. It went over well with the congregation and I believe the Lord was glorified and lives may have been changed and people encouraged...what a time it was. While I had a plan (which I don't think was a bad plan), the Lord had a better one based upon His knowledge of His people and what they needed to hear.

This trip, and actually my life, is devoted to being in God's will. I try using my mind (which seems to be failing more and more each day) to be in His will, but I know it is more important I listen to the Holy Spirit even if I have my own plans...and even if it seems to be at the last minute that plans are being changed. It is all part of living a life of faith and working out my salvation with fear and trembling.

Join me on this type of journey no matter what you are called to do as a member of the body of Christ and I believe you will find it so fulfilling you will not want to go back to making all the decisions and directing your own path...Jesus has got it worked out so much better!

We communicate with Bosco (the children's home manager) almost every day via email...God is giving Him grace. My friend, Bosco Sina, is doing an excellent job in handling the daily operations of the children's home. By God's grace all is well and things are progressing. He has certainly had to "grow" during this time, but he has been up to the challenge and is leading the group of people taking care of the kids while Tammy and I are out of the country. Yes he is having some issues, but he is learning to deal with these issues (both internal and external) and I believe this is his calling. He has been with us from the beginning and loves the kids. He tells me he serves because that is what the Lord has called him to do...praise God for this drive He has given Bosco.

Everyone is well at the children's home and we have been able to meet a lot of the kids' sponsors during our stay in Michigan (great time at First Baptist Church in New Baltimore). We hope to get with more of them while traveling to the west of the country. The kids made us promise to get pictures with their sponsors so they would have a picture of all of us, Mom and Dad with their sponsors, to be given to them when we returned.

So, thank you Lord for the protection of the kids while we are away and giving us such a good friend in Bosco to manage the operations for Your glory and the good of the kids.

Where to in the States...go west young (old) man...and wife. I have had a few medical issues which have changed our plans a little (remember...got to allow God to do what He wants to do), but we are now planning to leave Michigan on Wednesday (the 2nd) and be in Phoenix by the upcoming weekend...God willing. With that, look us up all you "peeps" (I believe that word is being used correctly) so we can get together...Tammy and I are so looking forward to it. The best way to contact us is probably through Facebook or email which we check daily, but you can always try the phone numers below. We want to get with as many of you as we can to celebrate...well...simply seeing you again! We will be at Desert Breeze Community Church on Sunday the 13th (17600 North Black Canyon Highway - just north of Union Hills) so if you can make it, come on out and join us in celebrating God's glory and grace with many friends we have not seen in over 3 1/2 years...I know it will be amazing. We will then be traveling to California to see some more friends and then back to AZ and the surrounding area to spend time getting together with all who wish to see us until we return

to Michigan around November 18 and then back to Kenya on December 7.

Our email contacts are chuck@savedbygodsgrace.org or tammy@savedbygodsgrace.org. You can also call us on our US numbers of 602.459.1843 for Tammy or 602.451.8845 for me. We certainly look forward to seeing all who we can during this God blessed visit.

Well, just because we are here in the States the needs have not stopped...actually they have gotten bigger. We have been blessed to have a base of supporters who have not left us over the last 4 years (thank you so much). In addition, while some had to leave, others have come to bring it back to even-steven as they say (thank you Lord for this blessing). Now we can use some more regular supporters to help us meet the increasing monthly expenses of the organization. To be honest, we (Tammy and I) are perfectly fine. From the beginning we have had a group of supporters who have consistently given for our needs...that has not changed and it has been sufficient over all of these years and I know God will continue to make it sufficient. What we do need is approximately \$1,600 per month increase in the budget for the children's home. This consists of extra funding for the increase in the general expenses of raising 27 kids and for additional staff at the home. That equates to 40 supporters at \$40/month or the equivalent. We would also graciously accept a partner in what we are doing in the form of a monthly donation (church, group or civic organization). This would certainly assist us in lowering the burden of coming up with an additional \$1,600/month. I would ask that you pray over this request and see if the Lord is moving you to join us in supporting our kids at Caring for Kenya's Kids. If so, simply click here and you will be taken to the donation website to set up your contribution...thanks so much for your prayerful consideration.

Mungu akubariki marafiki zangu (God bless you my friends) and we hope to see you soon....Lord willing (Mungu akipenda).

Serving with you only by His grace,

Chuck Missionary to Kenya