



MISSIONARY TO TANZANIA



CMF INTERNATIONAL PRAYER NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2010

I wish in a simple newsletter I could truly paint a picture of what these past 70 days have been like transitioning to East Africa. The task may seem difficult but well worth sharing now that I am on the field as a missionary living in Tanzania.

I jumped right into the training events that were happening at the Training Center. Of course, that is after the jetlag wore off and I could remember what occurred during the day! Three families began in March for the Church Planter Training Course. I am amazed at how receptive these families are of the training: Bible knowledge, health, literacy, Farming God's Way, Community Health Evangelism, and Kingdom Business Principles. But, most importantly, I am in constant awe at how God is using this information to change so many lives in Tanzania.

What a privilege to now be a part of this team. I have spent a great deal of time being a student of the culture, language, and how life operates at the Center. What a joy to observe in the classroom and build relationships with the kids. Even without speaking the language, I can see an excitement to learn and explore. There is a

universal language with children that is at my fingertips. I have begun walking through the Bible with the children in the afternoons. I am recording my lessons for future trainings and ideas to develop the children's curriculum to partner with the larger picture of training the family.

The lessons of last week were about Nuhu (Noah). To encourage the family, we are initiating family activities that teach the importance of sharing biblical principles with their children. On Friday each family gathered in the classroom, and while sitting in a circle on the floor, we talked about the story of Nuhu. As we moved from the teaching, instruments were put into the hands of the children and sticks with ribbons on the end were waved in the air as we began praising our God. Fighting back tears, it was beautiful to see items from the States in the hands of tribes of Tanzanians praising the same God who keeps His promises and loves all His children! As we rose to pray, the room filled with cries to God from both young and old. I explained that although they are not building a BIG boat like Nuhu, they are building a family. What they know in their head and heart from the Biblia must be passed to their children.



The next activity consisted of moving outside where we gathered to paint our rainbow! With finger paints we created a collection of colors to remind us of God's promises! The paint was passed, giggles were everywhere as they had never experienced anything like this before. The dads were the most excited and chuckled like children as they began works of art. I noticed one dad move from the circle. (Usually the men all sit together, then the women and children.) As this dad began to move, there formed a family of three together in the grass talking about the afternoon. This was a moment I didn't need a Swahili translator to explain. The colors of the rainbow covered our hands, and the joy of the Lord rang in our hearts! Bwana Sifiwe! (Praise the Lord!)

I am grateful that the second rondoval is completed. Your support has made the construction a reality. It has been fun to be part of the process and see it come together. The kitchen is wonderful, and the gathering space

is great when guests are here. Karibu Sana! (You are very welcome!) I have a sense of home in Africa now that my space is complete.



Life has a different rhythm in Africa. It does take time to get used to, and there are many tasks to learn. However, when it seems overwhelming or missing people at home (USA) gets hard, I look up at the end of the day and find the Southern Cross. I am quickly reminded of why I am here.

Hugs from Tanzania!

Wendy

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