



February 2017

Dear Friends and Supporters,

So much has happened over the last two months it is going to be hard to keep this prayer letter short. The first big news is that Talia is pregnant! The baby is due in August.

I did have the opportunity to take a trip to Rwanda and sit with our national pastor to talk about the future. The good news is that the paperwork has all been approved for Calvary Independent Baptist Mission of Rwanda. The approval is given for one year and that year is a trial period to see how diligent the mission is to accomplish its goals. After a year, there is an evaluation process. If the government is pleased, the mission is permanently established and can function with little government oversight. This a real blessing, but means that this next year is crucial for meeting goals. These goals include establishing churches, Bible institute, home office, training leaders, etc.

Because the mission is not permanently approved, there is no way at this point for us to move to Rwanda. However, if the approval goes through, the mission should be able to invite us into the country within the next year. This is much to do however, and we have some time to make sure the process and paperwork are in order. We are currently spending our time translating material into the Kinyarwanda language to make sure we have the resources we need for ministry. We are having tracts printed and are working on getting a good translation of the Bible. My goal for Rwanda this year is to establish a Bible institute and train national leadership. There are half a dozen groups of people meeting in different parts of the country who are requesting someone to come and teach them. Due to circumstances beyond our control, we were unable to have teaching in January so we are planning a full week for the end of April. We hope to have many come from all different parts of Rwanda for a week of teaching, discipleship, and training. I have as a goal to be in Rwanda every month this year, and I have already been there in the months of January and February.

One of the major ways to show the government that the mission is serious is to have a permanent place as headquarters. We have talked for some time about where the best place is to do this. Kigali is an expensive place to live and work, so purchasing property there is out of our price range. Forty-five minutes south of Kigali in the town of Nyamata. A new airport is being built and the prospect of owning land there is still a good option. I have looked at several plots of land and have seen many good options available. Currently prices are inexpensive, but we expecting the prices to rise within the next year. There are already a number of believers in that area who are interested in starting a church so there is already a good start. We would like to purchase enough land for a church building, Bible college, pastor's house, and guest house. Future planning is a big part of Rwandan culture, and showing that we plan to do much would show the government the seriousness of the mission. We have estimated that \$10,000 would be enough to buy enough land for future development. This is a tremendous opportunity in a growing residential area centrally located in the country. We are praying that God will allow us to raise this money in the next several months so we can purchase land sometime this summer. Please pray about what God would have you to do in helping us to reach this goal. Please be sure that any money donated toward meeting this goal is clearly designated "Rwanda Land Project," as this money will not go to us but entirely to the land.

While we work on ministry preparations in Rwanda, we are still living in Uganda. At the end of December, we moved to the town of Kasese to help a fellow missionary there. This missionary has a real heart for Rwanda and will be helping us in the process as well. I am working to teach at the Bible institute, teaching Sunday School, helping some of the guys do outreach using soccer, and have been discipling a young man who has come to the church.

Please pray that God will keep us safe and continue to give us direction for the future. We are excited about what God is doing and hope to share more in the near future.

In Christ,
David, Talia, Hope, Joy, and Josiah Ruley

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