

the TSOUKALAS FAMILY

Missionaries to the Deaf in Zambia

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1 Peter 1:13 Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

Dear Fellow Laborers-

It is so hard to believe we are reaching the end of another year already. It must be because I turned 50 this month that time seems to be flying by so quickly. Thank you so much for your faithful prayers and support over the past year. It has been an excellent year, and the Lord has done so much! We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year with your families.

We have faced a lot of personal trials over the last few weeks, but we are so thankful the Lord is still faithful and true! The scripture above has been a comfort to my heart and mind lately. We must gird up our minds against the attacks of the Devil who wants us to be discouraged.

We truly have so many things to praise the Lord for! Two of our neighbors who are from Malawi got saved after we witnessed to them. They don't speak English, so our pastor friend came with us. I spoke in sign language, Julie interpreted in English, our friend spoke Chewa, and the Spirit spoke to their hearts! It's wonderful to see the body of Christ work together in that way!

Our firm stand on Biblical doctrine seems to have made it clear to many Deaf community members how a church should be, and how the Lord's children ought to live and behave. We continue to serve God by His grace, and pray for others to see His truth and follow it.

Our daughter Tina was accepted into Roberts Wesleyan College with a scholarship. We are very proud of her hard work, and so thankful for this provision. We are still waiting for her full financial aid letter. Please be in prayer for her (and us!) as she transitions back to the States.

I am fine, though I had a surprising accident the other day when a transport truck backed into me and pushed the car more than a meter! Praise the Lord for just minor damage. If my arm had been out the window I would have been seriously hurt. We thank God the ground was soft so the vehicle could slide instead of being turned over.

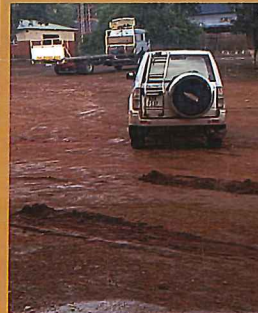
We have been able to help a member of our church to build a small shop outside his home so they can supplement their income. We had some materials left after having our roof fixed, and we were happy to donate them. It looks great! We are praying they get much business!

Bro. Paul recently concluded the first sign language class with two graduates. The other students will continue on in January. We are excited to see many community members interested in learning sign. This will be such a benefit to the community, and hopefully we can reach the students also with the Gospel.

Our two Deaf Muslim students have made great strides in reading over the past two months. It really has been a joy to see them understand and retain more words. Their language development has grown so much and we praise the Lord for it!



L- Sonny and Kalubi's store.
BL- The tracks in the mud from the accident.
BR- Bro. Paul with Precious, one of the sign language graduates.



Above- Julie's Bible study ladies.
L- Me with our Deaf students.
Below- Our neighbors whom we were able to bless with reusable menstrual kits as well as the Gospel



Prayer Requests:

- Our ministry partner Paul is starting distance courses for deaf education next month in order to support his family, and have a great opportunity to reach the Deaf for the Gospel. We are so thankful he was accepted to the program. Pray for him to do well and balance ministry too.
- I plan to join Paul for the outreach ministry in Mchinji Malawi near the Zambian border on Fridays. Pray for grace, travel mercies, and wisdom.
- For our furlough next year in May/June. Please let us know when we can visit and update you all. We would love to see you and share all God has done here in Chipata! Also pray for our girls as they get used to being in the US again, and for the upcoming changes in our family.
- For my mother's health and salvation. She struggles with pain in her shoulder and spine, and possible thyroid issues as well.