



Dear Friends in Christ,

We send greetings from a cold South Africa. After so many years in this country, we've never gotten used to the coldness of the winter. In the US, people have often asked us, "What is the temperature in the winter?" When I tell them it can get down to the 20s at night, they say, "That isn't so bad." Then I tell them the problem is when it is that cold, the temperature in the house is in the 40s. We thank the Lord we have a small fireplace that keeps me busy splitting wood. Besides the cold temperatures, winter is a beautiful time in the country. Clear skies and warm sunshine grace nearly every day.

Since our last letter, God has seen fit to give us souls for our labor and blessings that have brought great joy. To all who provided for the solar need, THANK YOU! We now have electricity 24 hours a day. What a pleasure to be able to carry on the work without interruption. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

The college reopened, and we were thankful to welcome Janvier from Burundi. We have been talking to him since 2018, and he had a visa for 2020, but Covid restrictions caused the cancellation of all visas. The Lord answered our prayers, and he was able to come to South Africa earlier this year. Initially, we had him come for a short time so we could evaluate him and God's call on his life. He had been teaching Bible lessons to the deaf for several years. We thank the Lord for bringing him here. He had gone through training for teaching Bible stories chronologically. However, they never asked him about his salvation. We take nothing for granted. Though someone may be a Bible teacher, it doesn't mean they know Jesus as their Saviour. We soon learned that he had been taught baptism as the way of salvation. No amount of talking would get him to change his mind. Sipho and I continued teaching the classes and praying for Janvier to understand.

Finally, a few days before he was to return to Burundi, I talked to him for a couple of hours about salvation. I asked him if he knew he would go to heaven if he died. He replied that he didn't. I told him to ask me the same question. When I told him I know without doubt that I will go to heaven when my **body** dies, he looked at me with amazement. He didn't come to Christ that day, but on Sunday, I preached, ***"Your Future, and it isn't good."*** At the end of the service, Janvier immediately came to me and said he needed to talk to me. We went to Lucinda's wendy house, and Janvier told me that after our talk, he kept thinking about what I explained. He finally understood that baptism did not save and wanted Jesus as his Saviour. Watching him pray and put his faith and trust in our Lord Jesus Christ was a blessing. We returned to the church and called

everyone to see Janvier baptized as a believer in Jesus Christ. Janvier returned to Burundi, and we look forward to hearing that many deaf have come to faith in Christ from Janvier's testimony. Pray for him, as he said he will face much opposition. Lord willing, Janvier will be returning to South Africa in September. He was freezing here, so we thought it best for him to skip our winter.

Janvier wasn't the only blessing. We were so blessed to welcome Jennifer and Seth. They had return tickets to South Africa, and Seth's doctors said he was OK to travel, so they came in May and stayed just a few days short of one month. It was wonderful to be together again and see the spiritual growth in Jennifer's life. Later this month, Seth will have another angiogram to enlarge the vessels from surgery. Pray that God will be with him and give him a speedy recovery.

We thank the Lord for a young woman who has been attending services. She is deaf and teaches in one of the schools for the deaf in Johannesburg. After one of our recent services, she approached Lucinda and wanted to know how to be saved. Lucinda had the joy of leading Reokopile to Christ. In February, a local pastor contacted us with an urgent need. He told us about the difficulties churches are facing with the current state of addiction in South Africa. Drug and alcohol abuse have skyrocketed as people live each day without hope. He asked if we would be willing to have a training day for pastors to share the lessons we use for addiction counseling. We felt the Lord's leading and accepted. On June 10, we had a wonderful group of pastors and leaders from fundamental churches across Johannesburg. We shared what we feel is one of the best helps for addicts, ***Addicts at the Cross***, for over three hours. It was a wonderful day of food and fellowship and hopefully provided a resource for local churches.

There have been even more blessings! One of our church members is from the Free State, about 5 hours southwest of Johannesburg. He attended Bartimea School for the Deaf and has returned several times to pass tracts. Edward has been burdened for his school as alcohol and drug abuse escalate in the community. We contacted the principal, and she agreed to have Siphon and Edward visit, and Siphon would speak to the young people. Praise the Lord that 44 youths and four adults came to faith in Christ from that trip. Siphon will be returning monthly to minister to them. Pray for Siphon and his family. He can only give part-time to the ministry due to his low support level. We are trying to get more support from South African churches, but most churches have not been taught to support missionaries.

There are more blessings to share, but time and space are limited; well, one more. This past Friday, June 30, we were at the church working. Siphon's wife, Morongwa, invited a woman that has been attending our services to come and talk. As a result, she trusted Jesus Christ as her Lord and Saviour! Praise the Lord.

Thank you for your prayers and faithful support. God has given us souls, and we thank Him for it. That is why we are here, to reach the deaf with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

As Paul told Philemon, so say we the same to you.

***"I thank my God, making mention of thee always in my prayers,"***

Philemon 1:4

In Christ,

Chris and Lucinda Radebaugh

3 July 2023

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