



# Tuombe - Let Us Pray

*Jn 15:7 "If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you."*



## CHURCH of GOD MINISTRIES



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*While they were ministering to the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." Then, when they had fasted and prayed and laid their hands on them, they sent them away. So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia and from there they sailed to Cyprus. When they reached Salamis, they began to proclaim the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews.*  
*Acts 13:2-5a (NASB)*

In this section of scripture, Luke records the launch of the Paul's missionary journeys to the Gentiles. From this point the Church would expand across Asia Minor, into Greece and Macedonia, and ultimately to Italy and Rome itself. While the growth of the Church in places like Galatia, Ephesus, Thessalonica, and Corinth seems to read like a missionary's dream, Paul's road in getting there was not short or smooth.

The beginning of this story has its root at the conversion of Saul on the road to Damascus. It is in Act 9 that Paul receives his initial call to the Gentile world. Jesus Himself says, "Go, for he [Paul] is a chosen instrument of Mine, to bear My name before the Gentiles." Responding to the call of the Lord, Paul immediately began to proclaim the Gospel. Unfortunately, Paul's timing was not God's and more controversy than fruit was created. The Jews tried to kill him and the apostles were afraid of him. Thus, Paul's formal ministry to the Gentiles did not begin for another thirteen years. Why the delay? In short, Paul needed time to prepare for the ministry that God had called him to. We know that he spent time traveling in Arabia



The Baylors: Bonnie, David, Joshua, Michael

and Damascus, returning to Jerusalem only for a short time with Peter three years later. Afterwards, he spent another six or seven years at home in Tarsus until Barnabas went in search of him to help with the church at Antioch. While we do not have specifics on what Paul was doing in these intervening years, I believe God was preparing him for service - breaking off some of his sharp edges, showing him the extent of what was to be done, and training him in what it meant to be a Christian totally dependent on Christ. If the apostle Paul needed this time, how much more do those who are called today need similar preparation.

For the last five weeks, that is exactly what we, as a family, have been doing. Starting on October 6, 2009, Bonnie, Joshua, Michael, and I began five weeks of training at *Mission Training International* in Palmer Lake, CO (just north of Colorado Springs). During our time there, we attended two sessions. For the first two-weeks, we attended the PILAT program (Program in Language Acquisition Techniques). This training focused on equipping us to learn another language, in our case Kiswahili. PILAT helped us to understand the basics of phonetics and how they work in English as well as other languages. Each lan-

### Prayer Requests

- 🌿 Pray that God will raise up the partners needed to provide the finances for us to get to Kenya.
- 🌿 Pray that God will bless our time with the First Church of God in Nappanee on November 15<sup>th</sup>.
- 🌿 Pray that the Holy Spirit will help all of us process and assimilate what we have learned over the past five weeks.

### Praises

- 🌿 Praise God for funds that He has provided and continues to provide.
- 🌿 Praise God all of the new friends we made in Colorado and for all of the things we learned.



guage has its own unique set of sounds. We also learned how to choose a language helper and how to work with them more effectively. A language helper is someone that is a native speaker that will help us with both language and cultural understanding as we learn our new language. Joshua and Michael, along with thirteen other kids, were also included with similar material geared for their particular age groups.

The last three weeks were devoted to a second program called SPLICE (Spiritual, Personal, Lifestyle, Interpersonal, Cultural, Endure/Enjoy) focusing on preparing spiritually, mentally, and emotionally for life in another culture. As with PILAT, Joshua and Michael were able to participate with materials specially designed for their age groups. Over the course of the three weeks, a wide variety of issues were discussed. Some of these included confronting expectations and how to deal with them when they are not met, understanding our personal conflict styles and how that affects communications and relationships, and understanding how we respond to stressful situations. That is just a taste of our experiences. If you would like to know more, drop us an email and we would be glad to share more details. However, even more important than the training, we were able to form relationships with like-minded people who are literally serving all over the world. It may be hard to believe in just five weeks, but we were able to form friendships that will last for the rest of our lives. We praise God for all the He has done in our lives, and our brothers and sisters over the last five weeks.

On the home front, our fundraising efforts continue. As of November 10, 2009, our Living Link Budget is at 47% and our Start-Up Budget is at 64%. We especially want to thank God for our newest Living Link supporters: Vista Grande Church of God - Colorado Springs, CO, First Church of God - Napanee, IN, and the Church of God - Burlington, MI. Thank you all for choosing to partner with us and your continued faithfulness as our journey to Kenya continues. God is faithful and his timing is perfect. Please continue praying for the others that God has appointed to join in this venture. He will surely raise them up in due time.

For God's Church in Africa,

David, Bonnie, Joshua, & Michael Baylor

### *Giving Wisely?*



Generosity. How does one be truly generous? Is it merely a matter of giving money? Is there a right way and wrong to be generous? Is it possible to kill someone or something with generosity? These are some of the hard questions that are discussed by Jonathan Martin in his book entitled *Giving Wisely? Killing with Kindness or Empowering Lasting Transformation?* With more and more churches becoming involved in missions, these are critical issues for the Church today. For any church seeking to be effective in ministry in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, *Giving Wisely* is a must read. Check it Out!



Mission Training International  
David, Bonnie, Michael, Joshua Baylor (GM Kenya); Carol & Ron Baker (GM Tanzania)



Michael Preparing to Cross the Transition Bridge



Joshua & Michael Helping Lead Worship

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Living Link - 47%  
Start Up - 63%



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