

THE REA FAMILY

Missionaries to Zambia



June/July 2014

Prayer Requests:

- Skill in Printing
- The Move to Zambia
- Additional Support (15% Needed)
- My Grandmother (the death of my Aunt)

Sending Church:

Valley Baptist Church
304 Frontage Rd. N.
Pacific, WA 98047

Support Address:

GIBM
Missionary David Rea
602 Manco Rd.
Lewisville, TX 75067

As I walked into a print shop to pick up a paper folder and jogger for John Shrader I saw an Itek 3985 printing press. Also known as an AB Dick 9985 or a Ryobi 3302, they are all the same machine, just branded differently. Upon seeing it, I thought about how useful it would be to have in Zambia. I have been very reluctant to step into the world of sheet fed offset printing presses. The complexity of setting one up, running it, maintaining it and making plates for it have been quite overwhelming to think about. I had considered buying the equipment from a printing shop that had gone out of business a month or so before, but had no peace about it – none at all.

However, this was different. It looked just like the press I had seen at Victory Baptist Press in Milton, Florida. The original asking price was \$7000 just for the press. We ended up paying \$6000 not only for the printing press, but also for all of the plate making equipment, paper, ink, and chemicals.

Bro. Jim Felure of Victory Baptist Press, who uses one of these, said this machine is the best piece of printing equipment that they have ever bought. Pricing the equipment showed that it was at least \$3,000-\$4,000 less than the cheapest prices anywhere else. I would need to spend at least \$5000 in Africa for a digital duplicator—a machine that is designed to wear out after 2-4 million impressions. Our plan was to start with these duplicators and then someday... get a REAL press...



But now, we have a REAL printing press! Now, we can print 7000-8000 sheets an hour comfortably. This machine will run up to 10,000 sheets an hour! The dream of printing tracts IN AFRICA is coming to pass! Printing our own John & Romans is now a very practical project.

We had our first day of training yesterday, and it went fantastic. The best part was seeing Julie, my 15 year old daughter, get excited about running the press. Seeing her eyes light up and hearing her say, “This is cool dad, I want to learn how to run this!” was amazing. We went over the entire press and did a short printing run, and cleaned it. It was a full 8-9 hour day with around five and a half hours of time handling our new press.

We have since moved the 3300lb press to a small room at Valley Baptist will begin to familiarize ourselves with it in July. Bro. Jim Felure then called and told me that they would send their press operator to Africa, upon our arrival, to take two weeks and train us. Two weeks of free training in Africa, praise the Lord!

If you remember, last year a man worked overtime for almost 8 months to fund this printing operation. He saved up \$5,000 and a businessman matched him for another \$5,000. It was this money that we used to acquire the printing equipment.

God gave us the equipment, the training, and the desire to use it for HIM!

In Christ,

David Rea
Phil. 4:13