

THE REA FAMILY

Missionaries to Zambia



June

Prayer Requests:

- Saying goodbye to loved ones.
- Adjustment to Zambia
- Language Acquisition

Sending Church:

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Our Goods Leave Next Week - We fly out July 27

My trip to Zambia was wonderful and very busy. I went with three major goals: get the paperwork for a work permit secured, find a home & location for the printing ministry, and acquire a vehicle. I had no idea how long this would take. Because of this I flew on a one way ticket – planning to return once all objectives were completed.

To make a long story short, God moved in an amazing way. I found a Toyota Noah (a Japanese minivan) for sale for just over \$5000. We were able to buy this and get it licensed in just a few days. Often, I am told, this process will take over 3 weeks. It is required to make stops at 4 different government offices to get a vehicle licensed.

Going to immigration we were sent jumping through hoops. I sought counsel with a Zambian I know and he agreed to accompany us to the immigration office. We were told to go in the back, I was introduced to an immigration official and our paperwork was briefly looked at. The official signed a form and handed it to me. My two Zambian friends said, “Welcome to Zambia! You are approved.” Wow. That was easy. Turns out it’s not what you know, but WHO you know – all the way to Heaven!

After I got the car I started informal Zambian driving lessons with my Zambian friend. Let’s just say driving in Lusaka is exciting! At one point I am at a red light with a green turn arrow. The car behind me is honking, cars are running the light in the lane beside me, and my Zambian guide and driving instructor is telling me I need to run the red light. But it is red – I tell him in vain. Yes, but because of the green turn signal it is safe to go – you are making the people behind you angry. Just then a semi-truck runs the red light (along with EVERY other car in the unblocked lane. The truth is – it is safe to go, the light is not installed correctly, so... through the light we go! Who am I to impose my western ideas of driving on the people of this fine nation!?

The homes we were finding were affordable – but they all lacked any place for the printing ministry. This is a significant factor. Some of this equipment is large – like 3200 pounds large. The booklet maker (which now works 100%) is close to 15 feet long. The homes we were looking at had no place for the container. In addition the locations of the homes were not ideal from a security stand point.

I got a notion to just drive into the country right outside of Lusaka. God led us to a home for rent. We stopped and spoke with some people beside the road. Their teenage son got in the car and took us to a home for rent. It is brand new, inside a secure property that is a commercial pig farm. We have a place for our container, a 16 x 16 foot garage for the press and a large garden area where we can grow our food, and raise some tasty animals! AND – it is 1.5 miles from the city edge – where it is 100% built up and the streets are filled with people – 1000’s of people. We get to have the ministry benefits of the city (access to MANY people, access to printing supplies and paper, access to goods) but we get to live in the country.

Thank you Lord, for your provision and kindness

Thank you churches and supporters for your prayer and support

Our container leaves for Zambia June 29. We fly out July 27th.