

THE REA FAMILY

Missionaries to Zambia



Jan 2020

Trip to the USA

Prayer requests:

Economic problems

Good rains
this season

Our (lack of)
Power Situation

Soldiers
Bible Study

Continued
Discipleship of Our
Young Men

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It was a blessing for our whole family to return to the USA for a few short months this fall. We were able to spend the holidays with all of our children together in one place! A special thank you to Pastor Sterk and the Bethel Baptist Church of Wenatchee for graciously allowing us to live in their basement and prophets chamber for our family's Christmas and New Years. We would also like to thank our Sending Church for the help with tickets home. We all really needed the short time with our family. Being separated half way across the world is tough. But it is also really good to be home here in Zambia. While in the USA we were thankful to be able to report to some of our sending churches, and present to some new churches.

Soldiers Bible Study

One of the greatest things about being back in Zambia is being able to preach to so many people. During a trip home I saw three Zambian Soldiers on the side of the road looking for a ride. I stopped and offered them a ride, as my home is on the way to the military bases on the west side of Lusaka. I felt led to take them all the way to the base, which is only another 10km past my home. This also gave me time to talk to them about the Army, life, and of course, the Bible. The three of them expressed a desire to do a Bible study at our home, and we are in communication about this. Please pray for their salvation and that the Bible studies would be fruitful. I would very much like to begin an outreach into the three military bases just a few km to the west of us.

Economic Woes

Zambia has been hit hard with economic problems. A severe drought last year has left around 2.5 million people in the southern portion of Zambia on the verge of famine. It has also hit our power generation capacity hard as the Kariba Reservoir was just about empty at the first of the year. These and other factors have caused daily nationwide power outages that were 18 hours per day. Thankfully we are only without power from about 11am until 8-11pm now. The local currency has depreciated about 30% in the last 3 months. This causes all of the goods to increase in cost. In addition, the cost of electricity has doubled. People are suffering. To give you an idea of how these factors impact the local economy here is an example: A 50kg bag of cement in Sept. or 2019 was about 70 Kwacha, now that same bag is 105 Kwacha – and wages are simply not keeping up. The people we are ministering to are finding it harder and harder to simply buy the necessities of life. Please pray for the nation of Zambia as these are the most difficult times we have seen in the last 4 ½ years. We do thank God that the people are still open and excited to hear and learn about our God and Saviour. I can also say that the root causes of all of these problems are solved by the Bible.