

THE REA FAMILY

Missionaries to Zambia



April 2025

Youth Bible Conference

Prayer requests:

Safe Driving

The many children who heard the Gospel this last week

Our young men and their jobs as many are not working due to no power in the nation.

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We just finished our 4rd youth Bible Conference. We do these three times per year when the school system is on their breaks. In the middle of the week we had 162 in attendance, later we had more we estimate 180+. We don't advertise, we don't give rides, we don't do many "youth games". We start by preaching for 30-45 min. Then our young men do a review of the lesson with the kids for another 30-45 min. Then we play a game where we ask questions based on the days preaching and lesson. The goal is to introduce children to Bible teaching, preaching, and concepts. This last meeting focused on Biblical word definitions. The children learned the meaning of: works, grace, faith, ransom, redemption, redeem, propitiation, justified, pardon, God's righteousness, man's righteousness and more. It is quite rewarding to see a young girl maybe 12 years old stand and answer the question, "what is the definition of propitiation?" with the answer "an appeasing sacrifice!" Yup... that is correct!

Power and Drought

We had late rains this year, but they were abundant. However the power problem is not solved. The growth of the population is so enormous that and gains in water levels are simply used up by the immediate needs of power. Our solar system supplies our home 100% of the time. It was a huge investment but well worth it. We get power from the utility company about 6-8 hours per day. This tops off our batteries and supplements during cloudy days. Our solar production drops by 80-90% on cloudy days so the few hours of power from the grid keeps us from having to run a diesel generator.

Matter of Prayer

Driving home a few months back we passed a bus stopped on the side of the road. I slowed down to about 25mph. A young boy was standing on the opposite side of the road. With no warning he decided to dart across the road without even looking for traffic. I slammed on the breaks and swerved to the right into the oncoming traffic lane to try to avoid him. He was hit by the side of the truck, a glancing blow. When the truck came to a stop the back of the truck was about 3-6 feet past the boy. He was unharmed, a bit sore but unharmed. He is about 6 years old. He was literally inches from being killed. Situations like this can spin out of control VERY fast here. Mob justice, irrational

people can do stupid crazy things. We could not find any relative – no one knew where his mother or father was. So we grabbed two Zambians who seemed rational and calm and the boy and went to the police post up the road. I then, with their permission took him to a private hospital for scans and a check-up. We then had to go to a Government hospital per police rules. All in all it took about 6 hours. The police ruled that I was not at fault, and that the mother should have never allowed her young child to be near such a busy road unsupervised. The whole ordeal was quite stressful, and especially so for my 14 year old daughter who was with me for the whole thing. I thank God that it did not end worse. Roads and driving here are totally unpredictable. It is the most dangerous thing we face. Please pray for safety during our times of travel.