

ANSWERS TO PRAYER - AFRICAN TRIP 2009 Part 1
By David & Sylvia De Jong

As we look at our March letter, we asked you to pray for several issues regarding our Africa trip. Now let us share how God answered those prayers.

1. We asked you to pray we would be a blessing to those whose lives we touched. God answered that prayer abundantly. We were able to be a blessing in more ways than anticipated.
2. The teaching seminars that David taught were well received. So much so, that many pastors asked us to come back soon with more teaching. Two men in Zambia offered to provide land, if we would consider coming back and start a Bible school. What a golden opportunity for someone with Bible training & administration skills to develop such a school. One of our sessions in Kiteta, Kenya had to be interrupted so we, along with the pastors, could go to the funeral of a well known pastor's wife who had died. On the way, Benjamin Nzwili, who was arranging our itinerary, asked David to be the main speaker. When we arrived, there were more than 2000 people gathered for this outdoor occasion. God gave David the freedom to speak on physical & eternal death and though we cannot avoid physical death, we can escape eternal death by accepting Christ as Savior. Although David did not ask for a raise of hands for those who wanted to accept Christ, he did lead them in a sinner's prayer. For the next several days, several came to tell us of people that accepted Christ that day.
3. Another abundant blessing was with the widow meetings that Sylvia taught. Several meetings had over two hundred widows present. Because of your generosity, we were able to give each widow in the Kenya meetings a 2 kilo bag of maize.(corn). Sylvia spoke at the first widow graduation for 116 widows from eleven churches who had gone through the study of her book and other curriculum. .
4. We asked you to pray with us for rains to come to Kenya. Some areas of Kenya where we were had not had rain for three years. The last few days we were in their area, God answered the prayers of His people by sending abundant rain, and they are continuing to receive good rains. Some of them bought seeds for planting while we were there, anticipating a good harvest. We were able to provide some funding so some of them could buy goats, now that there would be grass for them. We have received word that the rains are continuing.
5. We asked you to pray that God would lead us to a publisher for Sylvia's book. When we met with a publisher in Lusaka to investigate the possibility of having her book published in a vernacular language, they looked at the English version and said there is nothing on the market in Africa like this book for helping widows. They asked, "Can we publish 10,000 copies in English & distribute it throughout Southern Africa? We will pay you royalties for this permission." If this agreement is finalized, any royalties will remain in Africa to help subsidize publishing it in other languages. We have also been approached about having it translated into Arabic and other languages.
6. We asked you to pray for health. Sylvia had the twenty four hour flu when we arrived in New Jersey, but God healed her so she could fly to Africa. David, on

- the other hand, got it just as we were driving from the Lusaka airport, so we stayed in Lusaka an extra day, so he could recover. We were healthy the remaining six weeks. David's rash disappeared completely while he was in Africa. The sciatic nerve did not give him any trouble, in spite of the lifting & driving he did. God also protected us from getting malaria this time. We were able to purchase our anti malaria tablets at about half the price of what they would have cost in the U. S.
7. The Makutano church in the Taveta district, which our church has been helping as a sister church, has now become part of a new church district along with four other churches. The Kiteta church district, which founded this church as a part of their mission outreach, sent some of the leadership from their district the weekend we went to Taveta, to help them form a new church district. The Makutano pastor is the first chairman of the district. Their church has started several new Sunday Schools in the area, with the hope that they will develop into churches in the near future.
 8. Our hearts are full of praise to God for Stanley & Sylvia Mutingili who have been praying for a baby for several years. After several miscarriages, they had a healthy baby girl while we were in Kenya. Stanley was mentored by James & has been a pastor in Nairobi for several years. He often helps with teaching, distribution of food, books & goats.
 9. We thank God for the number of orphans, now adults, who are committed to serving Jesus. One of them, Benjamin Nzwili, is a pastor, the chairman of the Kiteta church district with thirteen churches, and is now serving as the principal of the Nduluku Bible School. He was taught and mentored by James De Jong. Another orphan is a pastor and training at Scott Theological College. He and his wife, also an orphan, adopted a baby while we were with them in Kenya.
 10. God answered the prayers for Sylvia's daughter, Rhonda. He provided the strength she needed for all that had to be accomplished. She did not have a full blown MS exacerbation, but is having joint pain and muscle spasms. Please continue to pray that she can complete her school year well.
 11. God did abundantly above all we could ask or think and it is because you stood alongside of us with your support and prayers. Does God answer prayer? Yes, way beyond our expectation. THANK YOU FOR PRAYING.
 12. One additional note of praise. God has worked a miracle. He enabled the widow "Rose" to complete law school and He provided \$13,000 (through a fund raiser by friends) to cover her remaining tuition so she will graduate May 17 with a law degree. Praise God!!!

Submitted with joy and praise for all our Lord has done and will do,
David and Sylvia De Jong