



SUNDAY NIGHT SAFARI

FROM
Mike, Cindy & Emily Haley – BOTSWANA, AFRICA



Sunday – January 20, 2019

Hello Friends! Well, we're going to do our best to start back with our Sunday Night Safaris. We've had a great start to the year with two ladies saved, four first time visitors today, and 80+ in attendance this morning. We had SEVERAL regular folks out and I think if everyone had been in their place this morning we would have topped 100! Soon!

Our theme for the year is "Reaching Forth" based on Philippians 3:13 and we are challenging our people to: **EMBRACE** God's will – **EXPECT** God to do great things, and **EXPRESS** our faith by obedience to God's Word. I am preaching a four-week series out of Philippians 3 to introduce the theme and set the tone for the year. The message is that in order to REACH FORTH in 2019 we must:

- I. ESTABLISH OUR PERSONAL IDENTITY IN JESUS CHRIST – Vss. 1-9 (In vs. 9 Paul's desire was to be "found" in Him.
- II. EXPERIENCE A LIFE LIVED IN THE POWER OF GOD – Vss. 10-12 (Paul said in vs. 10, "That I may know Him" and in verse 12 "I follow after."

A special blessing today was the impromptu thought that God gave us as I used the illustration of a man's wallet to show how we are made "conformable" unto His death. The wallet takes the shape of the man because of PROXIMITY and PRESSURE. To die to self we must be close to Christ and allow God to use the adversities of life to "press" us in such a way so that our flesh gives way to the desire to be more like Christ. Man – God blessed the illustration!!

- III. ENDEAVOR TO MAKE JESUS CHRIST YOUR FIRST PRIORITY – Vss. 13-14 – (Vs. 13, "This one thing I do."

- IV. FOLLOW THE EXAMPLE THAT GOD HAS GIVEN YOU – Vss. 15-21 (Especially 17) – God gives us the gift of a Pastor (Spiritual care and concern) – A People (congregation to belong to) – and a Place (the church) – All of these are anchor points for our life!

This is just the basic outline and a few thoughts – there's a lot of truth (and preaching) in the middle but I hope it will be a blessing to you as it has been to us.

Most of you are hunkered down with a winter storm but on this side of the world we're in the midst of a hot summer. Temps are averaging 100+ each day right now and we're praying for every drop of rain we can get as the rainy season has been slow in getting started this year. Our Emily gets on a plane tomorrow morning to fly from Indiana back to us here in Botswana and has to go through Washington and London. Please pray for her safety and well-being.

The church is doing great! Pastor Monte has taken over Wednesday night services and is teaching on the Fruit of the Spirit and hitting it out of the park brother! It's awesome to see him growing as the man of God he is. We have a busy week ahead and an incredible year of opportunities and obligations before us. I truly covet your prayers. Church, Sunday School, Soul-winning, Men and Ladies Discipleship, Bible Institute, Kids Bible Club in the village of Mmopane, Public School ministry at Maoka are all back in full swing. Additionally, this year we are working on the printing of 50,000 Setswana New Testaments, trying to purchase property and a building, hosting four mission teams from the States and assisting a missionary family from the Philippines to get their permits to come and work alongside us here in Botswana. Lord willing, we're adding a Sunday afternoon meeting to the Bible Institute, and on top of all that we have to schedule our meetings for furlough which begins in mid-August. And yours truly needs to lose 20 pounds! Whew! It's going to be an awesome year!!

Please pray most for our daily walk with the Lord to be sweet and strong as all that He has given us to do must flow out of that. It's a joy to serve and we want God to be glorified as HE BUILDS HIS CHURCH through us all. We love you and appreciate your faithful prayers, friendship, and support!!

Bro. Mike and Mrs. Cindy - Botswana AFRICA