



Seth Thompson <mrsetht@gmail.com>

Sunday Safari

Cindy Haley <emailmrscindy@gmail.com>
To: emailmrscindy <emailmrscindy@gmail.com>
Bcc: mrsetht@gmail.com

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We pray all of you had a blessed Easter. We were able to watch some livestream services from the States and video chat with our kids and family. Technology is such an incredible blessing! I've enjoyed reading Twitter feeds from different pastors and hearing how God blessed with attendance records and souls saved. Easter is celebrated a bit differently in Botswana. It is a national holiday celebrated from Good Friday through what they call Easter Monday, in effect - a four day weekend. Gabarone, the capital, where we live, literally becomes a ghost town. On Thursday afternoon as people get off of work a phenomenon takes place as people hit the bus stops and crowd the highways to leave the city and head back to their home villages to celebrate. As it is in the States, it's becoming more about the holiday than the reason for it. We've been told that Christmas is even more so. With no idea what to expect for our first Easter Sunday services, I thought the attendance would certainly be way down. Nevertheless, we went soul-winning on Saturday and Sondra, a muslim, was saved (her testimony is featured in our April prayer letter coming out later this week). Hoping for the best we planned and prepared for a "big day" and on Sunday morning...God truly blessed. At the start of Sunday School we had about 7 or eight people. But within a half hour we had 56 in attendance, five first time visitors, and an incredible spirit in the worship service. During an impromptu testimony time some of the new converts gave precious testimonies of what Easter meant to them now that they have Christ in their life. One dear lady, a teacher at a public school who just received Christ two weeks ago, spoke of how she had become a horrible alcoholic and last year spent the entire four days of Easter on a drinking binge. She said the Lord has taken away any desire for alcohol and she was overjoyed that for the first time in her adult life she was in church instead of being out in the world drinking away the weekend. I have an appointment with her "husband" (partner as many live together outside of marriage) on Wednesday. Please pray for his salvation as well.

Praise God that our living Lord blesses beyond expectation and still saves and transforms lives for His glory!!

Have a great week!!!

Bro. Mike and Mrs. Cindy
Botswana, Africa