



Sunday night Safari

Easter Sunday – April 1, 2018

We had an amazing Easter Sunday here in Botswana! It began at 3 am this morning with a pouring rain storm that flooded the streets. On average, it rains only 40 days in a year and most of the country is desert. Water is such a precious resource that rain, anytime, anywhere, and under any circumstances is a big deal and always welcomed. Rain on the day of a wedding or your day of birth or any significant event is particularly favorable and very much viewed as a sign of God's blessing and favor upon the event. So, this morning we enjoyed an early reminder that our prayers had been heard and the showers of God's blessing would be upon this day.

Today was special for two reasons. The first being Easter Sunday and it was also inauguration day as Botswana welcomed their new President. To understand the blessing of our Easter report let me explain how Easter works here. We call it the Easter exit! Easter is a five day holiday that begins as people start getting off work early on Thursday. Most people will not return to work until next Wednesday. Most of the residents in the capital city are not from here as Gaborone is a working city. On Thursday afternoon and ALL DAY on Friday the streets are backed up and the bus stops are full of people trying to catch a lift out of town to go home to their village for the holidays. It's quite a phenomenon. Last year for our first Easter we were told not to expect many at church since everybody is gone. Yet God blessed. This year we worked EXTRA hard passing out hundreds of Easter invitations door to door and distributing more than 2000 John and Romans at the bus stops to the people who were leaving town. The idea being that they will read the gospel on the long bus ride back to their village. I was so proud of our church family and staff as they worked together this week to plan, promote, and prepare for the service this morning. We had 72 in attendance with 7 first time visitors and two adults saved. The Lord's presence was manifest, the singing was very blessed and God gave us great liberty and unction as I preached two Easter messages, one in the Sunday School hour and one in the worship hour. Even though the city has emptied out the church was full this morning and it was a great day! Several of our recent first time visitors are returning regularly and remained in town for the service today. Two of them were the two folks saved today! Glory to God. We praise His name and are excited to see the Lord continuing to build His church.

Special Prayer Request – Please pray for our friend Mr. Mzwinila a member of parliament and a cabinet minister appointed by the former President. He has a great heart to help us reach his country with the gospel and is a dear friend and ally to the work of God here. We are praying that he will be retained in the cabinet of the incoming President. Please pray with us to that end.