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## PRAYING and PREPARING FOR A GREATER WORK IN THE DAYS AHEAD! John 14:12-14

When God called us to Botswana He gave us a burden to influence this entire nation for Christ. Some days that seems like an impossible task but some recent and encouraging developments have reminded us that we must believe that God will bring to pass all that He has put in our heart to do. "WITH GOD ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE," so we must never fall short in our faith and labor and we must glorify God who takes the desire to accomplish something great from the realm of vision and faith to the reality of established ministries and changed lives!

Please pray and believe God with us to see the attainment of these specific goals in the year ahead!

SCRIPTURE PRINTING - (The Lilly Project) – The translation of the discipleship Bible studies that will be incorporated into the Setswana New Testaments is 50% complete. There was a delay in the processing of our application to use the copyrighted Setswana translation but the process is moving again and we hope to have the approval to begin printing soon. With the Word of God in tow we will travel to the more remote places here in Botswana to conduct distribution and preaching campaigns. Most of the people will be reading and hearing the clear and simple, unadulterated gospel of Jesus Christ in their own language for the very first time. This, which started as a dream, will soon be a reality. God provided over \$20,000 for this project. Today an unexpected \$480 came in. Thank you, Brownsburg Baptist!

PROSPECTS TO BUY A BUILDING – EVERY avenue we have pursued to move the church to a larger and more usable location has resulted in a closed door, the latest one coming just this week. But all along I have felt strongly about a building (pictured below) that, from the first moment I saw it, six months ago, God moved on my heart that we should BUY IT. It has sat empty and neglected for five years and is in great disrepair. However, it is perfectly located in one of the busiest commercial and financial districts in the city and very suited for the long term needs of the church. It would house the church, allow us to expand the Bible Institute to a BIBLE COLLEGE and in time we would endeavor to open a Christian pre-school right in the same area where several thousand people go to work each day. Previously, the obstacle has been that the property is tied up in a court case and the owner cannot RENT IT until the court case is settled. Though the owner has been adamant that the building will never be for sale – THIS WEEK she called to tell me that once the court case is heard in April of next year she would give us the first opportunity to buy it! Neither she nor we have ANY IDEA what or how much it will take to buy it but BY FAITH we as a church family, will pray and ask God to do for us and through us what seems to be impossible. There are teams of skilled craftsmen in the States that are standing at the ready to come and help us remodel the property. PLEASE BEGIN TO PRAY WITH US, EVEN NOW, that God will provide the means to have this building. It will be the biggest thing we've ever attempted to do.

**CO-LABORERS TO HELP** – To plant Bible Believing churches and train Bible Preaching Pastors throughout Botswana and to effectively disciple new believers and to reach into the hearts and homes of families through extended ministries we MUST HAVE HELP. One family cannot do it alone. God has given us a wonderful team of nationals and a strong church to serve as the foundation for the future of this ministry. But a team of Spirit-filled, servant hearted people ready to pour their lives into training their Batswana brethren is needed if we are to truly reach and train this generation for God. From the very beginning we have prayed for God to call other co-laborers into this harvest. Last year God worked miraculously and enabled us to establish, here in Botswana, and through BIMI, a missionary association to assist other missionaries to gain their legal status (visas) to live and work in Botswana.

**THEY'RE COMING!!** – The Lord called the Catalinio family, a seasoned church planter from THE PHILIPPINES to Botswana and they are now on deputation in the Philippines raising their support with plans to work alongside of us for at least a year. We also received email from a couple in South Carolina that is praying about God's will to serve somewhere in Africa. Next year we will host two groups from BIMI, one of which is a group of college grads who have surrendered to missions and are awaiting God's leading to a specific field. There will also be a group of teens from a church in Texas and a group from our home church in Indiana. We're praying that God will these trips to call and send soul-winners, preachers, teachers, Christian school teachers, youth pastors, music leaders, builders...all the help that is needed to see the Batswana saved, discipled, and involved in planting churches and reaching their own people with the gospel. Please pray with us that God will call others to come alongside and help.

MMOPANE CHILDREN'S MINISTRY – Last year Sister Carol began to bring children from her village (about 30 minutes away) to church and they've been coming ever since. That group has grown and we have incurred a lot of transportation costs and space issues as a result and many of the kids struggle to understand when we teach in English. Recently, we hit a tipping point and made the decision to move this part of the ministry to a Saturday Bible club (like a Sunday School) conducted out in the village where the kids live. This helped to alleviate some of the space and transportation issues but I was concerned as to what effect it would have on the kids. On average 20-25 kids came to the church each week. Last week, the third week of having the meetings out in the village, 66 kids attended and with word spreading like wildfire we are preparing to have over 100 soon. The parents are taking notice and we believe that at some time in the future this will lead to a church plant in that village.

**TWO WAYS TO HELP THROUGH GIVING** – With Christmas coming we would like to help some needy and worthy single moms and widows with food items (flour, rice, beans, oil, sugar, milk, tea, and some meat). Every \$35 given provides a sack of staples and can make a HUGE difference to someone at a difficult time of year. If you would like the blessing of really helping someone out of the abundance of your holiday celebrations, please designate your gift as "Food For A Family."

MINISTRY VAN – Each week we fill our cars and sometimes others cars to transport people to and from church, Ladies Bible Study, Saturday Bible Club, etc. Soon Pastor Monte, our national Pastor in training, will have his driver's license (that's a big accomplishment here – he's 29 years old) and will be able to assist with transporting folks to and from church. He also will need a vehicle to drive during the week for soul-winning, discipleship, etc. So, we really need to purchase a used passenger van. An estimated \$4000 will buy one that is roadworthy and dependable. If you would like to help with this need please designate your gift as "Ministry Van."

