

Dearest Pastors, Family, & Friends:

It's 5 a.m. here in Botswana, the windows are open and I'm listening to gentle raindrops mixed with cool gusts of wind. It's late summer here. We're getting the after effects of a strong typhoon that came from Mozambique. In answer to prayer and ending a four-year drought, Botswana, for two months, has had a wet season with deluges of rain and flooding. The cattle are fat again, everything is green and lush (totally opposite of what we saw on survey trip last year) and the reservoirs are turning back from dust bowls to basins of life sustaining water.

We landed on January 19th and it has been "to the wall" ever since but "like a dream" as we've experienced showers of God's blessings and favor on every side. This letter is long overdue. A week seems like a month here and we're looking forward to a more "normal" pace once we're through this transition stage of setting up shop. I can't begin to tell you what God has done and is doing literally on a daily basis. We think of you every day and will never forget the love, grace, and investment you have bestowed upon us to enable us to serve here.

Already fruit is abounding to your account. In two weeks I have personally led four precious men to Christ. It's been amazing! Attendance at the church is growing right out of the gate. The first two Sundays here we had 28 and 27 with 1st time visitors each week. Our third Sunday (after a blessed afternoon of knocking doors and witnessing on the streets) we had 40 with 14 first time visitors including two new families! Somebody Praise God man! It has fired up this preacher!

We went to immigration the morning after we landed to pick up our residence and work permits (visas) and were told, "There's a problem." Uh oh! They gave us a 3-year work permit and 5-year residence permit — an internal mistake. These have to match so after our lawyer went behind "closed doors" he came out 30 minutes later to tell us that we had...wait for it... FIVE YEAR VISAS! Our lawyer, Mr. Selecka is the former head of immigration and told me we were the first people he knew of to get a five-year visa for our first visa. Yes...that's our God!

Our flights over were flawless and all our luggage came through without delay. The container was delayed a bit in South Africa but it worked out perfectly as our landlord blessed us with new tiling and renovations throughout the house and we could not have unloaded it. For three weeks, we've lived in one room of an empty house, fighting clouds of construction dust, whilst working every day to clear customs with the container, establish internet and utilities, shop for furnishings, relocating the church, and tending to the ministry. Cindy and I both came down with an intestinal virus that was rampant here for a few weeks but had to push through and the Lord sustained us. It's been crazy! Really crazy – but God has given us great favor with the government, our landlord, the hotel director where the church is now located, and the community at large. We're tired, averaging about four hours sleep a night right now – but God is too good for us to complain! Praise His name!

Thank you for being patient and thank you to each of those who have sent encouraging emails and phone calls. We love you! It's an honor to be YOUR missionary to Botswana. Pray for our personal walk with God to remain strong during this busy time of transition. Busy is good but we need to operate in His power – not ours!

## Something to love about Botswana



At Kentucky Fried Chicken (Yes we have a KFC) you can order two breasts for your two piece meal and there's NO EXTRA CHARGE! Gotta love it!



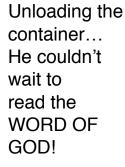


A Couple Of Wonderfully Welcome
Guest
Jeff & Robbin Demarest
Miss. to South Africa
Yes we put him to work:)





And a couple of UNWANTED GUEST!







## **EVERYONE GETS A NEW BIBLE!**





