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## Sunday Night Safari

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Man! What a week! Again this week we saw the Lord work mightily here in Botswana. Thank you, all of you for praying. Some years ago the current President of Botswana issued a mandate to all government organizations to set aside one hour a week (on the clock) for a time of religious observance to help foster a positive spirit, wellbeing, and encouragement from God for each government employee that chooses to participate in the voluntary meetings. Bottom line - we were invited this week to attend two of those meetings at two separate police headquarters. At the first in Tlokweng (near the South African border) about 15 or so officers met with us and at the second meeting, near the downtown area of our city, over 40 officers - including the police chief attended to hear the preaching of the Word of God and to receive a Bible. Several made professions of faith and asked us to come each week as they hunger for the Word of God. Every school here public and private has a similar time each week for religious education classes. Remember when our "Christian" nation (the USA) promoted such things? We are now exploring these open doors and the possibility of an itinerant ministry where I will be scheduled to preach and Cindy to teach in various police, government offices, and schools each week. This coming Tuesday we will be preaching in the cells to the prisoners who are kept at the police station.

KICK OFF SUNDAY - Wow! What a day! Today we officially launched Grace Bible Baptist Church in the community. All week folks were busy passing out over 1000 invitations. Today we had the highest day yet with 83 in attendance, TWENTY NINE first time visitors and...wait for it...15 adults and one child making professions of faith to receive Christ as their Savior! Praise the Lord!!! There is just no way to describe how God moved in this service from the very start and especially during the invitation. Yesterday, while out knocking doors, I met Anna an 80 something year old woman from the Ukraine. Right before the outbreak of WW2 she was in university when she met and married her husband, a fellow student from Botswana. He was the grandson of the first President of Botswana and held prominent positions in the government until his death. Anna - now a widow - lives with her son and daughter and desires to return to her roots in the Ukraine but due to the political upheavals there right now her visa was denied. Yesterday we sat for over an hour as she told me of watching Hitlers armies ravage Eastern Europe. We spoke of her Orthodox church beliefs and today she attended Bible study hour (Sunday school) and the worship service and heard the true gospel - probably for the first time. As she left today she whispered in my ear, "God sent you here - to show us the true way to God." We'll visit her again this week. Please pray for Anna, Gianna her adult daughter and son. I believe they'll be led to Christ this coming week.

Well - it's Sunday night here and Monday's a comin! Tomorrow Mamma Cindy and I go back to school. Two old people walking onto the university campus with a bunch of young college students on the first day of the new school year to study African languages (Setswana). It ought to be fun! When we went to register this week the campus was a ghost town but as we sat in a common area to pray for the safety and well-being of the students and the effectiveness of our ministry there we were able to envision the ten thousand or so people who will be there starting on Monday and the opportunity we have to give each one a New Testament and a gospel witness.

We love you all and appreciate your love, friendship, and faithful prayers for the work of God here in Botswana!

Maruti and Ma-maruti Haley  
(Pastor and Pastor's wife Haley)

P.S. - Last night I opened our gate and was confronted by two vicious pit bulls who had managed out of their owners gate and were standing, bristling outside of ours as our gate swung open. One ran off but the second one charged and almost got me as I stumbled back pedaling. I managed to kick it hard in the face and was quite relieved when it turned and ran out the gate. Needless to say it was harrowing but served as a great reminder of how the Lord protects us day by day. I think we need a lion for a watch-dog!

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9 attachments

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