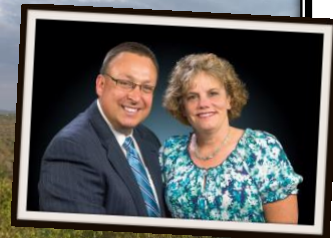


Mike & Cindy Haley

Your Missionaries to Gaborone, Botswana in Africa

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JANUARY 2018

As most of you shiver in the grip of a crazy cold winter; we on this side of the world are sweltering through a blistering HOT summer. Temps right now are 100+ and we eagerly await the heavy rains. Rain is desperately needed for the recently planted crops to grow.

2017 was a year of incredible blessings and triumphs, and intense testings. And once again we can say with confidence – GOD HAS BEEN GOOD! He is always faithful and honors His Word! Together we can rejoice that many precious souls have been saved and baptized and that new converts are growing in discipleship. Grace Baptist Church has been planted in Gaborone. Over 50,000 Bibles, New Testaments, and John and Romans have been distributed. A missionary association has been established (enabling us to serve here and providing for other missionaries to come and serve in Botswana). Two men are studying in Bible Institute. This New Year brings with it renewed vision, open doors, and the opportunity to be faithful and fruitful in the work of the Lord. Please pray that God will give us wisdom and understanding, strength, patience, compassion, and fortitude in the year ahead and aptitude to learn the Setswana language.

Right before Christmas, we received word that our permits had been approved! I cannot put into words how much we appreciate your prayers, encouragement, and counsel as we went through this unexpected trial and four months of limited ministry and anxious waiting. God used it to season us – to purify our faith, purge our flesh, and prepare us for the work ahead as we labor for souls and the establishment of churches here in Botswana. To God be the glory!

Gorata, a faithful sister, followed the Lord in believer's baptism in December. Puso, her friend, came to watch and support her and during the message came under heavy conviction. I gave an invitation and he immediately responded and prayed publicly before the entire church to receive Christ. Moments later he too followed the Lord in baptism. Praise the Lord!!

By God's grace - Our primary ministry goals for 2018 are to:

- Continue and strengthen the work of Grace Baptist Church in Gaborone
 - Evangelism – Discipleship – Sunday School – Wednesday Prayer Meetings
 - Continue training a national pastor and church leaders in the Bible Institute
- Learn the Setswana language and culture
- Start a new church plant in a village located 30 minutes out of the capital
- Raise funds to secure and ship 70,000 New Testaments for two distribution projects to student athletes and a district with a population of 40,000 (Working with members of Parliament with a desire to replicate this throughout Botswana)
- Continue and expand outreach to students in public schools through the Scripture Union Bible clubs and Religious education sessions.
- Continue college campus outreach and begin outreach to military on military bases

A Missionary Moment: Recently I spent a day in the bush fishing in the river during New Years holiday. That evening at camp we enjoyed a cooked on the fire African dinner of pap (google it), cooked cabbage in tomato and onion gravy, and a....PIGS HEAD that had been boiled, braised, and barbecued all in the same day. That was a first for this ole boy! It was tender and tasty but I didn't care for the texture. But, when in Rome...

We covet your prayers and never cease to appreciate your love, faith, prayers and support!
Mike and Cindy Haley

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