

# Haley Family

Mike, Cindy & Emily

Your Missionaries to Gaborone, Botswana in Africa

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This month's prayer letter is coming from 38,400 feet out over the ocean on a flight that is about 3 hours out of New York, where I'll connect for a flight to Indianapolis. I'll be stateside for 2 weeks to visit with my family, care for some routine medical needs, and report to a few of our churches. Cindy had a brief but very blessed visit with her family earlier this month and returned to Botswana in time to finish preparing for Baptism Sunday. She's still jet lagging!

This past Sunday 14 adults followed the Lord in believer's baptism and joined the church. Afterwards we had a wonderful meal of fat cake and mince (think sloppy joes) with coleslaw and homemade lemonade squeezed out of 183 fresh picked lemons! It was a GRAND day!

In general, Batswana do not readily embrace commitment and oftentimes as a missionary you can be left very disappointed by their lack of it. Those baptized have already been very faithful so the joy of seeing them commit to this next step in their Christian life was doubly encouraging. And its wintertime here in Botswana (a desert country) and though it usually warms up beautifully by midday, it still gets quite cold at night so the water was REALLY COLD! There were some "lively" converts, "*raised to walk in newness of life*" coming up out of that pool and I thought we might have to do CPR on a couple of them! I wish each of you could have been there to witness the fruit that is abounding to your account. What a joy to serve the Lord together! We'll try to get a highlight video put together soon.

The church is growing steadily and attendance now averages in the 90's. Unfortunately, the owner of the hotel where the church meets has become (to be kind) less than accommodating and (to be truthful) very greedy. He is offering us less space to use and wanting more money for it and we've had to reshuffle our setup to make it work. Undoubtedly the devil is at work to run interference but I also believe the Lord is using it for good to take us to a new location and a new level of ministry. Please pray with us that God will open the right door at the right time.

Thoroughly and properly training a national Pastor to lead the church and training the people to follow his leadership is essential to planting indigenous churches. Next month we will highlight the testimony of Brother Amantle. Bro. Monte has answered the call to preach and certainly has the heart of a Pastor, a lion's heart! He and another man in the church have studied Bible doctrines and practical church planting with me for 14 months preparing to be spiritual leaders. Monte is a man short in stature but is a giant for God in his faith and love for the Lord and the Batswana people. He will fully man the helm the next two weeks preaching and teaching and overseeing all the day to day responsibilities of the work. Please pray for him. I am excited for he and the church knowing that this is a taste and a test of what is to come in the future for all of us.

This past Saturday we took a group of boys who qualified through a Sunday school challenge to the air show. It was an incredible show, on par with anything I have seen in the States, and during the course of the day I had the honor of personally meeting and speaking with the former President (he just left office a month ago) of Botswana – Mr. Ian Khama. It was quite an honor to meet him and his expression of appreciation for the work here was encouraging!

We now have 1/3 (approx. \$5000) of the \$15,000 needed to print the New Testament in Setswana. I appreciate those who have given so generously! My heart is encouraged that, though it will not be easy, with the Lord's help - we'll get it done. Please continue to pray for this project specifically praying for copyright issues and funds to print. Thank you! We love and appreciate you all!



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