



Missionaries To

Botswana, Africa

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May and June 2019 Report

Living for the Lord is an **UPWARD** journey filled with a lifetime of **UPHILL** battles and some amazing mountaintop experiences along the way. This is especially true when you labor as a missionary on a foreign field. Every small step of maturity and growth in the people is celebrated as a **BIG DEAL** for the missionary who daily bears the weight of trying to love and lead a sin cursed people to a redeeming knowledge of Jesus Christ our Lord. Then there are the moments of sheer delight when something so great and miraculous is accomplished that there is no way to explain it except to say, "GOD DID IT! Such has been the case in the last several months. I apologize for missing our May report and I'll try to make up for it here. Honestly folks, the last three months of our lives have been the busiest I've ever known and the weight and spiritual burden of the ministry has never been greater. We're "feeling it" in every way. I say this, not to offer excuse or elicit sympathy, but just to ask for your understanding. God's grace is sufficient for every season and we could never overstate our appreciation for **YOUR FAITHFULNESS** to pray for and support our family and this ministry. The gospel is bearing **MUCH FRUIT** in Botswana and we're delighted to share this report!

THE PRESSES ARE ROLLING!

The Lilly Project, printing New Testaments, in the Setswana language, **HERE IN BOTSWANA**, has gone to press! This past week, the actual pages of Scripture were printed and as of this writing the covers are being done. Soon they will be trimmed, assembled, and glued and ready for distribution. The printer is a large commercial company with a huge facility. Recently, the owner said, "EVERY pallet we have in the building is full with sections for Bibles!" As you enjoy the pictures, know that, this project is **THE FIRST TIME IN HISTORY THAT THE WORD OF GOD HAS BEEN PRINTED ON BOTSWANA SOIL!** This will be an

ongoing project and we are starting to raise funds for another \$25,000 to print the next run. Every \$1 (one dollar) given enables us to print one New Testament. These are of exceptional quality and will be given out in villages – one per household. Somebody - Praise the Lord!!



HERE A TEAM, THERE A TEAM, EVERYWHERE A TEAM TEAM

A few weeks ago, we hosted a team of 16 people assembled by our BIMI Africa Director Brother Eric Bohman. These folks came as part of a BIMI Connect Trip from five churches in California, Colorado, Canada, Florida, and Tennessee. Wow!! God blessed this group with incredible synergy and things could not have gone more smoothly. Each person was a unique blessing to us and our people. Thousands of tracts and John & Romans were distributed with soul-winning on a daily basis. Pastor Mike Ray and the Hopewell BC group developed a professional cartoon type film that effectively presents the gospel to children and was shown to hundreds of public school students. In time, it will be shown in schools and villages throughout Botswana.



A second team of 14 persons begins arriving tomorrow (Wednesday July 3rd) and five days after their departure, a group of 11 from our sending church will arrive for a ten day stay. The love shown to our people and the things that are accomplished when teams come is incredible! But the most enduring blessing, is that it exposes others to the need for more people to surrender to missions. In the first team we had an EXCEPTIONAL group of young men who are praying for God's will in their lives, especially in the matter of missions. Each of the two remaining groups also have potential candidates for co-laborers. Please pray that God will use these trips to call others to Botswana or that place of His choosing. We can never put into words or express enough how much more could be done for Christ if others would come and join in the work.

THE HINDU'S ARE HERE, THE BUDDHISTS ARE BUILDING, AND THE MUSLIMS HAVE MOO-VED IN! BUT THE FBI IS ON THE WAY!

These pictures show an elaborate Hindu temple, the construction of a Buddhist complex that is beyond belief, and yet another Muslim mosque (this one built in our neighborhood) that just opened. It looks like the cow in the picture is going to visit there. I think he'd be better off with the Hindus. Sometimes we feel overwhelmed like we're fighting a losing battle as we watch all of the "other" religions flourish with their beautiful buildings and large followings. But God has HIS PEOPLE in this world and a mighty army – a generation of young adults and growing Christians that are being trained at the FBI – that is the **Faith Bible Institute**. Classes are set to begin the last week of July and everyone is excited!



LAND HO!

We continue to pray that the Lord will give us a building to buy or land upon which to build our own church building. The need for such is greater than ever. Recently, we came across a good prospect of land that would serve us well and we have engaged a realtor to do some "fact finding" for us. The building we have prayed about for more than a year is still tied up in a court case but the case is moving forward and the building could be for sell soon. Please continue to pray that God will show us the way forward and open doors according to His will.

PRAISE AND PRAYER

- In May we had our first service with over 100 in attendance without it being a "Big Day."
- Four men were led to Christ recently and all of them are coming faithfully to church.
Many made professions of faith during evangelistic outreaches with the last team.
- Several are scheduled for baptism and church membership soon.
- Please pray for Cindy as she's fighting a cold and that it doesn't become bronchitis
- The safe travel, luggage, and effective ministry for the two remaining teams
- The approval of our permits (visa) renewal (We have applied for five years)
- Our upcoming furlough – especially as I need to finish out our schedule