



The *Curtis Family*

Missionaries to Malawi, Africa

March 2024

Dear Praying Friends,

With our busy schedule, life here feels very fast paced. But when it comes to things related to the Malawian people and life here in Malawi in general, everything is very slow and relaxed and they rarely show up on time. For any event, church or otherwise, we can expect the crowd to build as we go, and some may not even show up until the end. This also influences how paperwork is processed in government offices. Currently, our immigration paperwork is "In Process", even though we started it months ago. The immigration officer helping us has told us not to worry about it. He has insisted that it is their fault and if anyone questions us we should just have them call and he will take care of it. This puts us in a very awkward position, because according to our passports we are now here illegally, but if we leave the country, we lose our application and have to begin the process all over again. The immigration officials have assured us we will be ok and that we should get those stamps in our passports in the near future. We have come to realize that we are going to just have to trust the Lord to take care of this. That being said, please be much in prayer for us concerning our immigration situation here.

As for the ministry, all is going well here. The Bible College is in full swing again until the end of May. The students are excitedly sharing with us that they started implementing some of the things they are learning at their ministries already and are seeing souls come to Christ as a result! Praise the Lord!!

The Phokera church plant is also doing well, and we have scheduled to baptize and organize as a church this upcoming Sunday! I believe we have close to 20 that are ready for baptism - with others that will probably follow at a later time. They are all very excited about officially being a church. For us it has been exciting to hear some of the testimonies as we have been preparing for this baptism. One of the key men, named Sadaam Bakali, testified how that before we shared Christ with him, he was known throughout the village as a drunk. Now instead of gathering at the bar in the evenings, he is gathering with other men from our Bible study and they are reading the scriptures together. The people in the village are questioning, "Is this the same man?" We praise the Lord for the power of the Gospel to change lives! Please continue to pray that the Lord continues to use Sadaam for His glory!

As we close this letter I want to share with you a special request. Currently the Malawians have only a very poor translation of the Bible. It has many missing verses and numerous texts have been changed. We have been praying about a good translation, and have recently learned that Bearing Precious Seed has a good translation and is in the process of printing whole Bibles! We have obtained a few of these New Testaments, and it has been a tremendous help and blessing. We have requested 10,000 Bibles and 15,000 New Testaments. Because this will be the first good translation of the Bible in Chichewa, they have offered to cover the cost of the printing - asking only that we cover the shipping and custom's fees. Altogether this will be about \$12,000. I believe they are aiming to send these Bibles towards the end of this year. Please pray with us that the Lord would provide the necessary funds for us to ship and receive these Bibles. If the Lord prompts your heart to help us in getting these Bibles to the Malawian people, please notate the amount that is designated for this "Malawian Bible Project", and we will make sure those funds are specifically set aside for this purpose. If anything above the needed amount comes in, we will forward the funds to BPS to help them cover the cost of printing these Bibles and New Testaments. Thank you for praying and thank you for considering this great need of Bibles here!

Your Servants in Christ,
Eric & Jessica Curtis & Family



Phokera baptismal



Youth in Phokera

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