

Botswana

Missionaries Mike & Cindy Haley

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Grace Oasis
#805



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A man once said, "Live every day with a *healthy* dissatisfaction," as he challenged a group of missionaries to never become complacent in their work for the Lord. That statement is a thought that resonates strongly within me every day. The apostle Paul said, "I count not myself to have apprehended" and "I press toward the mark." Regardless of what God has allowed us to become or accomplish there is always an unfinished task that lies before us. We must "make full proof" of the ministry God has given us, seize this moment and every opportunity afforded to us to reach the lost with the gospel. Ours is to fill the corners of Heaven with the redeemed from every nation, the "whosoever wills" of our day. Dare we ask, "Is your all on the altar of sacrifice laid? Your heart does the Spirit control?" Like Paul, have you counted the material possessions and the postural achievements of this world to be "but dung" that you may live for Christ and His glory? Surely, our Lord doth come and we must all appear before the Judgement Seat of Christ. I look forward to that day and pray, that TOGETHER, by God's grace, we will have done our best. We anticipate standing there, with you, knowing that – we prayed – we gave – and we served – to make Christ known amongst the nations! Thank you for standing with us. You are amongst our dearest friends and fruit abounds to your account – MUCH fruit. It is difficult to recount all that the Lord is doing in a letter. **We'll give a full report in a soon coming detailed video that will highlight the past, present, and future of the ministry here. It's an exciting and encouraging video and we're eager to finish it and share it with you.** Till then, following are some special things, some urgent prayer requests, and some needs that we have. We appreciate you and treasure our fellowship together in the work of the gospel.

With great rejoicing to the Lord and a pride akin to a parent watching his child take its first steps, I recently stood in the shade a way off and eavesdropped on Raman as he spoke in the Ruretsbe Bible study. We are **so very thankful** for the men and their wives who make up the Church Planting Initiative (CPI). Raman and Mitchell meet every Saturday afternoon here at the Grace Oasis camp reaching local farm workers. They are growing as they lead this new work, and their group is growing with 13 in regular attendance and more coming each week. Frank and Rosemary are faithfully laboring in Ramotswa, but we desperately need to find a centralized location for the meeting place. Please pray for that! There is no doubt that the church plant in Mochudi, led by Moses and Evelyn, will be a very great work as we have faced some local opposition to it. A retired missionary has given to us an amazing piece of land there in Mochudi with an established church building and a pastor's house already built on it. This is yet another miraculous gift of opportunity given to us from the Lord but a local lady, who illegally took possession of the land in the absence of the missionary, has been contesting it. A hearing has taken place, and we are waiting for a decision from the authorities in November. Please pray for what's right to be done!



Khalim is a 30-year-old Motswana man who was given an Arabic name which means "one who speaks eloquently or has deep thoughts." He came to Christ several weeks ago and God impressed upon my heart that he would be unique, a little deeper than some we meet. He has lived up to his name and I believe God has given us another son in the faith, a Timothy. He lost both of his parents at a young age and was alone in the world. But now (hallelujah), CHRIST is his SAVIOR and we are his church family, and I have become a father figure to him. He is extremely educated but like so many cannot find a job due to Botswana's lack of employment opportunities. Rather than give hand-outs we try to give people a help up and we often use "grunt" work at the Grace Oasis as a means to test a man's character to see if he is "fit" for the ministry! Thus far, Khalim has proven to be exceptionally hard working, humble and joyful. He is on the fast track in discipleship each day with hearty fellowship working alongside his brothers in Christ and does a lunchtime Bible study with Pastor Harlly twice each week. **Please pray for Khalim to grow in grace!**



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In closing, may I share with you a great need and a wonderful opportunity to help us as the Lord leads? We desperately needed a multi-passenger transport van for more than a year. All our ministry savings has gone into the Grace Oasis. AND, due to high demand and short supply, these vans are almost impossible to find. The van pictured below is our "old van". We call it the BEAST. Even though we still use it, it is very unreliable, not road worthy and we HAVE TO have something we can depend on. The vehicle pictured to the left was a "courtesy vehicle" at a local dealership. We were given the opportunity to buy it at a very favorable price. There wasn't sufficient time to raise the funds needed quickly, so Cindy and I took a

personal loan against our retirement savings to make the purchase and secure the vehicle. We still need approximately \$25,000 to pay off that loan and appreciate your prayers to that end and any help you feel led to give. We bought THIS vehicle instead of something older to avoid breakdowns and costly repairs believing it to be good stewardship.



Secondarily, **in November we have a church group coming from Pennsylvania with three exceptional building contractors to build cabin/dormitories to house kids at youth camp, Bible college students, and the pastors who will come for the training workshops.** This will be a huge move forward to realizing the vision that God gave us for the Grace Oasis property. **\$23,000 has already been given for materials purchase and we are praying for an additional \$12,000.** We estimate being able to accommodate 80-100 persons once the cabins are built. Contributions for the van or the cabins project can be sent to our BIMI project account #805 designated either "van" or "cabins" or you can contact us directly for other giving options. We ask these things not for ourselves but so that we may seize upon this moment to reach Botswana and beyond! Thank you for praying, giving, and loving the Lord and us! We're praying for you!

Mike & Cindy Haley



P.S.

We'll share more later, but at the time I am writing this letter, we've had an amazing situation that lead to the opportunity to lead an older man to Christ. God is working mightily in the life of this man and his family. We will leave their names as B. & A. Please, specifically pray for them.