



THE BRANCH FAMILY

SERVING THE LORD IN THE CITY OF KIMBERLEY, SOUTH AFRICA
EVANGELISM - DISCIPLESHIP - CHURCH PLANTING

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*Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?
Then said I, Here am I; send me. - Isaiah 6:8*

BRANCH FAMILY UPDATE

MARCH/APRIL, 2019

Hallo! Ons stuur groete aan al ons vriende uit Suid Afrika! God gaan voort om die werk te seen en ons is opgewonde om die goeie nuus met us te deel. (Greetings in Afrikaans)

PERSONAL

Being a missionary in Africa brings day-to-day “adventure” in some form or another. This past month, I had the opportunity to travel to the country of Botswana to visit missionary Mike Haley and his family and preach revival services for the church there. It was great to visit another country and be able to see first-hand the various differences that make each culture and people unique. It was a blessed and joyous time of fellowship with fellow missionaries and of seeing God work in the hearts of people.

Some “adventures” are not so pleasant. Last week our vehicle was struck in the side while I was making a simple right-hand turn. The driver behind me was not paying attention and didn’t see me slowing to make the turn. I soon learned that traffic accidents are handled quite differently here. The police do not find anyone at fault – it becomes a “civil matter” to be handled by the parties involved. The man informed me that he was not insured (insurance is not required by law here), nor did he have the money to pay for damages. Very thankful that no one was injured, and I was actually able to give the driver a gospel tract!

MINISTRY

Satan’s attacks AND God’s grace have both been at work in the church during these past two months. Early in March, Bro. Naude, a young man who was instrumental in the founding of the church, and the one we left in charge of the work while on furlough, informed me that he was dropping out of the Bible institute. A couple of weeks later, he informed me that his family was leaving the church completely. We are convinced that both of these decisions were heavily influenced by his wife, who we believe to be unsaved. Meanwhile, Bro. Donovan also decided to step away from the Bible institute due to personal conflicts that he needed to “sort out.” The church is deeply saddened by these decisions and we are praying for God to work in the hearts of these young men and their families.



Children’s Church



Unloading Bible shipment

In spite of these setbacks, we have seen great spiritual growth among the people. Bro. Wonder, the lone remaining Bible institute student, has become even more committed to the Lord and is now on track to graduate by the end of the year. He and his wife are completely committed and looking forward to all God has for them. Two new couples have joined the church, along with a single lady and are all steadily growing in their faith. The weekly “College of the Bible” class is growing as well and the people are excited to learn more and more about God’s word and His plan for their lives.

All other ministries continue to see blessed results. The High School Bible studies are well-attended. Family month in March was a great success. Vicki will host a ladies’ tea this month in honor of Mother’s Day and I will host a men’s breakfast next month in honor of Father’s Day. Vacation Bible Time will also be in June with two separate locations in which to share the gospel with boys and girls.

PRAYER AND PRAISES

PRaise the Lord for the Bible shipment arriving safely. We now have over 5,000 Bibles, 10,000 New Testaments, and thousands of John & Romans to distribute throughout the country.

PRaise the Lord for being able to work together and cooperate with other missionary families in furthering the gospel in the country.

PRAY for Bro. Wonder and his family as they continue to grow in ministry and service.

PRAY for the country of South Africa. National elections will be held on May 8th.

In Christ’s Service,
The Branch Family