



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

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER, 2020

Greetings once again from sunny, hot Kimberley, South Africa! Summer is here with temperatures already reaching into the upper 90's. It feels a little "strange" to see Christmas decorations going up in the stores!

PERSONAL

After a long time of waiting and praying for Vicki to return from the U.S., God has answered our prayers – just not how we had thought or even hoped. In my last letter, I indicated that the chances appeared good for her to return. But soon after, those efforts only led to more dead-ends. The South African government did re-open the borders for travelers the first of October...only not to U.S. citizens. So after exhausting all efforts to obtain an exception for her to return and getting nowhere, we feel the Lord would have me and Anna come home for the holidays. We are tentatively scheduled to fly out on the 21st of November and the plan is for us to return to South Africa around the first of February to continue the work. Needless to say, it has been a very difficult five/six months for us, but God's grace has been sufficient. We are thankful for all of you who have made this prayer need a priority! Please keep praying!

MINISTRY

The work of the Lord here never ceases to amaze us. Even in the midst of all the COVID-related issues, the work continues to thrive. The people are so faithful to attend all services and Bible classes, along with any evangelism outreach effort we may have. We just finished our last Bible class for the year with a verse-by-verse study of I and II Corinthians, and we have two ladies who have completed the one-year-equivalent Bible course. We plan to have a "graduation" ceremony for them in a couple of weeks. These two ladies attended "established" churches for many years but knew very little about the Bible. It's been wonderful to see the spiritual growth in their lives and in the lives of the other students while attending these weekly classes!

Bro. Sarodien's Bible Institute training is getting close to being completed. He has been a very good and faithful student and has worked very hard to complete his training in such a short time. His preaching is improving with each opportunity and evidences a Spirit-filled and fervent heart. We are excited to see God working in this young man's life and believe God has great things in store for him and his family.

We have even more exciting news about the Greenpoint Baptist Church! They've been holding services in their new building for two months now and God is blessing. The people have been faithful to attend and several visitors have come. Best of all, **four precious souls have been saved!** And this past Sunday, we assisted Bro. Wonder in baptizing his first two converts from the church. What a joy to see God using this young man and his family to reach this gospel-poor community!

As you can see, God is greatly using these two young men and their families to reach South Africans for Christ. Plans are in place to hold an ordination service for them upon our return next year.

PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUESTS

PRAISE the Lord for souls being saved and baptized!

PRAISE the Lord for God's guiding hand and bountiful grace!

PRAY for our scheduled flight and for safety as we travel.

PRAY for Bro. Sarodien Graaff, who will lead the church while we're in the U.S.

In Christ's Service,
The Branch Family



Bro. Wonder preaching



Bro. Wonder baptizing