

The Kellers' Prayer Letter

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In Touch Mission International

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Joy to the World, the Savior Reigns!

"And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him." Colossians 3:17



**"Smooth sailing" in hippo-occupied waters.
Our life is like that sometimes.**

Dear Friends and Family,

If you had told me in the early days of this year, during the weeks that I was going through glandular fever and dealing with compromised kidneys; in the time we were moving into our house while trying to finish it; during any of the *multiple* vehicle problems we experienced; in the midst of difficult logistical issues in Zambia; as we navigated the murky waters of cross-cultural outreach; or while watching our kids experience tropical diseases..... If you had told me that I would be closing 2014 with God's praise in the forefront of my mind... well, I would have been relieved! Because sometimes I wasn't sure if I could keep it together and maintain a joyful submission to the Lord in all things! However we are learning that His ways truly are above ours and He is *always* a benevolent God.

The Lord is indeed gracious. Personally I am feeling physically stronger and better than I have in years. I am not sure if this is a reprieve or a release, but I am grateful for every day that comes without chronic fatigue or illness. I am thankful for stamina, energy, and a joyful heart for His service. I am awed at how God has used us this year in Zambia and excited about the doors He is opening for 2015. The Lord is teaching me many things in the ups and downs of my health- the first is to trust Him fully and lean on Him completely.

This year we have been able to witness God's amazing provision to His people in Zambia. We saw Him take provision, encouragement, and His Word back to Libeko. We got to be the wheels that carried life-changing discipleship materials and textbooks to churches and schools in and around Kabwe. We saw people receive their first Bible. Through discipleship and training courses we are equipping teachers to lead their students to Christ and help them grow in His wisdom and understanding. By God's grace, thousands of African people received God's Word through books, training programs, outreaches, and discipleship. God is amazing. We feel incredibly privileged to be able to do this work in Zambia. We are praying for God's wisdom as we plan out 2015 and prepare to serve the people in Africa.



**One of our greatest privileges is training,
mentoring, and partnering with African
missionaries.**

At the moment our family is traveling in the United States. This is a small but important part of our ministry. Much of what we are able to accomplish in Zambia is due to the many people who go before us prayerfully and stand behind us financially. I know some think of missionaries as a one man army, but that is far from the truth. We may be the ones on the front line, but we wouldn't be there for long if we didn't have faithful partners standing with us. When we come back to America for a short while, we are excited to be able to share what God is doing in Africa and be an encouragement to our friends and partners.

In the last few weeks I've been able to preach and speak in a number of meetings. God has taught us many things on the mission field. It's amazing to see how He can use our stories to encourage His people in both Africa and America. I particularly enjoy youth meetings. Whenever I have an opportunity to share with young people, I am reminded of the missionaries I heard as a young man. Their testimony kindled a fire in me that God has not allowed to diminish. I hope that maybe God is using me, like He has with others, to inspire young hearts to dedicate themselves to His great service.

As we look to the coming year, one of the challenges we face is aging vehicles. Our rugged field vehicle still has some kilometers left to give, but we will need to plan a replacement in the not-too-distant future. It's almost 20 years old (which is like 500 in African vehicle years) and it has endured many demanding adventures over cruel terrain. It has suffered through hip replacements, a pacemaker, and chronic malaria.

No one can say that this Toyota didn't give 110%. Please be praying for our vehicle- it has been our primary means of reaching out to people in the most remote areas... but it is no longer reliable in the brutal conditions so commonly found on the African roads.



**Mission vehicle:
Transportation
by day,
protection from
wildlife and
predators by
night**



Are we there yet? Wait... who cares!

Please continue to keep us in your prayers, especially for safe-keeping on the road and good health. During our time in the States nearly every day I am traveling, speaking, or traveling to speak. I appreciate the many opportunities we have had to share about our work, meet with friends, spend time with family, and enjoy delicious steak. The kids have been amazing- they truly are well-seasoned travelers. God knew what He was doing when He made each of them. They have a deep love for Jesus, a heart for ministry, and an unstoppable enthusiasm for adventure. What more can you ask from a missionary kid?

In the new year we will return home to Zambia. We are really looking forward to the opportunities that God has for our family in 2015. As we prepare our hearts to return to Africa, one of the things we are most thankful for is the

support and friendship we have here in America. Thank you for being our partner in prayer and our friend.

Wishing you and your family a merry Christmas and God's blessings in the coming year.

Please pray for...

- The Lord's grace in using us to make a difference for Him in Zambia
- The hearts of God's people to grow in wisdom as they use the Bibles and materials we distributed throughout the year
- Our family's safety as we travel and minister in the USA and return home in the new year.

Pro Rege,

Timothy, Ashley, Monica,
Frederick & Olivia Keller

Tax-deductible Support Gifts may be sent to: The Keller Household, c/o ITMI, PO Box 7575, Tempe, AZ 85281
To receive a tax receipt, cheques should be made out to "ITMI" and designated to "The Kellers"