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July Newsletter

Where Your Treasure is, there will your heart be also!



The 2016 EPI Team has returned from Zambia with happy hearts and great joy for all God did and how He used each one. Week one we met up with our Zambian ministry team each morning at the Training Center property to pray and get our “walking papers”, literally for the days assignments in the villages. We covered four large villages making contact with many of the villagers and seeing many come to faith in Christ.

While visiting with the people sitting around the fires, we were interrupted by the Nyau Dancers. To be a Nyau Dancer, one must go through a very harsh initiation...part of that is raping a young girl, or even murder in some cases. It is a traditional dance and the dancers dress in costumes that cover them entirely. Usually when they come into a village the people become frightened. Four or five of our missionaries were saved out of this lifestyle. Although they temporarily disrupted the Gospel presentations in the village, we were invited back to show the Jesus Film. A church is being planted in that village. Our God is greater and He overcomes darkness because He is the light of the World!

The training center walls are up! Much sacrifice occurred in building the center. Thirty-five of the newly planted churches provided the bricks to build the building. At great sacrifice to each church member individually, they contributed 10 kwacha (\$1 US) for the purchase of bricks. With no water on the property to form the bricks it was necessary to purchase them and bring them to the site.



I might add, the churches are not close so they had the extra burden of coming from distant villages. We watched the walls go up and learned that one of the men working the site had come down with malaria during the week. The women were faithful to come every day and prepare the meals for us all.



Once again the Mambo invited us to come for a visit. We were able to pray for her and thank her for her continued support of our work in the eastern region. During the prayer I reached over to take her hand and she held mine. She called before we left to tell Iwell she wanted him to plant a church in another village. The mambo is now contacting us and requesting that churches be planted in various villages. PTL!!!!



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Page 2 Vol. 69

Russell Mason



This was my second time to go with John and Sharon to Zambia. Each time has been a blessing. I was blessed once again by working with outstanding Zambian brothers and sisters in Christ. It is encouraging to see them so on fire for Jesus. They eagerly embraced us as together we shared the Gospel in the villages; hut to hut. Some of the men came a great distance to spend the two weeks with us. They were content to sleep on mats in the garage that houses the EPI bus. The temperature dipped into the low 40's at night. But they never complained; only exhibited joy on every occasion. Every morning they met us with excitement and was ready to boldly share the Love of Christ with others. Their faithfulness and boldness have encouraged me and challenged me to do the same here. I praise God for the opportunity to go and share this ministry with those who are faithfully carrying the Good News to their own people daily. I had a rare opportunity to help baptize new believers. Stepping into those cold, muddy waters on a cold windy morning, was an experience I will never forget.

Russell Mason

Damaris Garcia



I was 12 when I first felt the desire to go to Africa. When I started praying in earnest and got bold with my requests concerning missions, God did the impossible; He opened a door that had been closed to me all these years.. EPI invited me to be a part of their summer mission project in Zambia. While there, I worked alongside the most dedicated people. I traveled with and fell in love with the EPI African team members. I spoke in schools, village film shows, and even at a Youth Conference with over 500 in attendance. Russell and I served as judges for a festival of choirs; what tremendous sounds. Yes, I even lived in the center of a village with a Peace Corp volunteer from the U.S. for two nights. What an experience! I ate much "village chicken" and "rape" (a turnip green of sorts) and learned to eat Nsimi with my hands. What I saw and experienced will stay with me a lifetime. Only God knows the next step. What I learned is this: God is on the move and I want to move with Him.

Damaris Garcia