



Jensen Missions

Tanzania, East Africa

June 2009



MEET THE MARTINS

Here in Tanzania there are so many things required for missionaries, which may often escape the casual observer. Having been born and raised in America, I also would have no clue, were it not for the fact that my family and I now labor in this enchanting land. To name one example – documentation! There are so many things which require highly involved processes of authorization and documentation. Requirements include work permits, passports, vehicle registrations and insurance, duty free documents relating to vehicles, paperwork required for the Bible schools and the school of preaching. Many of these require photos, multiple copies, and signatures of top officials. Some business can be handled here in Arusha, but many items must be handled in Dar Es Salaam.

Meet Elly Martin. He is a tireless Christian brother who makes frequent trips to Dar, by bus, handling a whole host of paperwork for TZ2000. Every missionary is constantly calling upon him to help expedite their needed paperwork. We are habitually calling him, asking for a status report on some pressing item. Those of us who are accustomed to government offices complete with organized files find the “system” here quite disconcerting. I have observed high stacks of papers and folders perched atop the desk of some high official. One wonders how *any* file is ever found in such a teetering tower. Elly has a kindness and patience which enables him to be effective in handling these involved matters.



Elly is also a fine wood crafter. He shares my delight for woodworking tools. He recently finished a podium for use by the Arusha church of Christ.

Paul expresses the church in terms of the functioning of a body. Certainly missionaries are members who receive attention, while often other parts go largely unnoticed. But without a work permit, the missionary would not be allowed to live in the country. We are thankful for brethren like Elly, who make our work both possible and more effective. **GJ**

Here is a spiritual song that we sing here in Tanzania:

JICHUNGUZE MOYO WAKO

- 1) Jichunguze moyo wako, kama umeungama (x2)
*Imefika safari ya kwenda juu Mbinguni
Imefika safari ywa kwenda juu Mbinguni
Jichunguze moyo wako kama umeungama
Jichunguze moyo wako kama umeungama*
- 2) Bwana Yesu alisema jisafishe mwenendo. (x2)
- 3) Jichunguze moyo wako kama una kasoro. (x2)

EXAMINE YOUR HEART

- 1) Examine your heart, if you have confessed
*The journey has come to go up to Heaven
The journey has come to go up to Heaven
Examine your heart, if you have confessed
Examine your heart, if you have confessed*
- 2) Lord Jesus said purify your behavior
- 3) Examine your heart if you have imperfection



A CHILD'S TOUCH

Yesterday we made our way up the mountain to Kioga to worship with the saints there. We were warmly greeted by the brethren, and began Bible study time with a few Swahili hymns. Since many denominations in Tanzania have Pentecostal leanings, my lesson dealt with the Person of the Holy Spirit.

During worship our study focused upon the work of the Holy Spirit. Many groups here claim to exorcise demons and heal the sick. How ironic that in this land of disease these false religions are claiming to possess the ability to heal. If they actually had the power to heal there is no doubt that multitudes would be thronging to their services.

During the remembrance of our Lord's death, a small child sat beside me. This youngster seemed enamored by my pale skin. He also enjoyed pushing upon the veins bulging from my hand and wrist. At one point he began to scrape at my skin. As best I can determine, he was not trying to hurt me, but rather to determine if my color was only skin deep.

"Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven" declared Jesus (Matt. 18:4). The touch of a child surely is a reminder of their humility. They have no lofty view of themselves. They literally "look up to everyone."

As children of God, it is good to remind ourselves of our place before our Creator. "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith Jehovah. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts" (Isa. 55:8, 9).

While Jesus was sojourning on earth many desired to touch him. "And all the multitude sought to touch him; for power came forth from him, and healed *them all*" (Lk. 6:19). A curious child may desire a touch. Many may desire a touch for physical healing. You and I ought to greatly seek the spiritual healing which is only available from our Master. May we often humble ourselves in prayer at His feet. **GJ**



Another Campaign Season – Come and Gone

Another campaign season is behind us. Much has happened over the last month and a half, and we are thankful to God that during our many hours on the roads, we have been blessed with safety. Here are a few highlights of the last few weeks: *We had 2 month-long guests, plus a few days here and there we had three more guests. *We've provided meals for numerous guests. *Julia, Lindsey and I taught several children's Bible classes, George taught a lesson during seminar week, and I taught a ladies class during seminar week. *George and I helped a couple of members in Moshi, who were sick with malaria – took one of them to the clinic, took some food to the other one. *George took Christopher Mwakabanje to the hospital to get an x-ray of his injured ankle (turned out to be just a sprain). *Luke taught a Sunday morning Bible class, and also experienced his first Bible study with a Muslim lady. *Jacob taught some personal Bible studies. *Luke took an SAT test, in the midst of it all!

As you can see, we've been keeping the candle burning at both ends. That could also be taken literally, because we've been experiencing frequent power outages. The rains, for the most part have ceased, therefore, the need for power conservation has increased. The difficulty is not being able to know when or how long we will be without power. It keeps life interesting, that's for sure.

On a personal note, we celebrated my birthday the 25th of this month. Homemade coconut ice cream with hot fudge was a very nice treat, along with the special attention given to me by George and the kids. It's hard not to have a nice birthday with the entertainment that goes on in our house. ☺ Until next time...

Love, Joy

Contributions May Be Sent To:
Jensen Mission Fund
P.O. Box 41
Dyer, AR 72935

OUR NEW MAILING ADDRESS:

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East Africa

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