Jensen Missions

Iringa, Tanzania

East Africa

George and Joy Jacob, Luke and Lindsey

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Malawi Safari

On August 12 the alarm clock rang at 2 a.m., long before we were ready to hear it, and at 3:00 a.m. we rolled out of the driveway, commencing our long drive to Malawi. The trip took 16 hours; two of which were spent at the border. Finally, not long after sunset, we arrived at the home of Ed and Lina Crookshank. After visiting a little while we called it a day - a long day! Saturday we rested up a bit and also went to town to buy a few things for the coming week, as well as obtain some local currency.

George's Personal Evangelism classes for the two weeks were as follows: Mondays - Nkhoma, Tuesdays - Salima, Wednesdays - day off, Thursdays - Chawala, Fridays - Kasiya, Saturdays - Area 36 (Lilongwe). Numerous congregations were represented at

each location. For example, the second week at Kasiya there were 27 congregations represented! In all, about 500 students attended these classes.

Before our arrival Ed and Isaac printed 500 copies of the Personal Evangelism booklet in the Chichewa language. It was stressed repeatedly in these classes that we can plant and water, but God alone gives the increase. (1 Cor. 3:6). We realize that not all will rise to the challenge, but there is already evidence that some have taken the



lessons to heart. After the first class, one brother had asked an acquaintance of his - an elderly Baptist man - if he would like to study the Bible, and he received a favorable response. We will never know, this side of eternity, what good may come from the classes. To God be the glory. ...continued on pg. 2



Special Thanks! From time to time we have received care packages from various friends and family. We want to let you know how much we appreciate these acts of kindness. It means so much to us to know that you have taken the time and expense to send some special treats our way. Normally, duty must be paid on the packages we receive. However, the post office has informed us that if a **package** is addressed to "George Jensen, church of Christ", then some of the contents may be exempt from that duty. Therefore, we would request that future **packages** be addressed in that manner. Thank you again for thinking of our family.

Malawi Safari...continued

In addition to the Personal Evangelism classes, we visited a different congregation each Lord's Day. On August 14 we visited the Bunda congregation. Jacob taught Bible class and George preached. On August 21 we worshiped with the congregation at Katchalenge (on the western coast of Lake Malawi, near the town of Salima). August 29 we worshiped with the Kaluzi congregation; a small, newly established congregation. On that particular day Luke gave the lesson for Bible class and George preached.

Joy and Lindsey had a few adventures of their own when they attended a ladies retreat out in the village of Katchalenge. You can read more about that below. Then, on our last Saturday, Ed and Lina hosted a youth seminar at their home. There were about 130 young people in attendance. Jacob, as well as a local young man, spoke before lunch. Lunch was served, and then another local youth spoke. The day concluded with separate classes for the guys and girls; Luke speaking to the guys and Lindsey speaking to the girls.

Monday morning, the 29th of August, we were up long before sunrise and on the road at 4 a.m. The day seemed like it would never end, but we finally rolled into our driveway at 9:40 pm. Many of you were praying for us and your prayers were heard. We are thankful to God for the safety that we enjoyed and we pray that our efforts have helped the cause of Christ. In Christ's Service, George and Joy



Journey with Joy ...

Toward the end of our first full week in Malawi, Lindsey and I accompanied Lina Crookshank to attend a women's retreat at a village that is almost two hours

from Lilongwe, on the shore of Lake Malawi. There were more than 600 women; some came from as far as four hours away. Most of them slept on the ground, along with their babies, on a layer of dried straw, in a semi-enclosed area. Cooking was done over open fires and the softest seating available was the straw-covered ground.

On Friday morning Shupie, the young woman who does most of the translating for Lina, began her early stages of labor. She really did not want to miss the ladies retreat and so she decided to go, in spite of the fact that her due date was about 10 days away. By noontime, Lina decided that she ought to take Shupie back to Lilongwe so that she could go to the hospital there. We weren't sure how far along Shupie was in her labor and Lina certainly didn't

want to get caught driving after dark. Neither did we want to have to deliver a baby out in the village, if we could help it. So, after lunch Lina and Shupie headed back to Lilongwe (about a 2 hour drive), and Linz and I stayed. That night we could do nothing but laugh at ourselves —out in the village with no vehicle, we couldn't speak the local language, and I almost ran out of phone minutes! George was nice enough to transfer some to me, so at least I could get in touch with him if the need arose. Anyway, Linz and I made it just fine, although we came away from the experience with a few stories to tell.

I spoke three times. My lessons were on the topics of 1) How Women Can Serve, 2) The Role of Mothers and 3) Loving

Your Husband. Honestly, if I had known previously what some of the problems are for the ladies here I would have chosen different topics. You might think that the problems the Malawians have are similar to those of Tanzanians, and to some degree, that is the case. However, the Malawi women, especially those that come from the more remote villages, are so mixed up in their thinking concerning marital and family relations, as well as traditional superstitions, that one hardly knows where to begin.

In Africa, cultural practices are often given weightier importance than the N.T. teachings. While some of the specifics may sound rather shocking, the reality is that the mindset is not so different

from America. For example, in spite of hearing plain teaching on the subject of modesty, many brothers and sisters in Christ continue to expose their flesh, for the sake of conforming to the culture.

We also had some extra challenges because a number of the women did not exhibit godly behavior. Food supplies disappeared and some went down to the lakeside beach (just a few hundred yards away) and publicly bathed topless or completely nude (which, by the way, is not accepted behavior by the people of this village, including non-

Christians, and the local church members were quite upset by it), in addition to other problems.

Lindsey spoke twice to a class of young women, once on Works of the Flesh vs. Fruits of the Spirit, and the other on issues that challenge young women, such as commitment, jealousy, purity and modesty. She did a great job!

In spite of the difficulties, there were some who attended who obviously came with a genuine desire to learn the Word of God. We hope that we were of some encouragement to them. ~ \diff_\text{\psi}_\text{-}

Visit my blog: journey-with-joy.com