

September 2017
Prayer Letter 4

Dear Family & Friends

John 4:35 Open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest

Introduction ❤️

Winter comes dressed in brown, not white, like we would expect in the UK. In the Free State of South Africa, winter is very cold, dry, dusty and windy! Yes, in August we were cold, but warmed by the many testimonies of faith and works. God’s work does not depend on us being present in South Africa, for He has all the resources for a bountiful harvest. We are privileged and thankful to play a small role in it.



Clarens and Durban Visit ❤️

Our friends in **Clarens** gave us a warm welcome. Our accommodation and **linked hospitality** was warm and engaging. Nick and I visited all the schools in the area. Faces lit up, hoping that we were back for good, especially now that I was walking stronger and not wearing the familiar back brace! It was also an opportunity to catch up with Joseph and his news.

At **Tshepong** (place of hope), the management is always **progressing** with some new project. This time we saw their new games room and sewing room. Some of the sewing products were on display. These were made by the older girls from Tshepong, and women from the area. At the Schools and at Tshepong, we were able to give out some of the donated goodies and Pak -A- Bags. These were very much appreciated, and we convey, on their behalf, **warm thanks** to all of you in the UK, who made these gifts possible.

Our time in **Durban** was equally good, with timeless hospitality extended to us. On this occasion, we witnessed the work of a Charitable Trust Project Manager in many of her associated Schools. They were BIG library and classroom projects, built and furnished with books and soft furnishings to a very high standard. It was a privilege to hear about the positive effects of these additions upon the Learners, Educators and Parents. The morale of Staff, the appreciation of reading books, learning Information Technology, and Healthy Dining & Refreshment Cafes, was raised at these once “disadvantaged” schools.



Left – Sarah & Sheila at Tshepong, Clarens

Right – Dr Choolwe Mwetwa at Dorothea Mission



Dorothea Mission 75th Birthday Celebrations

Some of you might remember that we spent the **first year** of our full time Missionary Service with the Dorothea Mission. This year we were in South Africa at the right time to visit the Mission for their 75th birthday celebrations, days of prayer, and sound bible seminars on **Biblical Leadership**. Nick and I were appreciative of the exposition of the Scriptures by Dr. **Choolwe Mwetwa**, Pastor of Central Baptist Church, Chingola, **Zambia**, and the unexpected **opportunities** of meeting the Mission’s Evangelists, friends and supporters of SWYM too.

Nick and Sheila Court - Serving the LORD

Another **highlight** was hearing encouraging news from **Leon and Freddy**. Both of these men are **full time** Pastors, and have responsibilities for their own Churches, and yet they faithfully and joyously serve in the schools. What a harvest field! What a blessing! Do **pray** that neither will become weary in well doing.



Freddy & Lydia



Leon & Nick



Sheila telling a Bible Story

Also we had unexpected new opportunities in being able to tell *themed* Bible Stories at a local Pre School, in Glen Marais. The children were keen and attentive to the teaching, quiz, and songs.

SWYM Bible Correspondence Course

We are yet to meet face to face with Anita Dekker who is administering the Course books. However, she has informed us that she is now working as a full time Pharmacist at a hospital in Pretoria. This involves day and night shifts. Anita's friend, Nadia, whom she was working with on translating some of the books into Afrikaans, has moved to the Cape Area. Anita has asked us to **pray urgently** that she might have a replacement person to take over the SWYM Correspondence /Prison Ministry from her.

Praise/Prayer items

Praise God for the following:

For journeying mercies to and from Clarens and Durban, with the loan of a Toyota Hilux from Rod & Bev Rowlands, former Trustees of SWYM
For the generous, day to day use of a Citroen Berlingo from Pastor and Mrs Linton
For the many heart warming visits, and testimonies of encouragements
For the sound teaching on Biblical Leadership at the Dorothea Mission
That RSA funding has been promised for the on-going ministry and printing of SWYM Correspondence Course Books



Pray for the following:

That God will lead us to the right person, or persons, to take over the SWYM Bible Correspondence Course Ministry from Anita Dekker
That we will have time and sufficient funds for a week of studies on the Theology of Biblical Counselling at Lynnwood Baptist Church AND for travelling mercies

With our love, prayers and thanks

Nick & Sheila

Be encouraged – God is at work in South Africa

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FINANCIAL DETAILS:-

UK - Lloyds TSB Bank, Chippenham Branch, Account Name: Step Wise Youth Ministry,
Account Number: 03217242, Branch Code: 30-91-99