



Zak Pak Newsletter

February 2010

Dear Partners In Ministry,

RISK: In all our planning and ideas, we will seek to wisely risk for the King. This is desired because of the brevity of our opportunity, the privilege of sacrifice, and the joy set before us.

An older lady at Kopano Baptist Church testifying this last Sunday in Zulu:

"We have had others come here before, so at first I did not listen. I was not interested. But then I saw that what was being said week after week came from the Bible. It was not just man's words but God's Word. Then one day I was all bloody (her drunken husband had strangled and beat her). I was lying outside on the grass. Pastor Zak brought me to his house. Mama Zak took me in and cleaned me up without even asking about if I had AIDS. I saw there was the love of God here and so I have continued to come week after week. I thank God for this church and all that I have learned from the Bible here."

What a privilege it is for you and I to be involved in transforming lives with the Word of God and with actions that testify to the truth of the Gospel.

Stallion has started Christ Seminary this past month and is loaded with an armful of good books and good homework. **Tapuwa** is taking Stallion's guard duty when he is gone each month and plans to start seminary, Lord willing, next year along with a young man who is heading up the youth ministry at Kopano, **Pilane**. This Sunday we will have three other churches join us for a baptismal service at our house – the river has too many snakes – and there will be approximately 15 – 20 baptised. We are still systematically preaching through the book of Luke and will get through the entire book in January of 2011. Those attending Kopano



Baptist are now walking to 10AM church, even with their twin babies 4 kilometers one way, so that the dependence on the Zak's vehicle can be eliminated. We are stepping back in every way possible so that the church will continue with national leadership when we go on **furlough** for 10 months this August.

Current Furlough Itinerary:

August 15	Prior Lake Baptist Church	Minnesota
August 20-22	Amazing Grace Baptist Camp	Kansas
August 29	Prior Lake Baptist Church	Minnesota
September 5	Sand Creek Baptist Church, Jordan	Minnesota
September 19	First Baptist Church, Waterville	Minnesota
October 3-7	Cornerstone Baptist Church, Pine Island	Minnesota
October 13,14	Baptist Bible College & Seminary	Pennsylvania
October 24	Eden Baptist, Savage	Minnesota
October 29	Southside Baptist, Sunfish Lake	Minnesota
October 30-31	Community Baptist, Eyota	Minnesota
January, 2011	Weld Plumbing Convention	Minnesota
April, 2011	Plainville Baptist	Massachusetts
April, 2011	Saltwell Road Church, Bridgeport	West Virginia

We are eager to fill up our furlough itinerary with both supporting churches and other churches that may want to hear what God is doing in this part of the world and be challenged with the Word of God. Please have your pastor, missions director, or whoever coordinates missionary presentations at your church contact us by e-mail at zaks1@worldonline.co.za if you would like us to have your church on our itinerary.

We are excited about what God is doing to further our vision of ministry here in South Africa. A missionary's role sometimes changes as he works himself out of a job – and that is a positive thing. It is good when the church national members start taking the reigns of leadership out of the missionary's hands. We are seeing that happen here at Kopano in the planning for this year's **Easter Conference**, the planning in relation to finances, and the planning for the youth, service times, and transportation issues. As a church moves to independence of the missionary and the missionary moves to a supporting/encouraging role, the missionary is forced to ask, "What do I do now?" We are glad that God seems to be opening a door of ministry that is national local church based and that we are extremely passionate about. We will share more soon.

Jacob (10 yrs) has a few words to say:



"After my schoolwork is finished, I have been doing a workout program every day, somedays – I run to the corner and back which is about 3 kilometers. Somedays I do an aerobic video that makes me sweat quite a bit too. Dad says mowing the lawn is good exercise, but I think I'd rather ride my bike. I like to jump on the tramp or swim in the pool to keep cool when it is so hot. I am trying to beat my brother Caleb in running – when I beat him I will be in really great shape. He got third place in a big race and actually won some money."



Central Baptist of Pretoria is gearing up for the World Cup of Soccer! One of the ten South African stadium hosting the games, Loftus, is walking distance from the church which gives the church a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to share the gospel with people coming from all over the world. We have focused our efforts in two areas – hosting and evangelism – and we want to do those two things extremely well. Evangelism training has been going on church-wide with over 150 Central attendees trained in sharing the gospel with the goal to have 90% trained to share their faith with those visiting. We are seeking ways of effective follow-up, probably via e-mail, and would appreciate your prayers as we find the world "coming to our doorstep" for **World Cup 2010**.



This next month finds us hosting a team from Cornerstone Baptist Church in Pine Island, Minnesota. Pastor Tim Graham has been out to minister with the area African pastors and they have invited him once again to share in ministry at this year's African Easter Conference. He will also be sharing at two other meetings, one of which he will be teaching the pastor's how to study the biblical text and preach through a passage of Scripture. One thing we are seeking to avoid is the bringing in of culturally foreign methodology and presenting it as the best way of doing something, mainly because we are comfortable with it. But the rub is – we usually teach what we are comfortable with and familiar with and what we think is the best way of doing something because it may have worked for us in our context. There is nothing wrong with that, but our presentation needs to be that of a submissive servant of godly church leadership and of a continual learner. Our recognition needs to be that unchanging truth is much bigger than our limited perspective. We don't ever have the full picture. And that should keep us humble.

Serving With Gladness,
Kevin, Sarah, Nathan, Caleb, Luke, Cortney, Jacob, & Josiah

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