

Hello Dear Friends and Family,

Our maiden voyage to Africa was blessed by God. He gave us favor throughout the whole journey. Many thanks for your prayers for safety as we traveled far (21 hours in flight from Kansas City to Johannesburg, South Africa, then 9 hours bus ride on to Maputo, the capital of Mozambique in the south, then a 4 hour flight to Nampula in the north). Of course, such a distance is nothing to God.

We were only a few days in Maputo which reminded us very much of northern Brazil. It was really during our two week stay in Nampula that culture shock set in. Mozambique is listed among the poorest countries in the world along with Haiti, Angola, and Bangladesh. It is a place with overwhelming physical and spiritual needs, especially in the north, whether in the city or out in remote areas. We received a great blessing being with the missionary families and talking about these needs so we could understand the culture better from their experiences.



This group of Makua, several hours away from the city down dusty bumpy roads, greeted us with singing and dancing. They are being taught the gospel for the first time from Genesis to Christ by two Mozambican men being mentored by one of the missionaries. The Makua, numbering 4 million in the north, are the largest most unreached animistic group.

Even though there are some churches sprinkled across the cities and countryside in the north, there are still many towns where no church exists. The church leaders there need to be mentored and spurred on to reach their own. Where there are churches, the leadership is urgently asking for more teaching. The leaders usually only have anywhere from a 2nd to 6th grade education and often are the only ones with a Bible because they are the only ones who can read. Because of the lack of solid biblical teaching in the church, it is affected by the culture ridden with beliefs about the need to appease the spirits of ancestors in various ways and is affected by immorality as all young people reaching puberty are expected to become sexually active. We really long to share the good news about Christ and how He can transform their lives as He has ours.

We have put in our application to Good News for Africa to serve full-time along-side the missionaries there. We expect to hear back from them by the end of September. Please pray for God's continued blessing in all this.

Love,
Daniel & Melissa and Family.