

# Zambia Newsletter

## Zambia Missions

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Things are going well here in Zambia. We are now halfway through our school year and are looking forward to the graduation of our first class of students from our new three-year training program. We are finally realizing progress in our chicken business and seeing good things happening in our Primary School and Kerin's Kids ministry.

### **Report: Bible College.**

The Bible College seems to be operating better than it ever has in the past 14 years. There are a lot of reasons for this. Fourteen years of experience has taught us how to train "self-supporting, spiritual leaders," and I now believe we have developed a recipe that is effective. We now have older, mature, married students with their wives (and families), and our recruiting efforts are better at finding students with greater potential and moral character. As well, I think our staff now has enough experience in our training approach that they are able to do a better job training the students.

In August, I will be interviewing three potential teachers from Zimbabwe. We lost two of our teachers a couple of months ago (including Mustapha Sandi, who was the Director for the Bible College), and I need to replace them. Because the church and the economy of Zimbabwe is further developed than that in Zambia, Zimbabwe has far more men who have received biblical training in various Bible Colleges. I have three good men who have been recommended to me, and I hope to hire one or two of these candidates in August.

### **Agricultural Ministry.**

Our students are now doing VERY well with their chicken businesses. It has been a difficult and rocky road getting to this point. We have had two main challenges. First was the problem of teaching the students the "business" of raising chickens for profit. The students couldn't understand why we were not giving them all their money from the sale of their chickens. We discovered that if we gave them all the money, they would spend it immediately (including all their capital) which left them with no money to buy their next batch of chicks (along with feed, medicine, etc). We then realized that the students didn't understand that it was necessary to follow strict routines about feeding and caring for the chicks, so they would grow fast and reduce the mortality rate. They also

didn't understand how important it was to sell the chickens quickly once they reached maturity. To delay taking chickens to market reduces profit. Thus, for the past two years, our students earned very little profit.

A second problem has to do with the buyers who are notoriously corrupt and dishonest. We have had contracts with several buyers who all failed to live up to the terms of the contract. Some failed to pick up the chickens on time (which robbed us of our profit). Some told us their trucks were broken down, and then they failed to pay us for transporting the chickens ourselves. Others changed the price for which they agreed to buy the chickens. Also, some failed to pay for several months. Contracts mean nothing since the courts are corrupt, and cases can take more than 5 years to be heard. So, it has taken us some time to figure out how to navigate all these challenges and figure out to whom to sell our chickens.

Nevertheless, after 2-3 years of effort, it appears that our students have learned the business of raising chickens, and our students are finally starting to make a profit. In addition, we now believe it will be much easier to teach new students in the future as they will now be able to see and learn from the second and third-year students (who will be able to show them the ropes). Students learn best when they can learn from the older students who can demonstrate and explain what works and what doesn't work.

### **Kerin's Kids Children's Ministry.**



Ali has now been with Kerin for six years – since the day she was born. She was named Mary Alice after Mary Alice "Flash" Settle (from Wilmington, NC) who was working with us six years ago (along with her husband, Dixon). We call her "Ali" which is short for Alice. Ali is one of the only children who has remained with Kerin's Kids more than two years. This

is due to the fact that her mother and her extended family are unable to care for her.

Ali is quite intelligent and enjoys going to our Primary School. When she was in Pre-School, she got position two in her class on her report card. She decided she didn't like being number two, so she began studying hard and has achieved position one on every report card since (for the past two years).

Update on Carol. Carol is a ten-year-old girl with cerebral palsy. Thanks to some donors, Carol has been getting physical therapy geared toward limbering up the atrophied muscles in her arms and legs. In one more month she will go for her evaluation which will determine what type of therapy she should be given next.

Update on Emanuel. Emanuel was the baby that was born prematurely about 18 months ago. Neither he nor his mother were expected to live at the time of his birth (story we included in the Newsletter). Emanuel is now healthy, walking, and expected to graduate from Kerin's program (baby formula) in October. We are thankful to God for all our answered prayers on his behalf.

### **Education Ministry.**

One of our female teachers got married in July which resulted in her having to move from Daybreak to join her husband. We have now hired a new teacher to replace her. We now have several students in our Primary School who are studying for their Grade Seven Exams. This is a national test that determines whether students can continue with their education; thus, it is a very important test and reflects on the quality of our program. We do request prayers on behalf of our students in this effort.

### **Visiting Teacher.**

I thought I would include a message from one of our visiting teachers, Paul Chimhungwe, who is a teacher at African Christian College in Swaziland. I invited Paul to come teach a class on Spiritual Formation in June. Here is what he wrote to me after his visit:

*I have just gone four days. I want to confess these were joyful days. I was enriched more than the students. I really felt satisfied with the class and very much enjoyed the class. Thanks for inviting me. I will never regret. The students were extremely engaging and wonderful and I am told they are enjoying the lessons. Tomorrow they will be marketing their farm products. This is a wonderful program.*

*I expect to finish on Saturday then preach on Sunday. I will leave on Monday morning for Zimbabwe. Unfortunately, it has proved more expensive than I had budgeted, but it's worth it. I enjoyed the lessons and this program is worth every penny. This is something I would love to do every year if the Lord provides resources.* Paul S. Chimhungwe.

### **Meet Our Students: Albert Chipeta**

My name is Albert Chipeta. I was born in 1982 and I am currently 35 years old. My village I come from is called Chama in Muchinga Province of Zambia. I am a first-year student at Daybreak Bible College.



My family were all Christians but most of them, including my parents, died when I was 15 years and together with my siblings we remained three. The problem we have in our family is poor education background which has made our lives kind of worse in some ways. I am

married to a committed Christian wife with two children. I am not a talkative person, I may socialize with people but not much into it. My weakness has to do with not spending much time in prayers which I am working on more especially am here at DBC. I care most in life about my wife and children and put God first and my priority of being here is to be trained of becoming a good spiritual leader.

I became a Christian in 2008 because I wanted to be saved and make more disciples for Christ. I came to faith in Christ upon hearing the gospel of salvation through the preaching of the word.

I decided to come and learn at DBC because of the teachings they have are both spiritually and physically and that inspired me a lot. More especially the knowledge of becoming a spiritual leader and have basic agriculture skills to sustain myself and family. My hope and expectation of my being here is to gain more knowledge so that I may be fully equipped with the word and ready to make more disciples to Christ and not depending on donors but rather work on my own using the skills I will learn from DBC within three years. So far with my few weeks of being at Daybreak Bible College, they have taught me how to communicate effectively with my friends more especially with the thing of God. Being found mostly in prayer groups, devotions, and mentorships has impacted me and looking forward to learning more while here. My primary focus of my coming at DBC is to be fully equipped with the word of God so that I may help people back home in my village.

Yes! Indeed, I would recommend other people I know to come and attend and have this learning experience I am undergoing to be fully equipped of being a spiritual leader and a skilled agriculture person able to survive own my own and preaching the gospel.

My intentions is to get back to my place and preach the gospel and do agriculture. My future plan is to first establish my agriculture business as I preach the gospel and make disciples to Christ. Not only that, I have the passion of opening up an orphanage and possibly even to plant a church. So being here at DBC will indeed help me in future because the knowledge am acquiring so far is preparing me for great work of God.