

Zambia Newsletter

Zambia Missions

1910 Sycamore View Rd
Bartlett, TN 38134
(901) 372-1874

Web: www.zambiamissions.org

David & Lorie French

P.O. Box 350070
Lusaka, Zambia (Africa)
zambiamissions@gmail.com

December 2018



Great news to report this month! We celebrated our first graduation of students from our new three-year, married students training program. And, since this is a **major milestone in the progress of our ministry**, I am devoting most of this newsletter to this event.

Report: Bible College: Graduation 2018!



Below: Picture of the ceremony with the students sitting in the front row (men on the right and women on the left).



Four years ago, we moved to our new campus, and, in so doing, designed a new campus specifically for this new approach to training spiritual leaders. This required that we build married student housing, chicken houses, and all the

infrastructure necessary for such a large operation. Then, three years ago, we graduated all the students from our old program and started fresh with a new group of students (who have just graduated). We then added a new group of students each year (as we built our new campus) so that we now have three groups (classes) of students. This means we will be graduating a new group of students each year hereafter.

The men graduated with a diploma in Bible and Ministry and their wives graduated with a Certificate of Completion in Women's Ministry (which is a program designed to train the students' wives for women's ministry and to facilitate their spiritual growth and development).



Above: Teachers seated at the "High Table" which is the custom in Zambia. Teachers and honored guests are always seated at the "High Table" during any public gathering (especially at special ceremonies). **Charles Phiri** (chairman of the board) is seated in the middle.

Within a week of graduation, we received a report from one of our new graduates (who had just returned home to his village). He (Paul Njovu) was quite anxious to tell us of his progress, so he sent us a report with pictures (see pictures below). He has already fixed up his chicken house and stocked it with chickens!



Picture of one of the students receiving his diploma from Bright Himakampa (who is the Director of the Bible College).

He writes, "Thank you for the support have started my chicken project. From what I was given God has added here I am now. Thanking God for his faithfulness toward you! Blessings." [He is speaking about the \$100 of capital investment that we gave each graduate as they returned home, so they could start their chicken businesses and plant their gardens]. Below is a picture of Paul fixing up his chicken house. He also sent us a picture of all the new chicks he had just bought and put into his new chicken coup (see picture to the right). He seemed quite excited!



Surgery (David).

Upon my return from Zambia in September, I experienced a painful episode involving gallstones. Since I have very poor health insurance (\$7500 deductible), I just toughed it out at home and

hoped it was a one-time event. Unfortunately, it was not. I continued to experience discomfort for two more months before I finally went to the doctor who had me get an ultrasound that revealed I had a very bad gallbladder. So, I had to have gallbladder surgery two days before Thanksgiving. As I write this newsletter, I am able to report that I am recovering nicely from the surgery and should be ready to return to Zambia right after Christmas.



Kerin's Kids (Orphans).

Kerin has added three new children to the children's ministry. One is a child whose mother died (pictured below) and is now being cared for by the father. Kerin is providing baby formula as there is no other substitute for nursing in Zambia.

The second child is a twin who survived an early birth (which his brother did not survive). Kerin is now providing baby formula and the surviving twin is now healthy and thriving.

The third picture is that of a baby who was born without one of her ears. The mother is a teenage girl who is unable to care for her, so Kerin is currently housing her in the Baby House. [You can see more pictures at www.facebook.com/kerinskids].

Construction.

We are almost finished with the construction of our new Office/Classroom Building. I should be able to show you a picture of the finished project in the next newsletter. This building will provide offices for our administration (financial office) and teachers and will give us a third classroom.

Finances.

If you would like to donate to the work in Zambia, you can do so either by check (address on first page) or online by going to our web page (www.zambiamissions.org). You can click on any of the "Donate" buttons and select a specific area of ministry to which you would like to donate. You have the following choices: General Ministry, Bible College, Kerin's Kids-Children's Ministry, Kerin's Kids-Baby Formula, Primary School, Lunch Program, Women's Program, Optical Clinic, or Construction.