

# Zambia Newsletter

## Zambia Missions

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Greetings from Zambia. I hope you all are having a great start to the new year. Lorie and I have been in Zambia since Christmas and we have witnessed a great start to our new school year here at Daybreak Mission (Zambia).

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

The new year has started off with a fresh, new group of 17 Freshmen students (bringing our total to about 65). Our students come from almost every province in Zambia. Classes are now underway, and the new students have already started their gardens and chickens.

We added one new teacher to the Bible College staff in January, Dennis Sabelo. Dennis is a graduate of African Christian College in Swaziland. He has a degree in Bible. I have been most impressed with Dennis' interest in spiritual formation as he seems to be very serious about the moral and spiritual development of the students.

We also hired a new Dean of Students, Gilbert Nyamanga. Gilbert is a graduate of our Bible College. Both he and his wife have been very active in ministry since graduating in 2012, and we believe they will be a good addition to our training program. The Dean of Students is basically the one who oversees the daily schedule and operations of the Bible College and makes sure the students are following the rules.

### **Agricultural Ministry.**

We made great progress last year in our Student Agriculture program (especially the chicken business). Nevertheless, our students still struggled financially last year and were not able to generate any capital funds for their return home after graduating. We ended up giving each of the graduates about \$100 to start their chicken businesses, but that was not nearly enough for our students to get started back home.

Thus, this year we have overhauled our operations and have doubled the number of chickens our students will be raising this year. I have also set aside several thousand dollars into an operational account that will allow us to purchase all the chicks and supplies needed in advance so that there will not be a delay between chicken cycles. Instead of waiting for the students to sell their chickens, we will buy the chicks and materials three weeks in advance so there will be no down time between cycles. Thus, the students will be growing more chickens with more cycles per year.

News from our graduates. Several of our graduates from last year have been hired to manage chicken farms for Zambian farmers. Apparently, news has spread that our students know how to raise chickens, and several Zambian farmers have hired them. This is good news as it insures that our students will be self-supporting in their ministry efforts and will have job positions that have some honor and respect in these rural areas.

### **Kerin's Kids (Orphans).**

Part of the ministry training that we are giving the students is training in how to minister to orphans and vulnerable children. Lorie and Kerin are teaching a class this term for third-year students that includes both classroom and practical training. The practical training involves the students and their wives working with Kerin in the Children's ministry and going out with her to the villages to visit the orphans and vulnerable children that Kerin is assisting (see picture below).



Critical to training students (in addition to knowledge and practical skills) is also the need to develop the desire to do this type of ministry. Unlike westerners, Africans do not feel any responsibility to help children (or anyone else) who is not part of their extended family. This is due in part to the fact that everyone is living at survival level and the fact that half of the children die before 12 years of age. Death is very much a part of life (including children dying young)!

Thus, if we are to instill this "ethic of love for neighbor" in our students, we have not only got to train them how to do this work but also create the desire (motivation). How can this be done?

Two ways: (a) Teaching from the Bible that “love of neighbor” is part of Christian faith, and (b) involve the students in acts of love for others so that such good works become habitual and natural for them (i.e., behavior creates value in the things we do).

Even we were surprised at how much our students were affected by participating in Kerin’s ministry. It was as if no one had ever thought about helping children in need; but in doing so (with Kerin), the students found the experience eye-opening and transformational! It was a life-change experience for our students and appears to have greatly impressed upon them the need to minister to the weak, poor and vulnerable. The picture below shows students participating in Kerin’s Kids ministry.

### **Education Ministry.**



Another part of the students’ practical training involves how to start and operate a community (village) school and how to serve as a community school teacher. This also involves both classroom and practical training. Lorie (who has her master’s in education) has been providing this training. The picture below shows some of our students engaged in their practical training. There are more pictures on our

Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/zambiamissions](http://www.facebook.com/zambiamissions)).

Lorie has been extremely busy working with the Primary School over the past two months. She replaced two teachers (one of whom was under-performing and another who took a government teaching job). She has been doing a great deal of teacher training so as to improve the quality of education in our Primary School. Our 7th-graders who took the Mandatory Test last November scored in the top 25% in our district!

### **Construction.**

We finally completed construction on the new Office Building (with third classroom). Picture below.



We are now starting construction on a General Store with a Grinding Mill. We are in a newly developed (growing) area south of Lusakak, and there are no stores in our area. Everyone (including our staff and students) has to walk 7 miles to the nearest store. Not only will this help our staff/students, but it is also a way for us to generate a little income.

**Finances.** The Zambian govt has dramatically increased the minimum wage, along with a new requirement that we pay our staff gratuities (retirement pay). This increased our salaries by 40% over last year. I had to lay off some workers, but even so this increase has greatly stressed our monthly contributions.

### **Meet Our Students.**



My name is **Boyd Khondowe**. I am 25 years old from Mtambachalo village of Eastern province of Zambia. I am a first-year student at Daybreak Bible College. I am a Christian who strives to be honest, trusted and God-fearing in whatever I do. My

greatest weakness is that I am short-tempered person. It was in 2009 that I became a Christian.

I came to Daybreak Bible College to gain more biblical knowledge and understanding so that I will help others. I want to be a good spiritual leader who will lead others by example. I also want to learn how to grow chickens and gardening so that I will be able to support my family and community.

I am confident that by the time I leave here, I will not only acquire agriculture and biblical skills, but that I will be able to practice them. I can foresee how much my village and church will benefit from my knowledge and experience. I am thankful to God for me being at Daybreak to learn more of His word and agriculture skills.



My name is **Nipomock Leonard Mossa**, from Tanzania. I am a first-year student at Daybreak Bible College for 2019. I am 34 years old, married to Jackline with no children yet. Both my wife and I are faithful Christians. I gave my life to Christ in 2007.

I am at Daybreak to become a self-supporting spiritual leader who will be of benefit to my community and church. I also want to learn more on agriculture. After my graduation, I intend to return to my village so that I teach others on the agriculture skills I will obtain from DBC. My passion is helping others especially the vulnerable people. So being at DBC, to me it is my dreams coming true.