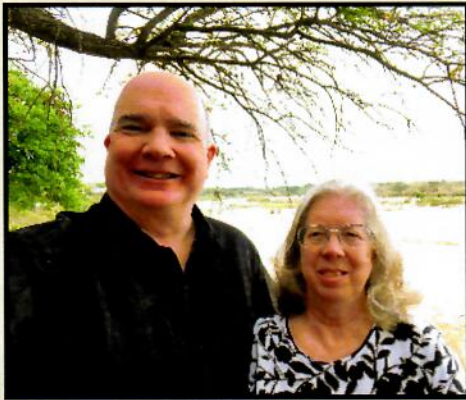


South Africa and Beyond!

Douglas Hammett Family -- Prayer Letter

November 2022



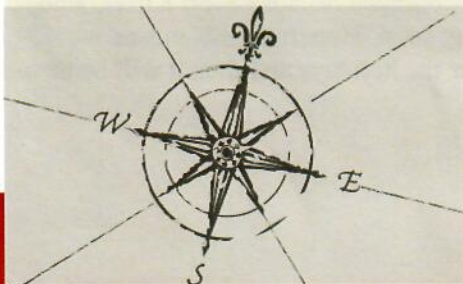
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The Gospel is...

Dear Pastors, Churches and Praying Friends,

If I asked you, "What is the gospel?" What would be your answer? That question is one I often ask here in Africa. The answers? They range from, "Gospel Music," to "Good news," to "Get baptized," to "Speak in Tongues."

I usually follow up their wrong answer with the question, "Can a person obey a command that they do not know?" Of course, the answer to that is, "No." 2 Thessalonians 1:8 says, "*In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:*"

Rarely have I had anyone here in Africa answer me in accordance with First Corinthians 15:1-4. That is the passage I take them to and show them what God says the gospel is. Often it gives me the opportunity to speak to them of the true gospel. And sometimes they are open enough to discuss what God has to say about the Gospel.

If this conversation can continue, we must start with defining terms. They often have heard the terms and have wrong meanings associated with them. Clear, carefully and patient explanation must take place if the gospel is to be understood and acted upon.

I cannot explain how very deep false gospels have taken root here. Too often those who claim to preach the gospel are not careful to make sure that understanding is present. And then when working across language barriers it gets even more difficult to make sure people are understanding.

How do you do that in the villages? Among people who often struggle greatly with the English language? Or most often, do not even speak English? In South Africa alone there are 11 official languages, and then at least 35 indigenous languages.

Add to that we are working in six different countries (and opening up number 7...more below) and you can see the languages multiply.

Not only is it essential that the men I am working with have a clear grasp of the gospel, but we also provide them with the Gospel Lessons in some of the indigenous languages to help them be clear for people in the villages.

Siswati...

We are continuing to work at getting the lessons translated into Siswati which is a major language group here in South Africa. We have some men in place who long to get the gospel to people in this language group. And we have avenues open of literally hundreds who are wanting these lessons in their language.

For videos and more updates, visit:
www.PurposedCoachingBlog.com

Sepedi...

Then we have several men working in the Sepedi language which is strong here in the northern part of South Africa. The gospel workers long to have the lessons in that language for those they are trying to reach. This translation project is near being ready to print.

Portuguese...

I just this week was sent the Gospel Lessons translated into Portuguese. This has long been a prayer of mine. God provided in Chris Bell, missionary in Brazil who was able to get those lessons translated and graciously sent them to me to use here in Africa.

Our previous lessons in Portuguese have been good, but not as well translated as these Bro Bell has provided us. We have men reaching out to people in the refugee camps in Mozambique who need these translated lessons. And also people in many of the villages of Mozambique. We printed the old translated lessons this month for distribution in the country. But look forward to printing the new translation as it is needed.

Also, this month one of the men in Angola, Patrick, has begun working with people in Portuguese to give them the gospel. These lessons will be invaluable there as we see the work expand to this needy country. Yes, this will make the seventh country. Would you pray for Patrick?

Bemba...

We were able to get the lessons printed again into Bemba this month for parts of Malawi. Those lessons are already being distributed.

Chichewa...

In Zambia we printed lessons in Chichewa. There are many who speak this language in that country, although it is not the major language there. Many of these lessons are finding their way back into the bush for use among people far from the cities.

While getting gospel portions, whole Bibles and Gospel Lessons printed and distributed is a good thing, the real need is men who are wise in the Scriptures and faithful in their life to give the gospel clearly.

Often they need to counsel with those who read and do the lessons to make sure that their understanding is clear. Reading Scripture or lessons wasn't enough for the Ethiopian Eunuch...and it is not for most people. So faithful men who will explain the gospel are critical.

That is why we need to heed the advice of Jesus in Matthew 9:38: *Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.*

Will you join us in praying for the men in the countries we are working in? Your prayers are needed! There are so many who are laboring to get the gospel out. Training for these men is so very much needed. That work continues as I teach and lay up training that can last beyond my life.

For the Souls of Men,

Douglas Hammett

South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Malawi, Mozambique, and Angola

PS: We still are waiting to hear on our Visa and until then we are not allowed to travel outside of South Africa. For all practical purposes we are locked down. Please pray with us for God's will and timing. I am encouraged because Scott Kuzel, who applied for his Visa after I did, has already heard on this application. He will be returning soon. Hopefully this means we will hear on our Visa application very soon. The government effectively shuts down over the holidays and then it will be at least the middle of January before they come back to work.