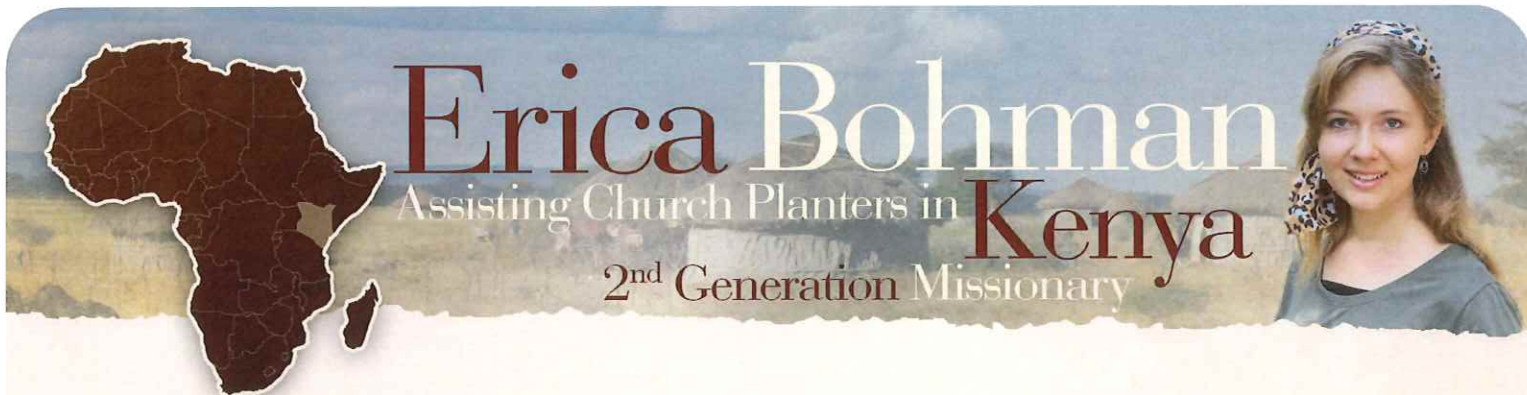




Dear Praying Friends,

March 2025

Every week day, millions of Kenyan children wake up early, have breakfast of bread and tea, don their uniforms, and walk to school. Each elementary classroom will have forty to sixty students per teacher. Much of the traditional education is done through rote memory, drilling the information into permanency in their minds. During the course of their week's educational classes, the students will be taught Christian Religious Education (CRE), as mandated by the Kenyan government. During this hour, Muslim children go to a separate classroom to be instructed by the local Imam, and the rest (being called "Christian" as the alternative to being Muslim) are taught according to the government's curriculum.

As laudable as it sounds for a government to mandate Christian education, the old deceiver is very active during this hour. While these classes open doors for Bible-believers to speak, it also opens the door for healers, charismatics, Mormons, Jehovah's Witnesses, and for many others who claim the name of Christianity. I have before me some of the CRE booklets, and these statements are included with Bible stories, traditional beliefs, and lessons on morality:

- "Christians believe that through baptism one gets a new life."
- "There is good magic and bad magic...Some people use good magic for the welfare of society. People who visit magicians may be healed or have a misfortune avoided."
- "By performing miracles, the church is able to spread the Gospel ..."
- "[Both] the Christians and traditional African society believe that God communicates to them through intermediaries."



Unfortunately, these "facts" will be corroborated by the students' families, teachers, neighborhoods, and even by most churches. As you can see, their religious training is heavily syncretized: traditional beliefs and false doctrine are combined with Biblical terms and practices. This blurs the distinction between the Bible and their religion. However, approximately 200 students in Kisumu are starting to hear something different as I teach through the Bible, specifically targeting the tenets of salvation. This ministry was started at the end of last year. Although it will take time to see fruit, I am starting to see positive feedback. Truly, only with God's help can we hope to penetrate such a bulwark of confusion with one hour of Truth. But, God's Word is "quick and powerful and sharper than any two-edged sword" and that is the Word we teach!

Perhaps as you are taking your own children or grandchildren to school, or when you are standing before classes of your own, you might take a moment to intercede in prayer for the children here who might be hearing for the first time the Gospel that we hear regularly.

May the Lord bless you,

Erica Bohman

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