



The Johnsons In South Africa

January—February 2025

But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven.

- Matthew 19:14

Greetings from South Africa,

Here in South Africa, January began with our greatest opportunity for ministry every year at Hope Baptist Church. It was time for “Bible School” (VBS). We are well known in the community because of this event every year. Often while driving around even youth will call out “Bible School” when they see us. God amazingly provided the extra finances to purchase some simple sweets, and a few backpacks and school supplies as prizes, and then on top of that He gave us a brand new sound system that we were praying for! With all that God was doing in preparation we looked forward to what would happen that week. God brought a great number of children with an average attendance of over 500 each afternoon, and around 80 in the evenings for a youth time. We saw a number of salvation decisions, including some youth that we have prayed and witnessed to for a long time, and during the Sunday morning closing service, a dad of a Sunday School boy that we have witnessed to for over 6 years trusted

Christ as His Saviour! Evangelist Bill Smith was a great blessing in leading the program, together with many helping from both churches. Thank you for your prayers, and to our God be all the glory!



“Bible School” ended the summer holidays here and as the kids started a new school year, it was time to reorganize some church ministries. This year, we have added an extra service time at Hope Baptist Church for teaching on Sundays after the main service. We have 3 different levels of ABC lessons during this service time. Simple ones for the children, the beginning set for the youth and new christians, and the ABC’s of maturity for those that have grown further in the faith. It is a blessing to see people studying and growing in their Christian life. Solid Rock Baptist Church also continues to do well, and we are seeing visitors and many follow-up opportunities in both churches. Recently, in following up on some visitors, I was pleasantly surprised for several reasons. First, because they were invited to church by a young christian that they had never met before, and second because they were so open, understanding, and ready to receive the gospel. It was very encouraging to see them trust Christ, pray for Samgelo and Nomfundo that they would now grow in their Christian life.

At the beginning of February, we were excited to be able to progress on construction at Hope Baptist Church. We were able to finish the rest of the metal cladding, some plumbing, and finally to install the exterior doors and half of the windows in the building. The building is now more secure from vandalism, with only the upper windows in the auditorium still needed to finish closing in the building. We need about \$50,000 USD to completely finish the building. But the next \$25,000 will enable us to finish the windows, bathrooms, and classrooms and begin to use the building even more for ministry.

We greatly appreciate your prayers. This year begins our 17th year serving the Lord in South Africa, and **we cannot express enough our love and gratitude for your prayers and support.** Please continue to pray that God would strengthen us, protect us, guide us, and give us wisdom, and that He would raise up more labourers for the harvest. South Africa has lost many missionaries over the years, but the fields are still white and ready to harvest! Maybe God is calling you?

Gratefully Serving the Saviour,

The Johnson Family,

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“To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death...” Luke 1:79