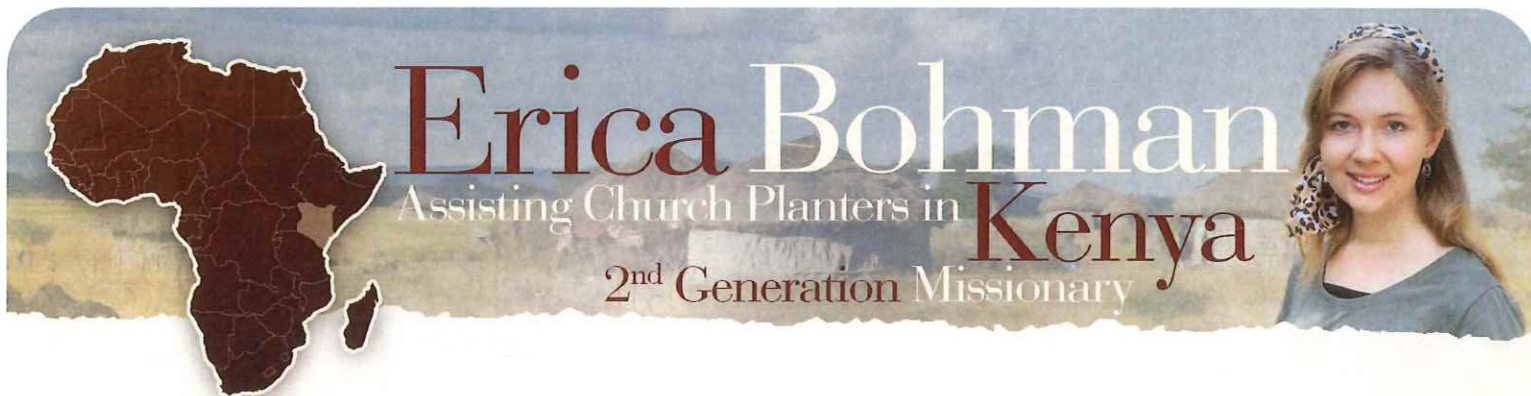




July 2025

Dear Praying Friends,

“Wow—that lifts a load!” one teenager sighed out. He had been really struggling with the assurance of salvation: whether or not he had lost his salvation or what he had to do to keep it. Finally, the truth of the Bible dawned through all the confusion, and he realized that his salvation is kept by the power of God. The Lord loves to “lift our loads,” doesn’t He?

Ministry is people. We know that, but so many times it is easy for us to notice the numbers, programs, and schedule of a ministry and to use those factors to gauge a spiritual growth. While all those factors come into play, the most exciting growth to see is in individual Christians. I was so happy when a teacher at a local school I teach at related an interaction with one student. The teacher noticed a junior high girl was reading her Bible during break time. This peaked the teacher’s curiosity and started a conversation between them. When the student gave a confident testimony of salvation, her teacher was impressed, and asked what church she went to. She answered, “Hope Baptist Church.” Come to find out, she is one of our faithful church teens. Glory to God for her good testimony! What a joy that she is also faithful to the Lord when she’s not at church!

Recently, someone else started witnessing: a Bible clubber took me by surprise the other day. She has been saved for a couple years, and I was encouraging her to share her salvation testimony with a friend of hers. She replied, “Oh, that friend already got saved—she was the fourth person I helped get saved.” From our conversation, it was good to hear that she was still remembering the points of salvation, and I was impressed by her zeal for souls! I was also glad she had improved in her method of presenting the Gospel. Her first attempt was humorous—she had been very frustrated by her friend’s not understanding the importance of being saved, and she finally closed the conversation with, “When Jesus blows that trumpet, are you going up? You’ll be staying here, and I’ll wave bye-bye!” I’m glad she followed up with her friend later!



Others are just beginning their spiritual journey. Over the past few weeks, it has been a joy to see two young ladies saved. One is a first-time mother who will now be able to give her son a Christian home. The other is a young teen. She was very convicted and said, “I can’t say I would go to Heaven if I die because I have a lot of sin.” Her anxiety soon turned to peace as she accepted the Lord!

Please continue to pray for spiritual growth in these new believers!

In His service,

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