# THE LORD REIGNS, LET THE EARTH REJOICE - PS 97

### **HEY THERE!**

Since the latter part of January I have been traveling all around southern Africa with Wide Awake Missions on a team consisting of myself and 4 amazing people! I've been in awe at the harvest field we have had the privilege of stepping into. I've never seen so many people give their lives to Jesus so eagerly. The harvest really is plentiful but the laborers are few, so we must be praying to our Lord to send more laborers (Matt 9:35-38). He uses anyone that is willing!

## SOUTH AFRICA

The first part of our journey began in Cape Town, South Africa. We had one day in Egypt on the way and it was so unbelievable to see the Nile and the Pyramids! I loved the warm hospitality of the Egyptians and Arabs we encountered during our quick stop. I'm still praying for God to open a door into the Muslim world... Pray with me.

In Cape Town we served with a long term church partner, speaking in church services, and holding daily outreaches to their local slums. One day we held a children's VBS. We had so much fun loving on them and sharing the truth of Jesus's love with them. I had the honor of planning and executing planting a garden for the community in one of the slums we visited!

From Cape Town we traveled to Johannesburg, South Africa. We served with a long term missions partner, Impact Africa, joining their programs of home to home evangelism and children's ministry, as well as serving in their babies homes which serve to rescue abandoned babies.





For those who have faithfully served in children's ministry (hi, Mom!), I salute you and give you my deepest respect because it is a high calling! I feel the same way about teachers. THANK YOU for what you do. God sees and He knows. You do not go unnoticed (Is 49:4).

#### **TANZANIA**

From South Africa we traveled to different parts of Tanzania, one being the city of Dar es Salaam. We worked with a pastor there, preaching and holding services in their church, as well as holding services in the streets of the city.

We visited a rural community where the foundations of the church were still being built. As we visited that small community, I felt as though I was in biblical times. We came upon a man that was sweeping the leaves from his garden and someone from our team shared the story Jesus said about the return of the unclean spirit in Luke 25. The man stopped sweeping and said he wanted to fill his life with Jesus right then! I felt as though I was watching the disciples as Jesus called them - dropping everything to follow Him.

From that man we went to another house where there was a woman washing clothes outside. She told us she had been a





believer when she was young but had become a Muslim to marry. She said she wanted to follow Jesus and asked for us to pray with her right then. She asked us to pray for her husband that he would give his life to Jesus. At the end of that day my team held a church service where the Holy Spirit deeply encouraged all of us!

While we were still in Tanzania we traveled to a very remote Maasai tribe. We stayed with a husband and wife that moved to the tribe to serve as pastors of a church plant there. Our time there was so precious and filling to me. I was amazed by the humility and grace the pastors walked in daily. They lived the message of Jesus that they preached and truly served as shepherds to the sheep.

One of my favorite memories was visiting a chief elder of one of the tribes. He is 94 years old and he was sitting under a shade tree as he invited us to talk with him. We asked him to share any wisdom he had with us and he said he did not have any. He only asked that we teach him what it means to follow Jesus. He was so hungry to know God!

## **BOTSWANA**

We have now been in Maun, Botswana since the end of March, serving with Love Botswana. We've been working alongside the faithful missionaries that have been bringing the Good News to unreached villages for 40 years, all because they said yes to Jesus. We're serving them by helping with needed projects and upcoming youth camps. At the beginning of May we will possibly travel to Zambia or Zimbabwe - we are still seeing where the Lord may lead us! Later in May, another team member (that I met in Uganda in 2022) and I will travel to Uganda for the month.

#### **PLEASE PRAY**

Lately I've been reminded of our dire need of prayer. It is our communion with God. I've felt like the widow in Luke 18 - I keep coming back to Jesus, bringing everything to His throne. I don't have room to write of the opposition the enemy has caused. I've never felt the tension of being sharpened and ground down as I have during this time but even though my flesh is weak, I feel encouraged (Eph 6). I know breakthrough is coming by God's Spirit and I want to be faithful to worship Him with all my heart as I wait for Him.

I heard this the other day and it has stuck with me: "We cheat the process of God a lot of times because we endure things instead of allowing them to transform us." I pray for Jesus to truly transform our hearts and lives into His image, to then shine as a light of salvation for others!

# I'd love to hear from you!

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