

The Agape Pages

October 2011

Jambo sana (hello very much)! Greetings to all of you in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. It's hard to express our joy in writing each of you to update you on our continued service in Kisumu, Kenya, with Agape Children's Ministry. It's hard to believe that another month has already flown by.



Where to begin...let's start on the home front. Tammy and the kids are doing awesome, and once again it's so evident to us how God has nestled us so snugly into our new home in Kisumu. September marked the ringing of the Page Family school bell for the first time, as Tammy began homeschooling the kids. God has blessed us with a house that is big enough to accommodate a dedicated classroom; we are so blessed! Sutton is in fifth grade, Connor is in fourth, Seth is doing pre-K, and Lyla is absorbing a little from each. It's worked out really well that Sutton and Connor can do a lot of their classes together; we're still working through scheduling where their lesson plans deviate from each other, but we'll figure it out! Seth absolutely loves his one-on-one time with Tammy in class...almost too much. Lyla wanted to join Seth's class the other day, and Seth didn't like it one bit! Oh well, what do you expect from a five-year old?



We also have the majority of our appliances and furniture; praise the Lord! We finally got our washing machine a few weeks ago...a huge answer to prayers, because if our family is good at nothing else, we are experts at generating dirty clothes. I'm not sure if I mentioned it before or not, but if you buy furniture directly from a store here, you will pay an arm and a leg. So, instead, what you do is to go to a local fundi (generic term for builder; could be painter, stone mason, carpenter, artist, etc.), provide the dimensions of what you want, and the fundi will build it for you. Pretty cool! We're waiting on a few sofa cushions and

a cabinet to store curriculum in the school room, but outside of that our fundi-friends have taken good care of us! The Lord also provided a vehicle for our family. We just purchased a 1995 Toyota Land Cruiser Prado. Yesterday, it made the arduous seven-hour journey from Nairobi flawlessly. We're so thankful for this reliable (and sturdy) vehicle that will hopefully serve our family well for years to come.

My work at Agape has been going awesome. I've been blessed with incredible opportunities over the years to manage and lead people in both the Army and in the business world, but this is the first time that I've had the opportunity to lead folks in a ministry setting. I've been really impressed with Agape's Kenyan managers; they are godly men and women who work very hard to care and minister for the boys at Agape. It is such a privilege to work with this team.

Beginning a few weeks ago, the Lord opened up an opportunity for me to begin teaching the Agape Kisumu staff during a daily, morning devotional time. One of my managers invited me to teach a session on the importance of Christian growth, a class that I guessed would take a few days, but two weeks later I'm still teaching (and am only about halfway done). We've been discussing the importance of studying Scripture and having a consistent prayer life; we've spent a week discussing baptism (an

"To the King of ages,
immortal, invisible,
the only God, be
honor and glory
forever and ever.
Amen."

1 Timothy 1:17

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interesting topic in Africa); and we're beginning to study the importance of Christian fellowship and accountability; lastly we'll look at Jesus' imperative of fulfilling the Great Commission. I've also been asked to teach on marriage, as there are a number of struggling marriages in Kenya (sounds like the States). Eventually, I'm planning to teach a class on Agape's Statement of Faith in the coming weeks. Preparing for these studies has required that I spend hours in the Bible for preparation; what a blessing! We have 52 Kenyan staff members at the main campus, and we've had as many as 30 team members in the class (some staff members can't attend because of their duties). Praise the Lord for this opportunity to minister.

We are so thankful for your continued prayers on our behalf. As we begin our third month (hard to believe), please be in prayer for the following:

- Homeschooling – you homeschoolers know the specifics.
- Agape's Kenyan staff members: for wisdom, growth in Christ, and salvation (possibly for some).
- Boys at Agape – pray that they come to know Jesus' unconditional love; it's difficult to fathom the rejection and trauma that some have experienced.
- Agape's Missionaries – for good health! We're finding that being sick is part of life in Kenya; we've had our own bouts with the Kenyan flu over the past month and had our first malaria test (thankfully it was negative). Thankfully, we have a very good physician in town that is taking good care of us.
- Rest – life in Kenya can be exhausting. Please pray that we learn how to care for ourselves and take the time to get the right amount of rest. I'm trying to get used to the idea that I might have to take a nap time during the day.
- That the Lord will work through the morning devotionals to drive us all (myself included) to growth and maturity in Jesus Christ.
- For financial support for Agape; there are 52 staff members at the main campus alone (not to mention the Farm); 90 former street boys at the main campus (more at the Farm); about 90 additional impoverished children that attend school at Agape (and eat at Agape). God always provides for the need of the hour, but it never hurts to mention that there are hundreds of people that rely on Agape for their daily bread.

Thank you so much for your continued financial support; we could not be here in Kenya serving Jesus without your financial sacrifice. For those of you praying and considering supporting our family, we welcome your partnership and promise that your support will be put to good use.

Don't forget to check out our blog: theagapepages.blogspot.com. We also finally have our Vonage phone up and running, so give us a call to let us know how you are doing. The call is free and you dial it as you would a local phone number: (919) 894-7945. Just remember that we're seven-hours ahead of Eastern Standard Time (EST). We look forward to hearing from you soon. Kwaheri (goodbye)!

God Bless,

The Pages

Chris, Tammy, Sutton, Connor, Seth, and Lyla


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