



June 28, 2010

Charles and Sarah West Newsletter

Good Seed

Dear Friends in Christ,

We received a box of school books, donated by the library of the American International School of Lusaka, to pass on to “The WellSpring of Faith and Hope Orphanage and Community School” ministry which we are building up and supporting.

As we were handing over the books to WellSpring’s school headmaster, he asked if we could share the books with another school that is far more in need, located some 12 to 15 hours away from Lusaka, where we are located. We said, “Sure, but how would we get the books to them?”



He gave me a cell phone number, and I contacted the director of the school in need of the books. She told me that someone would be driving to Lusaka in the next few days, and he would be able to pick the books up and take them back to the Western Province where the school is located. We connected by phone with this driver, he drove to our house, and we handed over three boxes of children’s books for ages 2-15 years.

As we sat and talked to this driver, who had volunteered his financial resources and vehicle and time, he gave us some background on the school. He told us that of all the villages in all the provinces of Zambia (this one, Shangombo located on the border of Zambia and Angola) was the least developed. He said to get to Shangombo, which is his home, he would have to drive south 8 to 10 hours from Lusaka to Livingstone, then another 4 to 5 more hours’ drive, after which he would need to take a pontoon to reach the village (which is located near the Zambezi River) to give the books to the children. He spoke of how this gift of books would change the lives of the children in the village which, in turn, would change the community and the country.

In the boxes, we included the one Bible we had left for donation and a copy of “The Purpose Driven Life” as a gift to the school’s director. We scoured our children’s book shelf for a children’s’ Bible, of which we had a few and other good Bible-based books that we had read to our children when they were toddlers. We have a young woman from Royersford Baptist Church named Lisa who we are hosting for a month (she is a student at Bloomsburg University),

and she chose to do some early childhood education work at the WellSpring of Faith and Hope Community School. She had two great children's books which she added to the pile, and this made a great donation.

Luke Chapter 8 recounts the parable of the sower who went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path; it was trampled on, and the birds of the air ate it up. Some fell on rock, and when it came up, the plants withered because they had no moisture. Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up with it and choked the plant. Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up and yielded a crop, a hundred times more than was sown.

How that is possible -- divine multiplication -- is, of course, God's "law of giving". The Bible is full of passages that remind us to give and more will be given; to not withhold what God has given freely; to share, go the extra mile, even put yourself out by giving that extra coat. Proverbs 19:17 reminds us that "He who is kind to the poor, lends to the Lord, and He will reward him for what he has done."

In His Service,

Sarah West

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