

Melvins on the Move...



Pray for the Melvins ... (Colossians 4:5-6) Conduct yourselves with wisdom toward outsiders, making the most of the opportunity. Let your speech always be with grace, as though seasoned with salt, so that you will know how you should respond to each person. (NASB)

Newsletter of Tom and Cindi Melvin * Serving Christ in Maseru, Lesotho (The Lowlands) * May 2007

Dear Prayer Partners,

Can you believe we have already been in Lesotho almost 5 months! We continue to adjust but praise God for His faithfulness during this transition time. Since mid April we have really been "on the move." We drove 8 hours to our first annual missionary training (AMTM) April 13 – 17 held at a Christian camp in Shelly Beach, South Africa, on the beautiful coast of the Indian Ocean. There we were warmly welcomed by other IMB missionaries in our cluster serving in southeastern South Africa and Swaziland. A team came from the U.S. to minister to the kids while we were updated and trained in the latest strategies designed to reach the lost. We enjoyed the time and learned a lot. Following that trip we returned to Lesotho to dig deep into language study before the next travel dates. Cindi was blessed to join 260 other missionary women in Kenya for the CESA (Central, Eastern, Southern, Africa) Ladies Retreat, April 30 – May 7. Tom and the boys survived the week but her homecoming was greeted with big smiles. Presently we are packing for what we call 40/40. We leave on Friday, May 11, Eli's 13th birthday, for a month of cultural immersion in Zambia. We will be living in the bush and working closely with nationals during this time. We expect this understanding to jump start our ministry as we experience first hand how Africans think and learn when it comes to practical and spiritual things. This will stretch and challenge us since we are novice campers and really prefer the Holiday Inn! The boys will join us and continue to homeschool as much as possible. It will be a real adventure, including a birthday to remember for Tom on May 25.

When we return from Zambia, we hope to begin our ministry with the Basotho by teaching and training with the True Love Waits curriculum. You will receive more information on a hands on project related to this part of our mission. Perhaps you would like to be part of the Basotho Lowlands Team by participating in this project.

Thank you for your prayers as we continue to train, learn language, build relationships with the Basotho, and become more accustomed to African life. Also pray with us as we try to locate furnished temporary housing beginning in August while the mission house undergoes repairs. Finding housing and getting repairs done in a timely manner are both difficult tasks in Lesotho so we thank you for your intercession.

We will be out of email range until mid June and will be anxious to let you know how God worked while we were in Zambia.
Salang Hantle. (Stay Well)

Praises: Safety and Good Health
Safe travel to AMTM/ Ladies' Retreat
Immigration papers granted
Tom's and Eli's May birthdays
Great training/teaching at AMTM and Ladies Retreat
Cards, Emails, Packages of encouragement from you!

Prayer Concerns: Safety and Health
Schooling decisions for 2007/08 (International school or Homeschool)
Retain language learned while in Zambia
40/40 Cultural Immersion (May 11 – June 14)
True Love Waits ministry opportunities
Temporary housing/ mission house repairs

Visit our newly updated/revised Basotho Team website www.Basotho.org



You know you are in Africa when... a Mosotho wearing ski goggles enjoys an afternoon snack of roasted cow nose dipped in salt...



Part of the AMTM meeting in South Africa was participating in personal evangelism... Tom is sharing the *Good News* of Jesus Christ with Zulu students... many received Christ that day



During our 8 hour road trip from AMTM we stopped for a picnic lunch overlooking the majestic Drakensburg mountains... Lesotho is just on the other side of the far mountain range