

March 30, 2010

Dear Friends:

For the past few years we have felt God calling us to the mission field. We felt this burden for missions in large part due to our involvement with our church's mission trips to Nicaragua. However, since answering this call to full-time mission work, we feel like God has been pulling us in a different direction. The more we learned about the impact of the AIDS epidemic on the children of the Caprivi Strip in Namibia, Africa the more we needed to be involved in ministry to these people. Despite its natural beauty, the Caprivi Strip has a devastatingly high incidence of HIV/AIDS, staggering unemployment and poverty. In spite of what we may see as a grim situation, they are hopeful; hopeful that tomorrow will be a better day.

Our sending agency is The Mission Society. We will be partnering with the Children of Zion Village which founded the orphanage in 2003. The Mission Society is a non-denominational agency that has around 230 missionaries serving in 35 nations. The Mission Society's focus is on sharing the love of Christ with the lost and equipping and empowering national churches and their leaders. The Children of Zion Village is a Christian home to 57 kids, ages infant to twenty that are orphaned to AIDS.

The beginning of March we experienced a two week pre-field visit to Namibia, Africa. We had already committed our lives to serving God in Namibia even though we had never been there before. This first visit was another affirmation to us that we are in the center of God's will. We were welcomed "home" by the children and staff of the Children of Zion Village. We got a brief glimpse into life at the orphanage to include the medication routine for those children that are HIV positive, meal times, school, after school activities and worship services. We learned how the orphanage assists the local communities by being available to help when needed and participating with a local feeding center for 150 orphans. We got an overview of several of the initiatives to include the construction of a transition home for the older teens as well as the beginning of vocational training opportunities in skills that are appropriate for the area and will hopefully lead to successful employment for our kids. We participated in discussions of longer term projects such as partnering with the local community through our school, a fish farm, and a chicken farm. Through all of these activities we will be building relationships with people so that we can share the gospel and demonstrate what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ.

As you might imagine, we will not undertake this journey alone – we know that God will make clear the details of His plan and provide the resources to support the plan. Of those resources, a very important part are people, perhaps like you, who choose to partner with us along the way – people who will pray, people who will share this part of God's story with others, and people who will provide financial support. We hope that you will be willing to consider what role you might play.

Please prayerfully consider providing prayer or financial support. Together we can reach out to the people of the Caprivi Strip in Namibia, Africa.

Blessings,

Travis and Lorna Curry

Join us on the journey at www.tlcinHISservice.org or www.themissionsociety.org/people/curry.