

December 2009 Report

What a blessing the LORD has lavished upon us! He has allowed us to be counted among the living this brand new year, 2010. Indeed, He has seen us through thin and thick, even the global crunch and swine flu pandemic, and we are just to give glory to Him. In addition to that, His divine power has given us EVERYTHING we NEED for life and godliness. What more can we ask for?

Brothers and sisters we are excited for what we believe the Lord has in store for us this year. We know that He has great plans for all of us and all we have to do is just to be willing to be at His disposal. He is a great God who does not fail. He has given us another year because there is something He desires for us to do in His kingdom, because we were made to give glory to His holy name.

My family and I enjoyed the festive season. We had Cynthia's relatives visiting and celebrating with us. It was a "family reunion" as our kids had an opportunity to meet and socialize with cousins they had never seen before. I must mention that the festive season wouldn't have been festive had it not been to the brethren at Rockwall & Brin and Pecan Groove congregations who generously rendered a helping hand to us. Their help came in just when we needed it. Brethren like these need to be commended for their undying keenness to help. May God bless them.

Marriage Blessing



"Yahweh God said, 'It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him.'" Thus was the genesis of the institution of marriage. God made a helper suitable for our forefather Adam. On December 19, 2009 I was given the opportunity to witness and preside over the wedding ceremony of Vernon Mungala and Charity Mutale which was held at Lusaka Central church of Christ.

Both Vernon and Charity are committed members of the Kabwe Central congregation. But the parents of Charity reside in Lusaka and, as is Zambian custom, the wedding ceremony was held at the bride's home or hometown (Lusaka). This arrangement really made life easier for me especially that I was also engaged as the middle-man. As middle-man I was the one through whom Vernon communicated to his in-laws and vice-versa.

Traditionally, the man or lady is not supposed to communicate with their in-laws directly before they get married. And even after their wedding they can only communicate directly after the in-laws arrange a small function (party) at which the man/lady will be "unleashed" to have direct communication with the mother/father in-law. Otherwise, the man (or woman) will be considered rude and uncultured if they take it upon themselves to talk to their in-laws. Hence, Vernon and Charity decided to use me as their mouth-piece and I was glad to be so considering that the duo had involved me in their relationship from its inception two years ago (by then I was still in Kabwe).

During my sermon I emphasized four things which I believe are cardinal to holding a marriage together and are implied in the words of Adam: "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh...." I believe that for marriage to stay strong there must be love, friendship, mutual trust, and mutual respect. These are the four items that I emphasized in my short wedding sermon.

Prospective 2010 Students

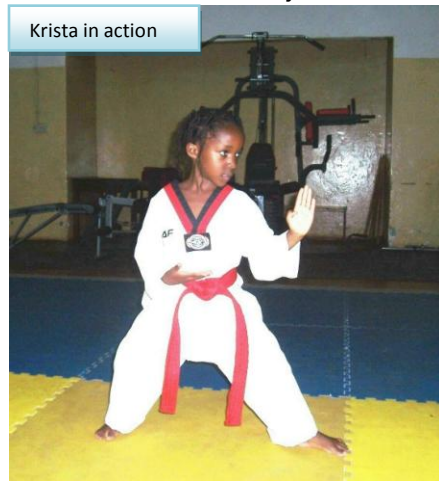
Next week Monday Mapepe starts classes for our January intake students. They will not be the only students on campus though; our returning students will also be around attending classes. We are expecting 20 new students this January and 24 returning students. They will be reporting on Sunday January 10 so that classes can begin on Monday January 11.

Meanwhile, the number of our prospective May intake students continues to grow. So far we have 46 prospective students for our May intake. We are expecting students from across Zambia and a few from neighboring countries like Malawi, Tanzania, the Congo, Zimbabwe, and Burundi.

As I might have mentioned in my earlier newsletters, the May students are the ones who intend to be fulltime evangelists. The January students are those who intend to be public school teachers but would like to be partakers in the establishment and nurturance of the church wherever the government will assign them to work. George Benson Christian College is partnering with us in that they are training these guys to be teachers while we are training them to be teaching evangelists.

Best Student...uh

Time indeed flies. I just couldn't help but get exhilarated when our youngest baby,



Krista, was pronounced the best and most courageous student in her karate class. Apparently her performance and seriousness dwarfed that of her older siblings (I wouldn't tell them that) and all the other senior karate students at Barclays Bank Karate club in Lusaka.

Because of her good performance she was moved up in her belt ranking and I was chuckling like a proud father should.

May the peace of the Spirit of God which surpasses all understanding be in your hearts as you abide in Christ Jesus.

Have a fruitful New Year and may the Almighty Father of our Lord Jesus continue to shine His face upon you.

Laboring with you,

Kennedy & Cynthia