

Luz Gaddi

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Dear Prayer Partners and Supporters,

Thank you so much for your prayers and support these past months. I have been touched by your generous and immediate response to the Sunday School and Women's Seminars.

Because you prayed and supported, travel expenses and seminar materials have been available. The Lord gave safety in travels amidst rugged/corrugated dirt roads. In Mitunguu three times we bumped our heads on the van's ceilings. In spite of bad roads the driver drove fast. On the way to Siakago (definitely not related with Chicago USA), Charity, my companion, and I sat in front of an old pick up. I thought the driver would crash my right hipbone as he thoughtlessly pushed the gear forward and downwards.

Because you prayed and supported, the Lord enabled us to train SS teachers in six regions as well as teach four women's seminars. Field Director Samuel Mwangi said, "if children are not reached now, Grace churches in Kenya won't have members in the next generation." That's sobering- it behooves us to win children with the love of Christ before it is too late. Here are several feedbacks from the seminars: "I have learned many things from this seminar. I can hardly wait to return to my church and teach children." Wambua Kineni. This youth now teaches intermediate boys at GBC Embu. Lucy Kagendi, a young mother said, "I have been challenged to teach children in my church in Muramba through your seminar." We continue to receive reports from other churches who now have two to three SS classes. Although most of the 41 students who attended were youth, there were also some pastors who attended, several pastors' wives, and three young mothers who brought their toddlers. Moreover, in the women's seminars, we took time to counsel and pray with women and their families, particularly those with unsaved husbands.



Sunday School Seminar Graduation
in Mitunguu



Women's Seminar in Kambaru

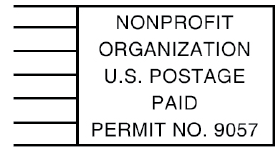
Because you prayed and supported, we were delivered from dangers, burdens have been lifted, and the Lord strengthened our backs. In Kambaru, on the second day of seminar, Pastor Jacob was unable to go with us. While walking home we were suddenly stopped by the village chief on a motorbike. He interrogated us as to our whereabouts. He said he must be vigilant because there are people entering the borders of Kenya bringing weapons. Strange...we carried no other weapons but our Bibles. Likewise, we were disturbed by the pastor's son who has lost his mind. To say the least, we were scared and decided to leave. However, Pastor Jacob assured us that his son is no longer violent. As if this was not enough, another mad youth followed us to church, preached outside on top of his lungs while we were teaching. This went on for three days, only to be replaced by an older crazy man. He did nothing but march back and forth near the church.

He must be a frustrated soldier or something. In such a remote place where there's neither electricity nor running water, where there's a dirt road but no means of transportation, who would not *go nuts*? Needless to say, our sanity was kept intact for a week. I told Charity, "Humor is a great thing in the mission field. A touch of it will surely win the day when one is scared, tired or down in the dumps."

Because you prayed and supported, the Lord sustained and helped us adjust in different homes. One was a closed, cluttered store with a bicycle hanging but tied on the shelf. You would think it would fall on you while sleeping. Twice we were *floor leaders*, meaning mattresses were laid on bare floors without pillows. Once Charity slept on a sofa, we couldn't fit on a single size bed. One night her sofa was shared by a rat. We stayed up late with a long stick until it was chased out. Gross? You bet! Scary too. The food may not be sumptuous and varied, at times I felt like praying for deliverance from maize, cabbage and beans. But mangoes happened to be in season. We ate lots of them, especially after hiking for 14 kilometers each



Seminar Students with their Pastors in Masinga



Address Correction Requested

day to and from the seminar venue. Sometimes we soaked our blistered feet in warm water while we peeled and ate sweet mangoes. In short, the Lord kept us healthy.



Charity eager to pick mangoes

Charity and I had a great time in Masinga, with smarter students. Albeit, Kimani church was unable to send students because they were guarding their cornfields against monkeys. Their lay pastor said those monkeys (some 300 of them) can consume an acre of standing corn in an hour! What appetites! Indeed, there's never a dull moment in missionary work, including that *monkey business*. True, it's sometimes tough, but underneath are wells of joy.

It's hard to believe this is my last month in Embu region. Starting next month, July, my new assignment will be in Thika, Nairobi and Machakos. Already the pastors in Thika are making plans for SS and Women's Seminars.

I am very grateful to the Lord for giving Charity Nyaga as a companion in travel and teaching. Her willingness to be trained, to leave her church and family temporarily is amazing. Often she was my translator and go-between with the nationals. What a blessing to have a likeminded co-worker. One way or the other we sensed the difference we made to the churches. Charity is an expert with married women. Pastor Samson approached me after the service and said, "We Africans love to sing. Often we sing the same songs repeatedly until they have no meaning. You are right, we should try to bring a balance between singing and teaching." I told him music is very important in worship as seen in the last part of Col. 3:16. However, this verse is preceded by these words: "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in wisdom...."

Praise God we are blessed by rains this year. Everywhere you go people look happy, especially farmers.

In closing, I would like prayer for the following:

- For Charity as she plans to revisit the churches and see the implementation of what we taught.
- To find a one bedroom apartment at the right place and right price.
- Adjustment to my new assignment, Thika, Nairobi and Machakos.
- By God's grace to make a lasting impact as I continue to train others and help national workers.
- Another "Timothy" to train.
- Safety in travel as well as travel needs. I rely largely on public transportation.

May the Lord richly bless you in your commitment to serve the Lord with me.

With love, gratitude and prayers,
Luz Gaddi