



Dear friends and family,

I greet you all in the wonderful name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. I am so thankful to the Lord giving me this opportunity to give you some feedback regarding His work here in Lesotho.

It has been a very productive 2019 and it just never stopped for us. 2020 Came like a whirlwind and here we find ourselves already in February. We as a family are doing well except for the normal challenges e.g. missing our families, the white sandy beaches of the Cape and a cup of coffee with our friends having a heart to heart chat.

2020 Promises to be a year packed full of deadlines such as Gretha being in matric and attempting to complete and pass her GED (US General Education Diploma). Luckily for us our girl is very dedicated and self-driven leaving us very confident that she will do just fine. My wonderful wife must also get credit for the years of home schooling, laying a very solid foundation in her life. I also cannot but think that those early years here in Semonkong and specific Gretha's dedication and perseverance with her horses helped develop character. She was only twelve when she received her first horse (abused and starved) and she had to treat, train and look after it all on her own. Till today has neither my wife nor myself moved a finger to look after her horses. Come rain or shine she is always out there without ever complaining. We as parents fully believe that we must give our children responsibilities and something to care for. Even now I see Jozua (8) going out even in the dark or rain to tend to the chickens. He has his off days but he is getting there.

CHURCH

How do you view church? I think this is a very real and relevant question not just for our age but it has been over the ages. As many other things in life our world view, understanding and acceptance of things were shaped by our immediate surroundings and relationships. Our parents, schooling and even our government played a big role in our understanding and developing of our ethics and moral code. That led us to understand things like "Church" to be a certain kind of gathering with certain religious codes to be followed. I grew up accepting that everybody went to church on a Sunday, dressed in their best and behaving in an acceptable manner or religious code. In my mind I struggled to understand the true value of it except that I learned the history of my religion through the studying of the Bible, which I value today much more than then. I think the thing I struggled with most was the relevance of "Church" in my everyday life. I felt like a hypocrite at times trying to act holy and knowledgeable of the Word and in real fact living a different life Monday to Saturday. I am

convinced that many others were true followers of Christ and living out their faith 7 days a week, but it wasn't me.

I think what I am trying to get at is that I had to learn the true meaning of "Church" and that only started to become clearer as I was being transformed into the likeness of Christ through the renewing of my mind. If you are a true follower of Christ you can be sure that He will challenge you to renew the way you think about things. You will start asking questions like: Why did Christ establish the local church? What is the purpose of the local church? How do I relate to the local church? Why do we gather together as the local church? Is the local church supposed to only function on a Sunday?



During the 3rd week of January I had the privilege to take a group of people from Harvester's Ministries (They are the mission organisation through whom I train pastors to plant churches) on a road trip through an extensive part of Lesotho. Our aim was to meet pastors in the training and to visit some of their newly planted churches. We managed to visit 23 churches of which most of them were newly planted ones, not more than 12 months old. Harvester's raised funds and brought with them 500 new Sesotho Bibles which we gave to people who did not have a copy of their own. All in all Bibles were distributed to 33 churches.

During our church visits we came across newly planted churches of about 12 to 15 people strong. The exciting thing for us was that most of the congregants were new converts through evangelism efforts in their villages. They gather together bi-weekly as new believers and for them to study the Bible is a whole new experience. Church gatherings is simple and without pretence. This is sooo exciting and I cannot but think of those early churches that Paul and his companions planted during their mission trips; Sharing the Good news, making disciples, teaching them, baptising them into a fellowship of believers and training up new leaders for the fellowship of believers. This is exactly what we try to achieve through the Harvester's Hub Church Planting Bible School. We as Love Lesotho Ministries is honoured to partner with Harvester's.

During October last year I had 43 pastors gathering for phase E of the Harvester's training here in Semonkong. Between them they have planted 81 churches over the last 2 years.



JEHOVAH JIREH-HIS FAITHFULNESS ENDURES FOREVER

In one of our previous newsletters we mentioned as a prayer request that we trusted the Lord for a newer vehicle as ours faithful ones that work very hard for the kingdom are getting old. Since then we experienced numerous mechanical challenges especially with our family vehicle which we use for our long road trips, mountain village work, team support and more. We got stuck a couple of times on the road but each time managed to reach our destinations. Now in some peoples books that might seem like an adventure, which it certainly is, but when you feel like you have been spent physically and emotionally the adventure turns to a whole new level.

In short during the month of December we received a call from a couple that joined us here in Semonkong for an outreach. They felt the Lord telling them to give their vehicle to us to continue the work and to travel with more peace of mind. I must say that for 2 days I was in shock. This was too much. You put your faith out to God and when He provides at a time you least expect it, it is difficult to believe and accept it. Even now when I get into this new vehicle I have to pinch myself. We as a family are so grateful, thankful and blessed. Thank you Father. May this vehicle be a tool in Your hands to reach the lost, bless those in need and glorify Your name.

During the Harvester's road trip I used our new vehicle and it was such a blessing, tackling the mountains, gravel roads and 4x4 sections like a breeze.



“LET THE CHILDREN COME TO ME...”

At times people would ask why we are involved with such an extended ministry and not just focussing on a specific one. Well it is simple. The Lord instructed us to serve the people of Semonkong and that includes so much from sharing the Gospel, training disciples, feeding the poor, teaching the poor, looking after the widows and the orphans. For us it's a NO BRAINER and very fulfilling even though I must admit that it is extremely tiring at the same time. The Lord has opened up a door at the SCC and we slowly started to serve there. Last year during the first week of December a small team from Every Nation Cpt came to serve the staff and children of the SCC. They ran a daily children's ministry program, renovated the onsite church building and coached the staff. It was truly a blessed week building up to a Christmas party for the staff and children. We played games, braaied, ate and gave out presents. With the newly appointed director, Mme Retha, the atmosphere at the SCC has changed for the good. Staff and children once again have smiles of happiness and content on their faces.



The SCC caters for 40+ children ranging from ages 3-22. The need is always great for food, salaries and maintenance. If children is your passion and you would like to get involved financially or physically, please contact me. To give you an example, friends of ours (family of 4), gave up part of their leave to come and serve the children at the centre during the December holidays. Such acts of sacrifice go a long way in communicating the love of the Father to those in desperate need of love.

On the subject of children, Calvary Primary School and the youth of Calvary Chapel had the privilege to open their doors to a small 'worship team' from The Father's House Church in Brackenfell. Over a period of a few days children were introduced to a variety of instruments, vocal and musical instrument training and teachings on the subject of praise and worship. It was truly amazing to see the faces of the grade 1's and 2's as they tried to play new instruments. Music training is not part of the curriculum of the Lesotho department of education and any exposure of this kind penetrates very deep and is such a blessing. We truly enjoyed this team, their servant hearts and their love for the people of Lesotho.



HEALTHY PEOPLE EAT HEALTHY FOOD THAT COMES FROM HEALTHY SOILS –Grant Dryden

The Love Lesotho Ministries/Farming God’s Way model farm has taken a new leap this season. In the past we planted a very limited variety of crops with no rotational system at all. This season we introduced a great variety of crops, each planted in its family of plants such as roots, leaves and fruits. In the past we mainly planted brassicas such as cabbage and little bit of cauliflower and spinach. This season we introduced for the first time sweat corn, peas, beans, patty pans, squashes, eggplant, sunflower, carrots, onions, swede, turnips, radish, broccoli and beetroot.



For us as a family and ministry the agriculture and what it contributes to living out our faith, is invaluable. Through our hard work we are able sell to the local shops at very reasonable prices, support the SCC and local schools with fresh produce to supplement their diet. It is also such a blessing to give to the poor and those who find themselves in a tight spot for whatever the reason. Our lives must bear fruit of our salvation and for us this is just a way of sharing the unconditional love of the Father to those without hope. I also use our farming as an example to encourage the 100+ pastors I work with, to ask them what the Lord has entrusted to them to bless and support others with. I am convinced that the local Church exists to be the ‘hands and feet’ of Jesus as we are His body and He the Head, to make an impact in our communities to share the love of the Father to those living in darkness. We as the local Church have the Gospel, which is the power of God to save..., and therefore must present hope to the hopeless.



TO CONCLUDE

Please keep us as a family and ministry in your prayers. Most of the time we are weak and are dependent on your prayer and contact support. The next 3 months promises to be packed with 4 teams visiting us and 3 pastor's trainings lying ahead. I'll be honest, we are tired and we are looking forward to a break away in between. I would like to end this letter with a testimony.

Last weekend we attended a church service in a village name Ha Phafuli. It was the first time for me to visit Pastor Thatholi Motsamai's church. He has been one of my pastor's in training and will graduate in March. Since he joined the training he has planted 2 new village churches very deep in the mountains. At the end of the service we gave opportunity for people to commit their lives to the Lord. Now for those of you who know me I am not an altar call man. When I do it, it is the Lord prompting me and I make very sure, giving enough time to explain sin, repentance and salvation. That day 10-15 people responded. PTL!! We also prayed for the sick and my friend Laurence prayed for pastor Thatholi's wife. She had been struggling with back pain for a very long time. During the next week I received a call from pastor Thatholi thanking me for our visit and praising God that his wife was healed. This is one of many testimonies. May we continue to live a life full of excitement following in the footsteps of the Lord.

Please 'like' our Facebook page, LoveLesothoMinistries, for more up to date feedback.

Much love and blessings,

The Snymans



FNB/RMB

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