



Dear friends (opening words by Mariëtte),

“We trust you are all doing well and have started to settle into 2019 quite nicely. We are doing well here in the mountains and by the grace of God we are ready to face another year on the ‘mission’ with our Lord God.

It is our prayer that 2019 will be a blessed and outstanding year for you all and that you will always even amongst troubled times experience God’s abundant joy and love.

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who faithfully pray and intercede for us and who faithfully sow into the work done here in Semonkong and Lesotho. Thank you for thinking about us and the regular messages of encouragement and interest we receive from you. It is a far greater blessing than you can ever imagine.

Thinking about our partnership I was reminded about a sermon Francois and I listened to recently by Paul Washer on the topic of missions. He was using an illustration to demonstrate the vital role between the missionary and the supporter/church back home. The illustration was of a man that was climbing down a well with a rope to collect water very deep down. With the bucket full of water the man held on for dear life and because the load was heavy and the well deep, his hands got scarred and broken severely. The other part of the illustration was about another person at the top of the well holding on to the rope, sliding the man down the well and then pulling him up again with the full bucket of water. At the end the person at the top, his hands was also scarred and broken like the man in the well. The meaning of the illustration is that someone (the missionaries) has to go down the well and draw the ‘Living Water’ for those who are still thirsty for truth and salvation. It is not a nice job, it comes with sacrifices and real life dangers but God has called specific people to do it. The truth though is that the missionaries will never be able to reach the top of the well unless someone is willing to support them by pulling them up. This support from the outside is vital but also comes at certain sacrifices. A friend, Michael de Beer, has ones said: “A sacrifice is not a sacrifice until it is a sacrifice”.

Thank you to all our supporters whose hands are also scarred in helping us draw the 'Living Water' to share to the people of Lesotho. God is faithful, trustworthy and our provider. His takes care of us and will do the same for you.

May 2019 once again prove that God can do miracles, heal broken lives, reconcile sinners to Him and provide for the poor and needy. Let us put our faith out together that many will come to salvation and acknowledge Him and Him alone as Lord and Saviour."

Since our last letter in October the year really sped up towards Christmas and we ended most formal activities with the **Every Nation Christian Church mission team** visiting Semonkong. The opening photo to this letter was taken after the team erected the children's ministry tent (always a good team building exercise). The team of mostly youths under the leadership of James Benjamin and Banyane Makwebu, made a huge impact, being a real blessing to the wider community of Semonkong.



Team Every Nation was divided into smaller ministry teams with each having it's own program and goals for the week. The above team spend four days living, serving and ministering in the village of Ha Salamone. Their daily program included: Village chores like collecting water; Children's ministry; Evening services; repairing the village water system; etc. Under the leadership of Pastor Vincent and Jack they really made a great impact in the lives of the villagers through their servanthood and being the hands and feet of Jesus.

One great testimony from their visit was that they managed to make a temporary repair to the water supply of the village. For more than 2 years the people had to walk to collect water from the reservoir because the pump would not pump the water up to the village. This is a great blessing especially to the ladies whose responsibility it is to collect the water. Two weeks ago my friend Laurence brought me the correct part for the pump and we replaced it to the great joy and thankfulness of the villagers.



One of the larger teams this time round was the construction team. As a whole the EN team raised finances to continue the work at Calvary Primary. Work included allround fencing, outside concrete slabs, new toilets and general repairs. I am please to report that the Calvary Primary school board managed to raise R10k to contribute to the work from their side. The construction team worked very hard and under very difficult conditions produced work of excellence. Graham Bruce led the team with little effort and much success.

Speaking of the school. The boys were again very eager to get the **vegetable garden** going. The government of Lesotho supplies all primary school learners with breakfast and lunch with the menu consisting of maize meal and suppliments like beans. The freshly grown produce is thus a welcome extra to suppliment the pap.



Other teams included was the 'Bicycle club', 'Children's Ministry' and the 'Children's Centre' teams. As in the past these teams did phenominal work with the children and continued to shape the children of Semonkong.

It wasn't just work, work, work all the time. There were times to refresh with a lovely meal and entertainment. The spirit amongst the team was great. Well done



Local profile (by Mariëtte). Mme Matsepo. What an amazing woman. Wife to Ps. Vincent and mother to four beautiful children. It is difficult to describe this woman in words, but she is gentle, kind, hard-working, very faithful and above all love God very much. Together she and her husband pastors three village churches namely: Ha Salamone, Ha Sekhebetlela and Ha Nkuebe.

Often their paths would separate on a Sunday to go and minister at the different congregations. Francois often join them for these services. Mme Matsepo truly has a heart

for the lost and her impact on the lives of many, especially the women are well noticed. She is also one of the pastors attending the Harvesters Church Planting Bible School under Francois and have already planted one church.

I came to know her when visiting their church in Ha Salamone 3 years ago. From there our relationship grew. She soon joined my 'Biblical Foundations' biblestudy on a Wednesday for an hour and faithfully continued until the end. She really struggled with English as a language but this also improved with leaps and bounds.

Over the last 3 years our relationship really deepened and we have become close friends exchanging recipies, cooking methods and encouragement and prayers. I honour and respect her greatly.

»Pease pray for Mme Matsepo as she and her husband continues their work and trust to plant more churches.

»Pray also that she will find other ladies to continue imparting 'Biblical Foundations' through the Purple Book.



Last year October four friends from '**Lewende Woord' Church in Parow**, visited us for a week. Even though they were only four men and only stayed for 5 days, the impact they made was lasting. They helped me to set up my new agricultural land, installing irrigation driplines, planted potatoes and visited Ha Salamone for two days to minister to the local church and the neighbouring villages. I am looking forward to your next visit!!!



One of my great highlights of the year is always the **pastors training**. Pastors from across Lesotho joined together during October at Semonkong to complete their second year of the Firewall and Harvesters Hub Church Planting Model Bible School. These faithful pastors have started the very hard work of planting churches and the number of churches they have



planted have grown from 21 to 43. Some of the pastors will now start to train their student pastors for the new church plants.

I am also very pleased to announce that by the grace of God I was able start new pastors training streams in Maseru and Maputsoe during the month of November.



The next training dates are: Maputsoe 6-8 Feb; Maseru 21-23 Feb; Semonkong 20-22 March. God has been very faithful to help me work with these wonderful men of God and to speak boldly and with authority. I believe that the impact of these trainings cannot be fully

comprehended but I know that by God's grace it will be significant. Please carry me in your prayers.



As mentioned earlier, the **agriculture** kicked-off with a bang again last year October. This time around I was relocated to a new spot. I must confess that this was not my idea but it was kind off forced onto me and I had to willingly/unwillingly accept. Looking back more objectively now, I can see the hand of God in it. It has been a very dry summer up to now and the stream at my previous land dried up. This season I am right next to the Maletsunyane River which can provide me with more water than I can ever need. It is also next to the main road leading into Semonkong which gives our agricultural endeavours much air time and creating a lot of interest.



I have almost doubled the amount of cabbage seedlings this year and introduced cauliflower to the menu. The local people of Semonkong do not really know it but maybe we can develop their dietary intake.



Weather conditions have been tough this season with very hot and rainless conditions. This



is also ideal breeding ground for pests, not to forget the livestock that are attracted to the vegetables like a moth to a flame. I believe that God is slowly revealing to me the reason for investing my time and resources in developing the agricultural side of our ministry. I will share more of this in the future. During the 13th-15th of March I would like to join the Farming God's Way training in

PE. My desire is to take my family with me for a short family break. If you have the means and desire to assist us financially it would be much appreciated and a great blessing.

A word of appreciation to my family whom have laboured very hard on the land during times I could not afford to appoint labourers. I appreciate it and love you very much!

For a second year **Ps Michael Feder**, his wife and elders from the Apostolic Church in Athlone visited us here in Semonkong. Their role really is a supporting one especially to the leaders of the local church. Michael and his elders are really anointed teachers of the Word and really encouraged and motivated the local pastors and leaders. Their friendship and the time that they spent with us as a family truly encouraged us. Thank you so much!



Planning is still underway to start construction of the pilot project with regards to **Semonkong Hospital**. Last year we started preparations with a stone collection project,



employing local people to cut and break rocks in the local quarries and to transport it to the construction site. Please put your faith out with us and contribute to this wonderful project that will make a long lasting impact on the community of Semonkong.

To all our friends and acquaintances that visit us from time to time and unselfishly sow into the community whether with your finances, physical skills or anything else, we would like to heartily thank. We do not always mention what you have done in our newsletters but I am sure you will understand. May God be the one to richly reward you.

Please pray and trust with us:

1. Pastoral training. God's anointing and pastors on fire.
2. Agriculture. A good harvest means glory to God and support to those in desperate need and much more.
3. Continued growth of the local churches and their discipleship and evangelism.
4. Semonkong Hospital Project. Pilot construction phase.
5. Home schooling. God's grace to help my dear wife. Gretha is 16 years of age and has entered her last 2 years of high schooling.
6. Finances. For us as a family personally and for the entire ministry work.

With much love,

The Snymans, Semonkong



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