

APRIL 2019



Dear Friends,

As I write we are rapidly approaching the end of the first term. There is a lot going on both in terms of what is happening at the school and the people that Yolanda and I are working with. There have been lots and lots of discouragements as we have come across people who, although working with the vulnerable in society, do not have a passion for it and are consistently letting people down. The Department of Social Development and the local health care services seem particularly adept at saying all the right things but terrible at actually doing anything. But in spite of all that we celebrate the little successes and take time out to play with the kids - and we pray an awful lot!

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Biblical counselling

We have really struggled to follow up the parents that we have met. We have mostly met with mothers and grandmothers who have shared their struggles with us but then fail to come back. We are not totally sure why but are busy working on a number of things to encourage them. We have tied up with a local church for a more private counselling space, drawn up a confidentiality agreement signed by both parties and we have resolved to slow the pace of active engagement and feedback.



Jaki and Yolanda testing out the new jungle gym

Mentoring

Yolanda and I are now part of a bigger team as we have joined with an American missionary named Autumn who works with children that have experienced trauma. Collectively we are now known as the Interventions Team. Early on in the year we met to put together a strategy for working and are planning a number of workshops (with parents and kids together) throughout the year. Our theme for the year is going to be **'healthy body, healthy mind'**. It is great to know that when I finish my secondment Yolanda will not be left to cope on her own but will have Autumn to talk things through and pray with. This is something I have really appreciated at Trinity.

Life on life discipleship

Our discipleship group has started meeting regularly at one of the group member's houses and I feel that we have really developed a space in which we can speak freely and trust each another. Several of us have shared things that we are struggling with regularly and have been met with a lot of support and encouragement from the other participants.

Bible teaching

I have started training a couple of the women from church how to prepare and lead their own inductive bible study. It has been great to see both of them grow in their knowledge as they dig deeper into the text and then seek to apply it. I am also meeting up with a student from church and together we are working through Ephesians. You prayed for opportunities to go deeper with T and M, and T has agreed to meet together to go through 'The Word One to One'.



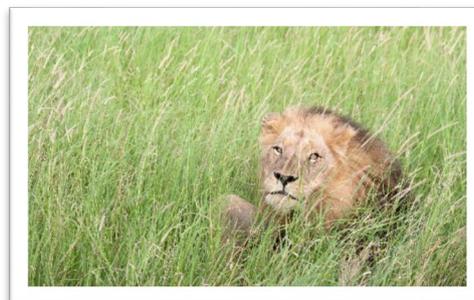
Please give thanks for an abundance of blessings:

- That T has understood the gospel and will meet to read 'The Word One to One'
- A great time with UK friends, enjoying God's creation here in Africa
- Fruitful discussions and lots of honesty in our 'Life on life' discipleship group
- The amazing support and encouragement that the team at TCC are



Please pray for:

- Great interaction and for bible impact as we engage with Grade 5's next term
- Health, as the winter approaches I am often prone to long drawn out colds
- Personal growth in my own relationship with Jesus



I was very happy to be treated to a trip to the Kruger Park for a week in March.

To support me financially:

UK: Stewardship Account
www.give.net/20106837

SA: Trinity Church (Standard Bank)
Branch: 02660917
Account: 070812195
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