



# HILTY NEWSLETTER nov '06

Many Zambians wash all their clothes by hand and then hang them up to dry in the warmth of the sun. This is quite a task for our new friends Katherine and Yvonne who care for about 8 orphans living at Emmanuel Family Home. Over the past month we have been visiting them every day due to our particular interest in one of the orphans. We are to bring home and start fostering Ireen who is 2 years old with the intention of adopting her. This whole process began back in May when Tim and I agreed that we would start praying seriously about adoption. We moved forward with the first concrete steps in July when we handed our information to social welfare. Since then we've mostly been waiting up until the last month when things suddenly accelerated. Our attachment to Ireen has grown and God has placed an incredible amount of love in our hearts for this little girl. The highlight of every day is our 1-2hr trip to EFH to spend time with her. Please pray with us about the adoption process and all of the unknowns including finances. Our plans for returning to the States in December have changed since we will be fostering Ireen for 3 months. Tim will stay with Ireen while I will travel to Arizona for Sarah's wedding.

In October Eta Imasiku asked me (Andrea) to join her in addressing a women's group at Lusaka Baptist church. The topic of the day was "Caring for the Terminally Ill". Without knowing any details I agreed and later learned that we had to prepare for a 3 hour session with more than 50 women. Eta has spoken at many churches and has also conducted many workshops on counseling. With her experience I felt somewhat reassured. We opened our time with a skit, then Eta spoke for about an hour and a half, there was a break and then it was my turn to speak on suffering in the Christian life. The only hiccup in the process was...yup...I forgot my notes. Eta said, "Andrea, God just wants you to depend on Him and not yourself." And I did, I had no other choice. God brought to my mind all the things I had prepared and gave me tremendous calm as I was speaking. To tell the truth, I really enjoyed it! I think not having my notes allowed me to connect more with the individuals I was speaking to. The greatest blessing was in talking one-on-one with women afterwards. There were so many women there who were longing to talk about the ways in which HIV is affecting their families. God gave me a little glimpse into just how desperate the need is for Churches where it is safe to talk about HIV or even to be HIV+. I'm praying that someday we will be able to begin a work at Lusaka Baptist and minister to those very same women.



- The C.R.O.S.S. project is into the fourth lesson with the new set of churches. We are now beginning a 3 week discussion on the issue of Stigma—identifying it, recognizing it in the church, and how to battle it from God's word. It is an exciting time as people start to open up about personal examples or issues that they struggle with.

- The parallel team has been working alongside us and we are beginning to form more intentional discipleship relationships with these three members.
- Brenda Savil and Andrea are working on a separate curriculum aimed at youth within churches. This curriculum would be used by the C.R.O.S.S. team to train youth leaders and then to help them implement lessons with the youth in their church. The curriculum is centered around the basics of discipleship and building off of that, purity and prevention of HIV.

*Tim & Andrea Hibby*

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