

Gary and Mary Reid

Location: **Olkinyei, KENYA**

Mission: **Church planting and Scripture distribution**



In the ripping apart, there was great anguish of soul. Again, a burning fragment of the overwhelming love that caused Christ to willingly choose to leave his home in Heaven branded itself in our hearts, and a deeper understanding of God's love for the perishing was realised.

God called us again to return to the beautiful Maasai people, and he opened wide the door. We chose to willingly obey, though the heart felt keenly the intense pain of parting, especially from our children.

After a period of isolation in Nairobi, we began our journey back to the Mission. Our Father tenderly spoke to our hearts that morning through his Word, so we were not alarmed when we met with the rats (living and deceased) dwelling both above and below the ceiling boards! We gratefully thanked our Father for granting us safe travel back, especially through the last eight kilometres of difficult terrain due to the heavy rain. Our Father knew that with the borehole not working, and the rats having caused what appeared like insurmountable damage from their teeth and excreta, we would need the collected rainwater to help with cleaning and decontaminating literally everywhere. In grace, God has granted us sleep despite the continued circumstances and in mercy he has enabled much of what was broken to be fixed, or temporarily so.

Whilst we were in N Ireland, the controller for the borehole burned out. Using decommissioned materials at the Mission, we were deeply grateful to our Father when the borehole started pumping, and slowly filling the community tank. With God's help the broken electric fences are up and going, our small generator has also been temporarily fixed and so the list continues ...



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Of course, there are items needing replaced like solar panels and batteries, but our Father desires that we seek first his Kingdom, and this we desire to do. These other items will be sorted in his perfect timing.

Despite so many 'difficult' things, our Lord has been so tender and gracious towards us and kept our hearts at peace, even when we got word that our youngest is unwell at boarding school with a water-borne disease. We did find it sad that our dogs and our cat were not there to greet us on our arrival, our German Shepherd dying only the week before we flew (from, it is believed, a snake bite just at our home). But we know that we can trust our Lord for his way is perfect and he knows what conditions are necessary and beneficial, for his glory, honour and praise.

But ... our Beloved has granted very special moments to lighten the dark days. It has been so special to greet and have fellowship with members of our church family and community, to have our minister travel in to be with us, to be able to help the local government primary school with water tank fittings, etc – and to feel the deep emotion of those who, initially unable to speak with emotion, thanked our Father for his grace and mercy, and for enabling us to return. It has been such a blessing to be welcomed to preach and teach again. It is our privilege to obey, trust and follow our Lord.

Prayer points

- Remember the precious souls of the Maasai, praying that God's Holy Spirit will work mightily in their lives and that they will have a deeper relationship with our Lord.
- Pray that we will be obedient to God's leading and guiding, and that we will continually seek first his Kingdom. Pray also that God will give us his wisdom in every circumstance and show us his will, working in and through us for his glory.
- Remember our children as we are apart from one another, that our Father will draw them closer to himself and that they will glorify him.