

## Gary and Mary

**APRIL 2022**

Location: **Olkinyei, KENYA**

Mission: **Church planting and Scripture distribution**



With the relentless lashing of the driving rain against us, we pressed on to get back to the Mission after a long day of work. Despite being very wet, we rejoiced when we got in the house and the real torrent began. We blessed our Lord for protecting us and holding back the storm that night until we had shelter, and how we sincerely thanked him as the deafening thunder roared. It has been that way the whole month long, our loving Father protecting us as he has held us in his arms and sheltered us in his love against life's battering winds and thundering blows.

Understandably some blows have come from the hands of others, but our Father has been exceptionally gracious and shored his children up.

There have been tears too - but our Lord desires that our faith sees through tears. When our youngest son's lovely dog died from being bitten by a poisonous snake in our yard, we knew our Lord's tenderness and thanked him for the time we had with this lovely wee dog and for allowing this to be. (We have known God's grace repeatedly as there have been a few encounters with snakes this past week, yet no one has been attacked). When, a few days later, an African wild dog came into the Mission and attacked one of the sheep, we thanked our Father for keeping Gary and one of Maasai men safe as they ran to help this stricken ewe and chase the wild dog away. We thanked God for this incident and trusted him with the outcome. His grace has been amazing to this wee sheep as, despite terrible injuries to her throat and hindquarters, she still lives.

It certainly seems to have been a month of bites, as ticks, large ants, mosquitoes and tsetse flies have all decided to come dine with us! Despite the pain or discomfort of bites,

our Father has enabled much work to be carried out and how we thank him for the strength he has provided.

The foundation has been put in place for community water tanks, (whose delivery was problematic as the lorry had to be towed for several kilometres). Containers have been moved to make way for the new entrance into the Mission, (which has also had some stretches of concrete laid to ensure the successful movement of vehicles). A lorry carrying stones was repeatedly assisted to get out of its entrenched positions. The dirt road at one of the seasonal rivers required a long and tiring sustained effort to enable it to be passable (the work becoming completely undone when the sideways steering of a driver whilst crossing, caused the lorry to become ensnared). And, of course, teaching has continued, as we seek in all these things to bring glory to our Lord.

We give thanks also to our Father for enabling the Mission to provide medical items to be given to Nkokorri and Niakarra Health Centres, alongside baby items being provided to the centre at Niakarra. We also were delighted that gospels of John and Luke, alongside 'Why Jesus?' booklets have been distributed in these areas and within Olkinyei.

### Prayer points

- Give thanks with us for God's amazing grace, protection, strength and provision.
- Pray that as God's Word goes out amongst different communities, that he will be glorified and, through the working of his Holy Spirit, many will come to truly know him and his amazing love, and thus desire to live for him and reciprocate his love.
- Remember our children in prayer that they will draw nearer to our Lord and seek to live for him.