



March 2019

Dear Pastors and Friends,

We are officially back on the road full-time. We had taken some time off for Melissa to recover and for us to adjust to having our second son. We are excited to see what the Lord is going to do. We have the next four months entirely booked. We have had several churches take us on for support in the last two months. We are praying to be done with deputation in March of 2020. Obviously, though, it is all in God's timing.

During my trip to Kenya last November, I had the opportunity to talk to a man on one of my flights (I will call him Paul). In his country, they are forced to practice Islam, and it is strictly enforced by terrorist groups. In spite of this, I had the opportunity to present the Gospel to him. After a few hours of talking, he asked Jesus into his heart. He was beyond excited and ready to tell his people. He asked me if I had a Bible that he could take back to his country. At first, I was a little reluctant, because in his country, owning a Bible is punishable by death. He pleaded with me, so I gave him a small New Testament, something he could easily hide while entering his country. Our flight landed, and we parted ways; all I could do was pray for God to do something.

A little over two months later, I received a call from an unknown number. I answered, and it was Paul's brother. He began to tell me how Paul would take that Bible everywhere and preach to people, but no one would accept Jesus because they were afraid for their lives—no one, that is, except for him. Paul told me that he was glad he was saved, but he could not understand why his brother Paul was willing to risk his life to tell people.

He then told me that Paul was reported to the terrorist group and was executed in the street. He told me that he now saw why his brother was willing to give his life, saying, "God has done so much for me. Why would I not be willing to risk my life to glorify Him?!" He took the Bible that I had given Paul and decided to take a stand for God. He asked to speak at Paul's funeral, and for the first time, he gave the Gospel publicly, which resulted in 30 people accepting Jesus.

After hearing this story, God once again stirred our hearts for the "closed" countries in East Africa. There is a great need in these areas for the Gospel to be presented and the Bible to be in the hands of these people. Please pray that God will open more doors for us to be able to be a part of this work.

In His service,

Charles Newton