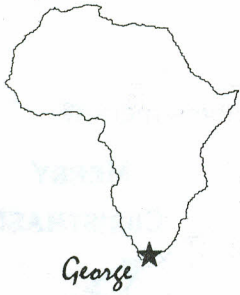


Julie McFadden

Making Disciples in South Africa

November/December 2011



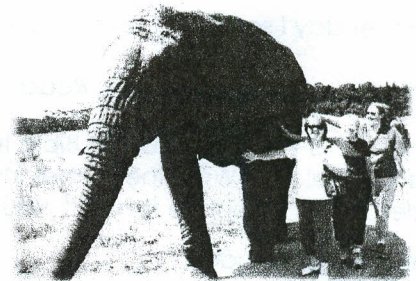
Go therefore and
make disciples
of all the nations...
teaching them
to observe all that
I commanded you.

Matthew 28:19-20

How would you describe your church? The early church is described in Acts as “continually devoting themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer” (Acts 2:42). Lydia, the Malawian lady whom I have been discipling sees a difference between our church and others she knows. I don’t know how many times she has told me, “This church is different. We really learn about the Bible here.” How I praise God for the spiritual growth I have seen in Lydia’s life and for her hunger for God’s Word. We have finished the discipleship course, but she is begging for more. She has also brought a couple of her friends to church with her. Please pray that I would have wisdom to know how to best help her as she continues to grow in her walk with the Lord.

October was a busy month. We began the month with ABWE’s South Africa regional conference. What a blessing to spend a week with other missionaries, South African pastors, and home office servants. Following the conference, I got to play “tour guide” for two ladies who came from the home office. We spent a couple of days exploring the Garden Route (including an up-close elephant encounter!) then took a whirlwind trip to Cape Town. The next weekend was a family camp for our church. One lady was so excited about the opportunity to attend camp for the very first time!

We had a missions emphasis at our church during the months of October and November. We heard reports from some South African missionary church planters and also watched some videos which highlighted the missionary efforts in other countries around the world.



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I had the privilege recently of leading one of the Sunday school girls to the Lord. When she prayed to receive Christ, she said, “Lord, I want to follow You.” Then when we went back to join the other children, she couldn’t wait to tell them, “I’m a believer!” Co-worker Tina Poplin is taking Bernadine through *The Story of Hope* to help her learn more about the Lord. We’re praying that this will be an opportunity to reach the rest of her family.

Please pray for our church as we enter the new year. Bryant and Sharan Crane leave next month for furlough. The Poplins and I are planning to begin our furloughs in June/July of next year. We thank God for placing in our church spiritually mature men (some with pastoral experience) who will be carrying a lot of the ministry load.

Christmas tends to be a busy time with Christmas programs, family gatherings, and other activities. May we not lose sight of why we celebrate the season....*Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.* Don’t forget to thank God for His unspeakable Gift!

Praise God for...

- Lydia’s continued growth.
- The salvation of Bernadine.

Pray for...

- The spiritual needs of Bernadine’s family.
- Agape Baptist’s Christmas program on December 18.

With a grateful heart,

Julie