



Our Work for the Lord in Southern Africa -- April 2017

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Dear brethren,

Now that we have been back awhile, our schedule has normalized. The elders at the Phoenix congregation have asked Linda and I to teach about marriage on Thursday evenings, specifically about fulfilling the needs of your spouse. (Linda teaches the ladies and I teach the men.) We have found the lessons very challenging and put several hours per week in on each lesson. We have come up with homework for couples to do, which we have done ourselves – and we are enjoying it a lot.

We have also been very busy preparing for our trip to Zimbabwe in June and July. Part of that trip will be taking David Maxson (who preaches in Tuscaloosa, AL) and his daughter Anna out to a rural area for a week. We plan to stay on for about a month. The country is facing a severe cash crisis and the roads were damaged in the floods, making travel more of a challenge than ever.

We arrived at our meeting place at Manors Road a few weeks ago to discover an artist in the hall informing us that we must not touch her paintings lining the walls, some of which are inappropriate. The hall is used by various organizations, but we are the only ones who object to the artwork. We met outside that afternoon and are now meeting in the home of the Kendall Balls while we look for a new place to meet.

I am still having weekly studies with Simphiwe, and he expresses that he gets a lot out of them.

This past Saturday, Linda and I were greatly encouraged to receive a phone call from a young man (Christian) who moved from a rural area to Durban. He is very happy to have found employment through being recommended by a high school friend; he is literally digging ditches for a construction company, and he made a plan to try to find a ride to church his very first Sunday. It so turns out that I was scheduled to preach at the congregation nearest to him on Sunday morning, so I took him there and introduced him to the brethren and arranged for one of them to pick him up in the future.

Linda is teaching or co-teaching three other classes per week besides the marriage class. She is teaching the ladies' class on Psalms. She and Sandi Kendall-Ball have two classes that they teach together: one with a lady who is struggling to raise her rebellious grandchildren, and one to encourage Bommie, who lost her husband last month.

I had arranged for Linda and I to have a class with a man and his wife that I met at the local hardware store, but sadly they cancelled at the last minute. We just keep sowing the seed and pray for the Lord to give the increase.

We thank you again for your fellowship with us in the Lord's work here.

Les Maydell