



Our Work for the Lord in Southern Africa -- August 2016

Les Maydell P O Box 39076 Queensburgh 4070 S. Africa Tel. (SA) +27 31 464 7227 cell:+27 83 287 3982
Email: LMAYDELL@gmail.com

THIRD TRIP TO ZIMBABWE

Although it has only been 3 weeks since my last report, I need to write today before we cross the border into Zimbabwe, go into the bush, and lose communication. This is a trip that was planned several months ago, but I was unable to go because of my cataract operations. We also couldn't do the work at the end of our other two trips because we needed to be in Durban while Paddy and Sandi were away. If all goes well, we will spend 8 days with Elias within a 150 km radius of Beit Bridge. Then we will spend 7 days with Bigboy within 150 kms of Gwanda. After a day of rest we have a trip to Tsholotsho (200 kms north of Bulawayo) planned with Darlington. The work with Elias and Darlington is what we missed doing in May. The work with Bigboy is additional meetings that the brethren asked for when we saw them in July.

THE PAST 3 WEEKS

While in Durban I continued to teach my series on the Minor Prophets (Pinetown, Wednesday evening) and the Journeys of Paul (Unit 9, Thursday evening) and OT History (Pietermaritzburg, Friday afternoon). I also preached each Sunday morning at different congregations and taught the Sunday evening Bible class in Pinetown. For some reason, the personal Bible study with Lefa has again fizzled – even though they seemed so excited the last time I was with them. Perhaps it has to do with the fact that there is guilt involved because there is sin in their lives which they know they need to repent of. Simphiwe has returned from the rural areas for his third term at Teacher's Training College. However, our Bible studies did not resume due to unrest on the campus. Actually many of South Africa's universities are closed at the moment because students are protesting for all kinds of things including free tertiary education.

One big accomplishment was to get another small tract off to the printers. When folded, it is the size of a credit card. We had 10,000 of these printed two years ago and they have all been handed out. We wanted to change the wording a bit to see if that might increase the response rate. Actually, although the tracts are not "working" as well as we would like, the brethren who hand them out ARE working, and that causes many seeds to be sown.

One big hindrance in the last 3 weeks was the flu, which seems to be particularly prevalent and virulent this year. Many are sick for weeks at a time. This caused some interruptions in our studies – one week at Unit 9 due to their illness, and one week at Pietermaritzburg and Unit 9 due to my illness. Fortunately, I was not sick too long – only about 4 days in bed and another day at half-speed.

Thank you for your continued support and may the Lord bless our work for Him.

Your fellow-labourer in Christ,

Les Maydell