

Joseph and Emmanuela Asong

# Missio Vibes



April 2021

Dear Partner in Ministry,

Grace and peace in the name of Jesus Christ our LORD! We trust that you and yours are well and continue to thrive in the grace of our LORD. These are challenging times and we pray that the LORD sustains you and your family like never before.

## SERVING IN SPITE OF SETBACKS!

We know that many of you have been affected directly or indirectly by the current COVID-19 pandemic. We are truly thankful for the many victories that the LORD has given some of you over struggles with the virus. We continue to pray for strength, grace, and triumph for those of you who may still be dealing with challenges from the pandemic. We can say that we personally understand some of what you might have and may be going through because we have had our own struggles recently. Joseph got the virus in January and was very sick for some time. Thankfully, the LORD gave him complete victory. It was a difficult experience for our family. We suspended ministry for over a month. Thankfully, because of the grace of God, we resumed full ministry activities in March and continue to press forward in order that we may win this race that Christ has called us to. ***Please join us in thanking the LORD for the triumph that He has given us and for the strength to keep on keeping on.***

## MALAWI GRACE BIBLE SCHOOL

We remain poised towards our commitment to help the Grace Church in Malawi train men and women who will be capable of leading God's people here in Malawi, especially during these challenging times. While our training outside of Lilongwe has slowed down some due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we remain fully operational in Lilongwe. The very first batch of students who began Malawi Grace Bible School in April 2013 (James Bandah, Fecas Phiri, Yamikani Lefani, and Davis Balala) have now completed their diploma training and are waiting for their graduation on June 19. In the meantime, they are already using their training as fellow instructors at Malawi Grace Bible School. Being missionaries is not always easy but it is so fulfilling to be part of preparing people for ministry and then having the privilege of seeing God use them. Our current Level 1 students (8 in the English program and 6 in the Chichewa program) are currently taking their final classes to complete their Certificate of Ministry training. They too will be



Grace School of Home Economics students displaying their cooking knowledge and skills during a practical exam.



Some former graduates of Grace School of Home Economics converging to present their business reports to Emmanuela.



Joseph (far right) poses with Yamikani, James, Fecas and Balala (L-R) after they had their last class to complete their Diploma of Theology training.

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graduating in June. Besides organizing all these classes, Joseph is also teaching our current Level 3 students (4 in their Final Year) the awesome Book of Romans. In spite of the slower pace with our Chichewa campuses outside of Lilongwe, our team is planning a module in the south in May. **On June 5**, we will be graduating about 10 Chichewa students in the area who will be completing their Certificate of Ministry training. ***Please pray that all these current and planned classes will go well and that the two graduations will be successful as well as a source of encouragement for the graduates.***

### GRACE SCHOOL OF HOME ECONOMICS!

Things are heating up at the Grace School of Home Economics as about 50 women are being prepared for their graduation on May 22. Students just completed both their written and practical exams! Emmanuela is really proud of their performance, especially in their practical exam. ***Please be in prayer for Emmanuela and her team as they offer final classes and also plan for the graduation ceremony. Also pray for wisdom as we think of the best roll out for supporting some of the graduates after graduation.*** The general performance of the last batch of graduates who were supported to do business remains encouraging and an incentive to continue with the program.

### FALL MISSION CONFERENCES

As you may know, we continue to be hopeful that the LORD will make it possible for us to attend the Fall Mission Conferences this year. It will be eight years since we last visited the Northwest! We so look forward to once again meeting friends and beloved brothers and sisters there. ***Please pray that everything (from visas to travels) will align in our favor. Kindly pray specifically for Pastor James Bandah, whom Joseph is preparing to run the Bible School while we are away. Also pray for Emmanuela's team as they too will have responsibilities to carry out when we are gone.***

Thank you so much for your faithful partnership, especially in a time such as this!

Joseph, Emmanuela, Princess, and Sammy Parker



Emmanuela (center) and Alefa (far right) supervise students during a practical exam.



Joseph teaches the Book of Romans to our current Final Year students in Lilongwe.



Maria (back) and Felegesi (front) pay rapt attention in a Chichewa class. They will be graduating on June 5 with their Certificates in Ministry.