

Four years in the Muslim territory without a break can seem like a decade. Life on the field can be challenging, as well as encouraging. These four years were packed with lots of tears, persecution, opposition, but also great joys, breakthroughs, and open doors! Our family took the opportunity to refresh and spend time with extended family and friends in Zambia and Tanzania from December 2021 until our return to Malawi in March 2022. We praise God for our wonderful friends and families who made our holiday worthwhile. We felt pampered and encouraged!

With each day that comes, we are reminded of the great support that we have from our partners in reaching the unreached. Thank you for the prayer and financial support that enable our ministries to remain effective. You all play a vital role! As we continue to reach the unreached Yao Muslims with the gospel of God's grace, our goal remains clear-to see transformed communities of believers among the



Time with the Capraris in Zanzibar

Yao Muslims. In order to attain this, we continue pressing on with our various ministries that give us access to the community. The Lord continues to touch lives through kids' programs (Salaam Academy), Foundations for Farming, Women's ministry, Youth (sports and girls' ministries), Discipleship training, and Church planting. *Pray for grace for all those leading these ministries.*

The Lord has opened a door for us to reach the next generation of Muslim believers through education. For our context, school can be in any quiet place. Kids can sit under a tree, in dirt, or on stones provided the teacher has a blackboard and chalk. Out of a monthly program with kids in the community that "Jane" runs, a school has started. This came as an answer to the community's outcry for a school for their children who cannot manage to walk very long distances. The kids, whose parents can afford to buy a bicycle, at least have the chance to be carried to school. Since there is no other form of entertainment in the community, every morning the kids in the area would always come to our training center to play on the sand piles meant for building projects. The kids love to play in the sand! We left the matter in the hands of the chiefs who later gave a go ahead. We are grateful to the community that they own the idea and are taking full responsibility and cooperating to ensure that the school is a success. Our classes begin with a plate of porridge; for some, this might be the only meal for the day. Because the

children still need to attend Madrasa (Islamic school), our classes end at 11:30. We are grateful to our team members, Jimmy and Leonard, and their passion for this ministry. *Pray for the teachers as they share Christ with these children, that the Lord will use the seed of the gospel planted in these little ones to germinate and bring forth fruit and that Salaam Academy will impact communities.*

Despite the persecution the Muslim background believers (MBBs) have been facing, we continue seeing more Muslims come to faith in Christ. In the past five months, three more church plants have been started in Muslim communities, praise the Lord!

With the growing numbers of MBBs, the need for discipleship training is great. This is a unique program we run for three weeks, twice per year, to help the MBBs grow in their walk with the Lord. Through this, they get to know what it means to be a follower of Christ and how to navigate their new identity. This helps them as they



Family time at Victoria Falls





Salaam Academy



Three of the kids in our school

face persecution not only from the community but also from their own relatives. We are trusting the Lord for the extension of the period of training for the MBBs from six weeks in a year to a full year program. To learn more about the discipleship training and to donate toward the program, you can visit gracem.org, click on the "Projects" link, and select "Malawi Muslim Discipleship Training." You can also go to: <u>https://gracem.</u> <u>denarionline.com/Projects/Detail/?gi</u> <u>vingOption=8505EA6816</u>

Farming God's Way continues to be a unique tool in reaching the community with the good news as well as facilitating transformation. We have different trainings planned for this year in different Muslim communities and follow ups with the chiefs who received the first training. As we model what we teach, our team of facilitators in Foundations for Farming are making good use of this year's vegetable season; we have a variety of green and leafy vegetables, bananas, and pineapples. We have more people in the community embracing these farming methods. This kind of transformation is very encouraging for a poverty stricken community; compost making enables them to save money and still have a better harvest.

Working in a culture that disregards women can be very challenging. One needs to teach the men that women are of value and also convince the women that they too can be involved in the ministry. This role has not been easy for "Jane," but we thank God for the grace that enables her to do what she does. This year she is concentrating on training women leaders who are overseeing various ministries in their different churches, training them in Bible Study Methods, evangelism, and leadership. She is grateful for the team of ladies she is working with, for their commitment in serving the Lord and making the ministry effective. Pray for her as she mentors those leading the girls' and women's ministries and as she commits to homeschooling. Pray for the Zone women's conference coming in June and a seminar for the girls in August. For your support toward Women MBB and girls' ministries find "Malawi Yao Girl Education" and "Malawi Ladies Sewing Class" on the project page. You can also use the following links: https://gracem. denarionline.com/Projects/Detail/ ?givingOption=6E82E78E56 or,

https://gracem.denarionline.com/ Projects/Detail/?givingOption= BAD6B369B4

Thank you for being a part of our ministry!

Jack, Jane, and family serving in Malawi



Parents working in the field Vegetable garden at Salaam Center

Team from girls' ministry

Women's training

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