

1 Corinthians 9:16: "For when I preach the gospel, I cannot boast, since I am compelled to preach. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel."

Greetings from the Mwanamoyas! From the bottom of our hearts, we trust you had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. I wish to extend my sincere appreciation to Grace Ministries International for the opportunity to visit churches in the USA which allowed me to meet many people and

share our ministry—it was amazing! I thank you for your interest, prayers, and support for our ministry in Eswatini. Your partnership in furthering the gospel of the Lord is so encouraging and we are excited to do the work in Eswatini knowing that we have people praying with us and for us.

We are currently scheduled to arrive at our new home in Eswatini on the 30th of June. We are trusting the Lord to have our support goals achieved during this time. We are so thrilled to take the grace of God to Eswatini.

## **Ministry Update**

In 2021 we had a hearty smile that stretched beyond the soccer pitch to the people living in the communities of Eswatini and Zambia. Even in the midst of COVID-19, the Lord was gracious as He gave us time and opportunities to reach out to people using sports as an access. During the hard time of Covid we stepped further into our calling to equip and build young people into the next generation, daring to see four full generations impacted for Jesus Christ. Second Timothy 2:2 says, "... and the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others."

Discovery Bible Study was our main tool in leadership development of our young people. Our Discovery Bible Study is based on obedience to God's Word and is conducted five days a week for 45 minutes.

My desire is for spiritual influence. I wanted to see the young people trust in Jesus every day, discovering the Word of God, praying, and having a heart for the community. It was amazing to see this in 2021 in Zambia and Eswatini. Our God is not limited; He still speaks even in the midst of confusion. He is changing sports fields into gathering places of God's grace.

## My Heart For Ministry

The difference is in every action, and I strongly believe in this: When I pick up a ball I can go to the locals and talk to them.

The way I shoot the ball, I'm impacting them. The way I receive the ball, the way I head the ball, I'm impacting them for Him—and that should be my mind set.

This year I realized that It's not just athletes who benefit from this change of heart. Those athletes have families and many relationships within their communities. From their community network, they have the opportunity to touch thousands of lives around them. The reality is some family members have come to us to testify how much they are being impacted.

I've seen God working in my own life and that of my family. My prayer has been openness to God's Word. I have always wanted to lead an open life, inside and outside. God has been saying,



Sports leader development

"Simon, this is the journey you need to go on. This is the journey you are to take." My family is blessed to serve God and committed to be missionaries to Eswatini.

Boldly claiming every sports field for stories of changed lives, leaders young and old, catching fire for God, and being ignited under the fullness of spreading the impact of the grace of God is our passion as a family and we give glory to God for His grace and for sustaining us in doing this for Him alone.

Our vision of recruiting 1000+ young people, planting 10 churches, and developing five strategic local leaders in Eswatini by 2023 is big. I trust the Lord with this overwhelming task and know I will need Him to accomplish it. Fortunately, I am surrounded by people who encourage and understand the vision! A community of friends, family, prayer warriors, and coaches who have caught the enthusiasm for influencing



Soccer players

the upcoming generation. I pray for my continued relationship with the Lord to fill and direct me and my family, for His guidance and discernment, and for continued partnerships through churches, individuals, and other sport ministries to go out as the Body of Christ.

## **Our Passion**

I am reminded that the church can be anywhere, even on a soccer field—where people continue to discover God. Eswatini is only the beginning! I have noticed a shift in our sports ministry, a movement of leaders and partnerships working together for greater light and impact for the gospel. Additionally, I have noticed young leaders in Eswatini fusing together as one great partnership. Leaders recognize this is happening in Eswatini, and not just in their communities, but even beyond. We are part of something bigger, part of God's plan in taking grace to the Swati people, planting indigenous churches, and leadership development.

## **Our Prayer Requests**

- Please pray for our work permits for Eswatini
- Please pray for our strategic five key leaders, who will be in Zambia for a month in April for Leadership Training
- Please pray for our support goals to be met
- One of our sons, Owen, was scheduled for surgery on the 30th of December, but this is not the case. The plan has been changed to January the 26th. Please pray that we will not have further changes for his surgery.
- Praise for our official registration of GMI in Eswatini
- Pray for our ministry to be smoothly established as we plan to move to Eswatini the 30th of June