

May 2021

# 8° SOUTH *with the Rabenolds*

Dear Friends,

Last Friday I had the chance to speak at our local village high school's weekly chapel service. I spoke about God's uniqueness in that He has created/made things that He doesn't need. Think about that for a moment. God has made apples, chickens, butterflies, fish, as well as broccoli, yet He doesn't need any of them. Whether He made them for our benefit or just to beautify the world, He still made things that He has no intention of utilizing.

I asked the young men and women present, when did they ever make something that they personally had no use for? Was this God who made these good things, which we do need and utilize, a God that is kind or narrow? Loving or harsh? Since human beings are the main beneficiaries of these good things, have we ever thanked Him? If He has revealed himself to us in this singular way before, as well as after the world fell into sin, could we not trust Him with His ultimate gift to us...that of his Son?

I was asked to speak again this Friday. I will speak on the impact of Christ's death being the engine which propels the church to be unique. His sacrifice restores our true humanity. The authority of the Christian message propels people in life and death with passion and purpose.

The result? Human thriving, men and women fully alive. Humankind being reconciled with God, humans being reconciled with other humans as well as mankind being reconciled to creation-or the environment. We have a message for those who are dying, yes, but foremost for those who are living. How do we radically love our neighbors? How do we care enough about the condition of the earth so that future generations can farm and enjoy the good things that God has made for all of us? How should we share our faith in a world pursuing happiness where it can never be found?



Ted, pictured with Mesheki and James, at our tree nursery located in Sandulula village at our Plateau training center. We are in the process of finishing a small classroom and water tank in our first phase of developing this property as a high elevation AG training venue.



Boaz, from our discipleship team, pictured with his wife Rose and baby girl Miriam. Boaz is one of the most optimistic, contagious Christians that you could ever meet!



Sierra, Thomas, and our new granddaughter Aisha Eileen Letchford. Aisha was born February 2 in Dallas, TX. Kim and I were so grateful to be visiting when they brought her home from the hospital!





Holding an umbrella for our Parliament Representative Deus Sanga's visit to our AG training center. That's him in the grey shirt holding the lime.



Oreochromis Niloticus, commonly referred to as the Nile Tilapia. I want to thank those of you who have helped us get our fish ponds up and running. We will be offering our first training seminar in Fish Farming this June, taught by Khumbo Kahtenga, former supervisor of Ruvu Fish Farm, Mlandizi, Tanzania.



Transferring chlorophyll laden water at our fish hatchery from one pond to another. Chlorophyll rich water contains both zooplankton and phytoplankton secondary food sources for Tilapia.

Thank you for your prayers, encouragement and financial support as we seek to preach the message of human thriving that can only come as we live fully alive with God, others, and creation.

- Pray for our discipleship team as they take their faith from the classroom to the field (literally the gardens as well as farms of their neighbors).
- Pray for our training sessions this June on fish farming and teak tree propagation.
- Pray for God to direct us to those most in need of the (15) handicapped assist bicycles recently purchased, which we will give out in a special service in Sumbawanga on June 17.
- Pray for the development of our AG training venues both in the Rukwa valley, as well as the Ufipa plateau.
- Praise God as we have finished our large tilapia fish pond, as well as hatchery, enabling us to produce tilapia fry at our valley training venue.
- Praise God as we have had a very encouraging visit from our Tanzanian Government Parliament Representative, Deus Sanga. He expressed his happiness in seeing the investment we have made by establishing our training venue in his area of governance.

With love and thanks,  
Ted and Kim Rabenold



Disciples on our agricultural impact team.



Ted and Kim - May 2021

Colossians 1:16b:  
"all things have  
been created  
through Him and  
for Him."