



June/July 2022

Over the past few weeks, we have been learning, growing, and stretching in many areas of our lives. Though the learning process has many challenges, we are thankful for the lessons. So, what have we learned?

First, at the beginning of June, we prepared, planned, and packed for our BIG move to South Africa on June 21. We had many people help us in this effort, for which we are so grateful. This move was different than other moves we made in the past. It was not simply to pack everything we owned into boxes and load them onto a truck. This move demanded deliberate thought and conversations over, "What is important and necessary?" and "What is not essential?" Praise the Lord, after 37 hours of flying with 15 large totes and 12 carry-on bags; everything arrived at the airport with us at the same time!! There were no delays, and nothing was missing.

Second, we have learned to drive on the opposite side of the car and road, grocery shop in a new culture, and pay bills in a new country. Being on the other side of the road sure makes driving an adventure! Shopping presents its own difficulties as you search for items that are named something completely different than you have ever known. You may be searching for jelly, and it is called jam here. Jelly is considered gelatin, not quite the same thing you are wanting. Not significant, but enough to make grocery shopping more of an event than a simple errand. Many items are even pre-paid (like electric). We have learned (the hard way) that if you do not check the amount of electricity you currently have, you might be in the dark until a store opens where you can purchase more. Going to the grocery store to buy electricity is also a new experience. These are not insurmountable challenges, but they require patience for us to adapt to them.

June and July have been filled with a lot of excitement and changes. One huge area of excitement for us was serving in Abundant Life Baptist Church. Our first two Sundays were wonderful as we met many new people and experienced God moving through the singing and preaching. God used this time to confirm in our hearts that this was precisely where we were meant to be. The following month brought about some different changes. Pastor Brent went to the U.S. to spend time with his family. Since March, the Bergey's had been on two different continents with their oldest son, Nathaniel, going through surgery, chemotherapy, and now recovery in the U.S. While the Bergey's spent some much-needed time together, Pastor Brent allowed Matthew the opportunity to preach and fill in at Abundant Life. We were also heavily involved with the music ministry and various other ways in the community. While we were honored to temporarily oversee some of these positions, we look forward to having everyone back and in their places! We are thankful for the wonderful team God has allowed us to join.

We are truly thankful for your prayers, support, and encouraging words.

The Womack Family



For more frequent updates and to see our update videos, find us on Facebook at "Womack's to South Africa"