



The Womack Family

Missionaries in South Africa



Macedonia
WORLDWIDE MISSIONS, Inc.



Dear Faithful Supporters and Friends,

April - May 2025

When God closes a door, He often opens another, but that doesn't mean it's always easy to live out or understand.

God's Protection

April brought its fair share of challenges for every missionary here in the (Port Elizabeth) Gqeberha area. In early April, we were informed by the South African Police Service that it was no longer safe for us to continue working in our township for the foreseeable future. That was hard to hear. **While high crime has always been a reality in our city, we've never felt uneasy.** The Lord has consistently given us a peace and grace that goes beyond understanding. But recently, there's been a noticeable rise in crimes specifically targeting internationals, especially those running NPOs or supported by outside donors, like missionaries. Our specific township, Walmer, has unfortunately become home to many of the known criminals and international crime rings. As some of you may remember, back in November, we were heartbroken to lose the house we'd been renting for our weekly outreach and holiday ministries. That loss had already begun a change in how we do ministry in the township even before this new safety concern. Praise the Lord, even though we can't physically go into the township to see our kids and families, they're still showing up faithfully for church and activities! It's truly a miracle watching how God is working. Every time we send in two taxis before an activity, they come back completely full of our church people. No door-knocking, no advertising, no constant follow-ups, just a genuine desire in the hearts of the kids to come, learn, and grow. We've even been welcoming new faces and visitors every single week. *Even when doors seemed to be closing all around us, He was already making a way.* God is so good!

God's im"Provision"

One of the ways we've been able to continue ministry outside the township is through **Friday Night Youth**. Every Friday we're blown away by how the Lord provides. Lately, we've been seeing over 60 kids each week and even hit a high of 72 one week! In early May, we tried a test run for a little "Soup Kitchen" during youth night. Many church members came out to help make *Boerie Rolls* on the braai and pass out the food. It seemed to work wonderfully! We may not be able to go into the townships for the time being to do community Soup Kitchen's but, the Lord has opened another way for us to help our people and continue ministering! We're hoping to do this once a month moving forward with no announcements, just a surprise treat waiting for them when they arrive.

God's Planning and Preparation for the Future

Can you believe it? **This June marks three years since we arrived in South Africa!** Time has truly flown. We're currently planning for our first furlough in **Spring 2026**. This is coming up sooner than we would like, so in preparation, we've begun training the church people for our temporary absence. In April and May, Matthew met with several of the men in our church to start walking them through everything that goes into running a Sunday service. The plan is for them to take full responsibility for the service once, every couple of months, about five times total over the next 10 months. Our hope is that by the time we leave, the church will feel confident, capable, and prepared to continue moving forward. We'd really appreciate your prayers for this. While we know it's important to return home to see family and visit our supporting churches, it's definitely a scary step to leave a young ministry, even for a little while. The enemy loves to use moments like this to discourage, distract, and damage what God is building. Please pray for protection, strength, and growth for the church as we walk through this next season.

God's Progress of His People

The last week of May marks the end of this term for **Solid Rock School of the Bible!** It's been such a joy to teach these three classes; *Old Testament Survey (Part 1)*, *Bible Doctrines (Part 1)*, and *Personal Evangelism*, every Wednesday and Thursday evening. We've loved watching our students grow through these lessons. Their excitement and spiritual hunger are clear, even on Sundays, we've noticed how much more engaged and attentive they've become. The new knowledge they are gaining is really opening their eyes, deepening their understanding, and encouraging them to dig into the Bible for themselves. It's been amazing to see how this is helping the entire church mature in such a meaningful way.

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