

Dhan & Dolly Lalsee

Serving the Lord in Zimbabwe

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OUR NEEDS & CHALLENGES

Our Recent Furlough:

On our recently concluded Furlough, we had the privilege of visiting some supporting Churches and individuals both in the US and the Caribbean. One of the things that impressed and encouraged us in relation to the Churches was that whatever the level of their current ministry, Missions was still very much on their hearts. Our visits with partnering friends and families were no less encouraging. In fact, we had the privilege in two cases of meeting with those whom we last knew as teenagers and younger; they had come together to meet with us, in one case, after thirty-plus years, each now having their own families and living in different states. There was hardly a time when we met in the corridor without embracing and all teary-eyed, reminiscing of our joint 'ventures' years ago. Now, three generations of this family are among our financial supporters. In the case of the other family, we were together again after five years and their children were now young adults having completed their first degrees. What a joy it was to be able to discuss spiritual issues and to note how much they had matured.

In all of these cases, we were powerfully reminded that it was the Lord in His wisdom and grace who had brought us together years ago, for the achieving of His sovereign purposes in all of our lives. They were solemn reminders to us of His hand having been upon us as He charted the course of our individual lives.

Discipleship Groups:

As you know, since coming to Zimbabwe fifteen years ago, we have focused on helping believers to grow in their relationship with the Lord, a matter that we found was woefully missing in the organized Church. Until the Covid epidemic, we travelled out monthly to various groups three or four hours drive away. Since then, we have been bringing them periodically into Harare where we meet for two or three days. We last met together like this in February. The next such Retreat is scheduled for September 22nd-24th.

About half of the participants come from very rural areas with very meagre earnings and, apart from their transportation, are unable to contribute towards the cost of the event. We therefore subsidize their attendance from our personal support funds so they can benefit from the Retreat. In addition to these groups, we also meet with individuals/couples with the same objective in view.

When we left here in early May, the local currency was trading at about \$1,500 to \$2,000 to the US Dollar. On our return ten days ago, we found that the exchange rate had jumped to \$6,000 resulting in quite an ongoing hike in the cost of living.

Our Personal & Ministry Financial Support:

Within the past few years, we have lost some support from Churches who seem to be of the view that Discipleship is not a legitimate part of Church planting. We are convinced from our experience as Missionaries since 1986, that while this approach often leads to the erection of great buildings, it does very little for the spiritual development of believers. This Country is very religious and lacks nothing in terms of organized groups of believers only a minority of whom meet in buildings. Sadly, the lack of a sound Biblical foundation and help in understanding what it means to be a follower of Christ have resulted in widespread grave immaturity.