

Going Home Again

If Only for A Short Visit!

Dear friends and family,

It's been over two years since we said goodbye to Zambia and we've all become a little homesick. While we know we're right where God wants us to be, there is so much about Zambia that we miss. I'd love to just give you an update on where we've been and where we're going!

The Last Two Years of Hiding and Healing

After returning from Zambia, I was pretty beat up, struggling with some depression and having a difficult time with the transition. Kerri and I always said we wouldn't be "those missionaries" who came off the field in bad shape. We honestly didn't think we were! It wasn't until we were back in the States and trying to settle in that I realized just how broken and damaged I really was. And I stayed in that place for well over a year and a half.

Well, by His grace, this past September, the Lord initiated some breakthrough. It started with my meeting with a friend and former missionary who was able to help me see some of the things that I was blinded to. He helped me to see that I was trying to deal with my issues on my own strength by stuffing my feelings and isolating myself. Then he gently helped me to deal with those feelings of loss and hurt. It was a slow process, but over the past 6 months, Jesus has been doing a major work in me. Through it all, He has brought me to a place of conviction over areas where I've fallen short, and provided forgiveness and freedom by His grace and mercy. And He has fully restored His joy in my life.



Why do I share this with you? Because I believe that He wants me to take the next step in my journey of restoration with Him. In the last three weeks of July, Lord willing, I'll be returning to Zambia to reconnect and serve with my

friends Alex Mwilambwe, in ministry to pastors in the capital city of Lusaka, and Luke & Elise Whitfield, in ministry to our Tonga brothers and sisters in the southern province of Zambia! We would love to take the entire family, but this time it will be just me and my oldest daughter Gracyn. She was super excited when she found out that she was going to be able to go back and visit!

Pastors Conference

My dear Zambian friend, Alex, asked me if I would consider coming to Zambia to assist him in leading a Pastor's Conference in Lusaka. As country director for Awana Ministries, Alex works with over 800 churches throughout the country. So, in an effort to strengthen the leadership in these churches, he is hosting a conference that will provide training to 70+ pastors.



In Zambia, the gospel is not understood in terms of God's grace. Many people think that they earn their salvation by doing good works for God, instead of trusting in the finished work of Christ through faith alone. This includes many of the pastors who lead these churches and who will be attending this conference. I'll be partnering with longtime friend and President of Marketlife Ministries, Brad Bird, by teaching his material "Getting Grace Through Christ."

Lake Ministry

I will also be working with my friend and former partner in ministry, Luke Whitfield, and a short term team from Love Africa Mission, to do an outreach trip in the fishing camps of Zimbabwe on Lake Kariba. These fishing camps are home to the poorest of the poor Shona in Zimbabwe. These men, women, and children travel sometimes hundreds of miles to these fishing camps and live there for 6 months out of the year to try and eek out an existence by catching and selling fish in local markets. Many of these camps have no existing church plants and have few individuals who know the Scriptures and can lead and disciple others. Usually, when we go into these villages we are doing outreach with the Jesus Film in their language, teaching the small group of believers who do live there, and praying for the sick.



We Need Your Help!

In order to make this trip a reality, we need your help. In addition to airfare, we are raising support for food, lodging, transportation, visas, ministry gifts and other expenses while we're in country. Our total budget is \$5,200, of which we've already raised a little over 20%. My friends with Market Life Ministries have agreed to receipt the donations, meaning all financial gifts are 100% tax deductible. Would you please consider partnering with us financially to make this trip a reality?!

How to Give:

There are 2 options for giving:

- (1) Secure online donations can be made at the following address - <https://marketlifeministries.org/offering/>. On this page, select "Zambia Mission Donation" to make sure the funds are directed towards our trip.
- (2) The other option is through U.S. mail. To do this, mail checks made payable to **Marketlife Ministries to P.O. Box 21792 Columbia, SC 29221**. Put "Zambia Mission" in the memo field of the check.



Thank you for considering helping with our need and praying for us on our journey!

