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Dear Friends,

This newsletter focuses on two areas of our ministry here in Zambia: first on Dawn's continuing work in the area of literacy, and second, on John's new leadership role.

Dawn is teaching reading to five adult ladies. This is a challenge because she is teaching them to read in Ibibemba, the most common of over 30 African languages in Zambia. It is rewarding because one of the ladies is already starting to be able to read the Gospel of John. It is difficult because Dawn only knows a little bit of Ibibemba. But it is fun because the women are very motivated and often even come early to class.

Her primary goal is to equip women to read the Bible for themselves; however, she also wants to train them to give the gift of reading to others in their community and to use learning how to read as a tool in sharing the Gospel with the unsaved.

There is a curriculum for teaching reading in Ibibemba that was put together in the 1980's, but it needs a lot of revision. Dawn has been able to make a number of corrections to the material, and she is laying plans for a complete reworking of the primers. She really needs a Bemba lady with a similar vision to help create the needed books.

Please pray:

1. For the literacy students...that they really do learn how to read their Bibles well.
2. That Dawn finds a way to create a better curriculum for teaching reading in Ibibemba.
3. For direction in establishing an ongoing program in Lusaka.
4. That Dawn gains greater fluency in Ibibemba.

John has taken on more responsibility. He had been filling in as interim field team leader since early last year, but recently our area director appointed him to fully serve in that capacity. At present we have a great team of four couples, two single ladies, and one missionary associate family. In addition to leading the team, John is expected to attend regional meetings and represent the Zambia missionary family. Two of these meetings, one in Democratic Republic of Congo and the other in South Africa occurred earlier this year. He is also now the main contact between our missionaries and the national leaders of the three groups we work with here in Zambia. Please remember John in prayer as he seeks to serve in this new capacity.

While John is happy to have the chance to serve in this way, the extra travel has put a strain on our budget, which did not have provision for this. We want to express our thanks to all of you who are faithfully supporting us financially. And if any of you feel so impressed by the Lord, an increase in that regular support would be most welcome!



Dawn with literacy students



John with Missionary Jacques Vernaud and Congolese leaders in DRC

Your missionaries to Zambia,

John + Dawn