

DANIELS' DIARIES

February, 2005

DAILY LIFE I decided to write (at least begin) this newsletter outside and hopefully give you a taste of the beauty we experience every day. Most people, even Kenyans, describe Samburu as a “harsh” place. But, to us, it is a place of spectacular natural beauty. In front of me, far in the distance, is Mt. Kenya, although I cannot see it today. But as sure as I am breathing, it is there even though I cannot see it...like God. The wind is rustling through the trees and if you listen, these are the sounds you will hear: birds ‘ku-ku-ku-ku’, children laughing and yelling outside school, sheep braying, cows mooing, and a broom going ‘woosh woosh’ on the pavement nearby. The sun is coming and going behind the clouds and the temperature is a pleasant 70 degrees or so. If you could transport yourself here for just a moment, I’m sure whatever troubles you have, would seem as remote as the furthest village in the distance. There is a peace here that is indescribable. Even now, a small blue bird comes to have a drink not 3 feet from where I sit.

But in the midst of such beauty and peace, we know there are many who have troubles. They struggle to meet the daily needs of food and water, clothing and health. The inner struggle, however, is the greater one. So many here have still not heard the message of the gospel. They continue to plead with God to come and dwell with them, but they have not heard that He has provided A Way. The name of Jesus does not mean Savior and Lord to them. And so, we press on. We continue to pray for a way to reach the thousands. We continue to pray that Samburu believers will understand the burden of reaching their brothers and sisters in all corners of their land with

the Good News that God has paid the price and repaired the rope from earth to Heaven that was cut (Samburu legend). The name of the rope is Jesus. Pray that all Samburu will have the opportunity to hear this message before it is too late.

MINISTRY NEWS

Many of you will remember our requests for prayer on behalf of the displaced peoples of the forest. We rejoice to tell you that prayers have been answered. We have been praying for years that we would be able to reconnect with them and also that they would remain faithful during our absence. Last week we saw the answers to both these requests.

Charlie was able to go visit the place where some of the people have relocated. They have been in this new village since 2003. Prior to our leaving Maralal at the end of 2003, we had not been able to visit. But God has been with them. We heard the story of how the women have continued to meet every week, with no pastor or teacher. None of them can read, so they simply met together for singing, to worship God and to pray to Him to send a leader to teach them His Word. Other denominations came, but they refused to allow them to build or take over the group. They continued to assert, as in the past, “we are Baptist. We will not sell the Word of God for a cup of unga.” (flour or meal) And so they waited and prayed. They also sent for a man they know to come and teach them about “sadaka” (offering). And so, they gave. After 2 years of saving, they had enough to build

a building. They used trees for posts and flattened cans to make the metal roof. God has answered our prayers. And now, he has answered their prayers, too. A young man has volunteered to teach them, but he needs help. Charlie will begin working with this young man so that he can begin to learn the stories of the Bible and teach them to the group. The old men have said they will work to build the road to make it easier to reach them. (last week the trip was 1-1/2 hours by car and then another hour by foot.) Join us in celebrating God's marvelous work in the lives of these believers.

"Be still and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!" Psalm 46:10

YAY! We received our crates a few weeks ago and have unpacked our "stuff". Most of it arrived without any problems and we thank God for that. We are comfortable and enjoy relaxing in our "new" home. Well, it's our old place, but it feels new!

Drop us a line at:
cdaniels@pobox.com or mail to:

Charles and Sandra Daniels
Box 306
Maralal, Kenya

We love hearing from you!

PRAYER NEEDS

Sandra is continuing to work with "E" to reach the children of Samburu. We want to implement Bible Clubs to do Chronological Bible Storying at the schools. Pray that schools will agree and that God will provide the workers needed.

Pray also for us to find a way to reach the children who do not attend school because they are shepherding the family flock. Maybe "shepherd schools"?

Pray for important strategy meetings the week of Feb. 21st.

Pray for men whom Charlie will begin meeting with to teach them the Stories. Pray they will be faithful in meeting, studying, praying and teaching.

PRAISE REPORTS

God is faithful and and we thank Him for allowing Charlie to return to work with some people from the forest. Praise God for their hunger for the Word and their persistence in prayer and faith.

Praise God for and blessings to David S. for answering the call to develop the Samburu website! We really needed someone like this to help us with this important part of our ministry. This will allow us to share with thousands of people about the Samburu people and what God is doing here. Pray that God will use this to encourage believers to pray.

We appreciate so much the things many of you do to share the story. We hear how you print the newsletter and share it with your family, friends, co-workers, etc. We also receive word from them (or you) how it encourages them in their daily life, or how it motivates them to pray.

Those of you who have been following with us know the story of the Samburu and may have seen our pictures while we were in the States. But if you are sharing with someone new and you need more information for them, please let us know. David is working on the website and photos and information will be available there soon. Meanwhile, please feel free to ask questions or request information