

# DANIELS' DIARIES

November, 2005

## ***DAILY LIFE***

I've just been going over Sam's schoolwork to judge how far we have progressed into this year's workload. Not surprisingly, I feel like we are a little bit behind in several areas. I think most moms who homeschool tend to get this feeling every year at some point. So, now I am counting the days until December holiday and deciding how much we must do and how much we can let go. Along with his regular studies, Sam must also prepare for taking the SAT later this year, so it is an important time, although I'm not sure it seems that way to him. We still must do a lot of praying and researching about his options after Kenya. We are now less than 2 years away from that time and sometimes it feels very pressing and it is a difficult task from this side of the world to make plans for sending your son off to live on that side of the world. Where will he live? Will he go to university? How much will it cost? Will he need to work and study? There are many "unknowns" about that time that concern me. I suppose I should follow the advice I gave to Joseph as he watched Daddy leave for Sononi yesterday; don't cry...pray instead. Phillipians 4:6 paraphrased by a mom for a toddler. Sometimes we just need to keep it simple.

In other news, we have plans for a good Thanksgiving meal with the Simmons family and possibly another missionary family who live in Samburu. Joseph just recently learned that a box in the mail is a great thing and can now say "package". And Sam will be getting braces the first week in December. Have a wonderful holiday and hope you are able to enjoy time with your family.

## ***MINISTRY NEWS***

We had 2 moran visit us from Sononi this past week. They came Tuesday evening and stayed the night in our home. They said it took 5 hours to walk, which is less than I thought as it takes 2 hours to drive. I think that just shows how slow the driving is on those rough roads. I am not sure who had more fun with all the new experiences this visit brought, Charlie or the boys. They drank cold water for the first time, laid in/fell out of the hammock in the backyard and were scared silly by a large stuffed cheetah we have. And in case you wondered, it is possible to wash red ochre out of your couch cushions. I think they had a good time and I wonder about all the things they told their friends when they returned.

Charlie should be just on his way home from his visit to the village. He is driving our new vehicle there for the first time. We were thankful to be able to make a swap on our last trip to Nairobi. The new one (new to us, anyway) has a much smoother ride and we had a very good trip home because of this truck. After one week, Charlie is able to tell a big difference in the condition of his neck, back and shoulder. This is a wonderful answer to prayer and we are so grateful the mission was able to do this for us.

### ***LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING***

As you seek God's will concerning how you can join Him in overseas mission work, we hope you will consider giving to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. The majority of our support comes through this once a year offering. You can give directly through your Southern Baptist church or you can go online to [www.imb.org](http://www.imb.org).

***“FOR THE WORD OF GOD IS LIVING and active and sharper than any two edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.”***  
*Hebrews 4:12 NASB*

While Charlie was talking about God with the old men at Sononi this past Friday night, there came an interesting question for which the Biblical answer was obviously going to confront traditional belief.

“Isn’t God here with us right now,” the old men wanted to know?

Charlie said, “yes, He is, but the explanation why may be offensive to you. I do not want to say something which will make you refuse to listen because I know God has sent me here to tell you the truth.”

“Was there a road here when you came?” the chief asked abruptly.

“No”, Charlie answered.

The chief continued, “no one has ever come and made a way to get to us, and built a home to stay with us. No one has ever come and sat with us or talked about these things with us like you do. We also know that God has sent you here.”

This man of authority was giving Charlie permission, if not compelling him to answer the question and tell them what was in his heart that was so hard to say? What was it in God’s word that would bring the missionary to pause?

The old men had told Charlie that God is present wherever they are; that when they come together and call on God, He is there...”near, but far.” They said they are able to forgive sins between men and mediate between God and men for forgiveness, based on their sacrifices to God and their authority as old men.

Charlie began his reply. He told how the Bible teaches that it is Jesus who is called Emmanuel, or God with

us. That the Spirit of God now dwells in those who believe in “Yesu Kristo”, according to the New Covenant and that He (Christ) is the reason for God’s presence, not the old men. Please pray for us to be able to explain the scriptures to these old men so that they will understand that the sacrificial system was given as a shadow of things to come, not the substance.

We are trying to make a short media presentation available to you, which has new pictures from Samburu and possibly some short video clips. As soon as these are available I will let you know. If you are interested in getting something to share with your church, Sunday School, missions group or whomever, please ask. We want to help you communicate the story of God’s work in overseas missions and we are grateful for you desire to do so.

- Pray for calm to prevail in Kenya during the coming weeks as citizens vote on a new constitution November 21<sup>st</sup>. There has been some violence, so your prayers for peaceful times are needed.
- Prayerfully consider how God would have you respond to this year’s Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for overseas missions. Many times we overlook these opportunities to seek God’s will and we miss seeing how he is able to work abundantly above and beyond what we would think or ask. When you give to Lottie Moon, you are helping support missionaries in all parts of the world, who touch so many lives and spread God’s word to so many who have never had the chance to hear.
- A few women will be holding Holiday Bible Clubs during the month of December. Pray for God to use this time to reach many Samburu for His purpose and glory.
- Pray for the work at Sononi as old men and now moran are coming to hear and discuss the Word of God.