



**Sending Church:**

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Dear Pastor and Church family:

**Sowing Seed**

This past month, while we at Karen Baptist Church were continuing to evangelize the area of Embulbul, one of the church members (Bro. Derrick) who lives in that area had a visitor come to his house. The visitor happened to arrive shortly before our evangelism; so Bro. Derrick requested that I come to his home. I didn't know what Bro. Derrick had planned, and I wondered if he needed help gathering some things before we headed out for evangelism. As we entered the home, I met Rafael. Bro. Derrick explained that Rafael was father to one of the boys that attend our church. He further told me that Rafael did not have a proper foundation to understand what the Bible teaches about salvation since his upbringing in church was based on works for salvation. For the next two hours, I took my Bible and worked to lay out what God's Word said (from Genesis to Revelation) on the matter.



Rafael was very attentive as I explained the Gospel of Christ to him; however, it became clear towards the end of my time with Rafael that what I was communicating was not being understood as intended. Bro. Derrick explained to me (since he and Rafael were of the same tribe and had a similar background) that the religions which were in the village areas would use the same Bible terms...only they taught that these terms meant something other than what God had intended. These false teachings are so ingrained in many Kenyans raised in religious homes that it becomes an obstacle for them to fully understand what God is really saying in His Word. When we use words like "Salvation," "Faith," "Repentance," etc., many Kenyans have a host of unbiblical doctrines surrounding the meaning of these terms. While Rafael did not get saved that day, he welcomed follow-up visits with Bible study where we could dive deeper into God's Word and root out the false doctrine impeding saving faith. Please pray for Rafael as we follow up with him and others on the matter of their salvation.

**Asking the Lord's Help to Pierce "The Vail"**

One of the challenges that I have discovered while here in Kenya is that there are so many unbiblical doctrines being taught and believed by Kenyans in places that call themselves "churches." These false doctrines are so commonly understood as truth that when I show up to their homes teaching the Gospel of Christ, I am to them as one teaching another gospel. On one hand, Kenyans are very permissive in allowing us to present the Gospel to them; on the other hand, it is difficult to truly communicate God's Word as their minds have been blinded by a gospel which is not a gospel. I am reminded of 2 Cor. 4:4, "In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them." Even though minds have been blinded and a vail is upon the Kenyans, I take encouragement in 2 Cor. 3:16. "Nevertheless when it (the heart) shall turn to the Lord, the vail shall be taken away." Please pray with us that through God's Word and the work of the Holy Spirit that the hearts of Kenyans would turn to the Lord.

Thank you for your faithful prayer and financial support!

*Billy, Crystal, and Hudson Coley*