

Billy, Crystal, and Hudson Coley

Missionaries in Kenya



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Dear Pastor and Church family:

Youth Meeting

During the month of December, schools are typically closed as students in Kenya have finished up their school year. The Ministry of Education gave an extra long break for the months of December and January after a year of extra class days due to making up for the pandemic shutdown. Classes do not resume until 23rd January of 2023 when they typically begin the first full week of January.

To take advantage of this extra long break and to give the youth opportunity to be occupied in productive activity, Karen Baptist Church had 8 days of youth meetings over the first two weeks of December. Fifteen to twenty youth attended these meetings. Along with the classes, the youth were challenged to memorize Scripture verses. As an incentive, there were several levels of prizes offered. All prizes were school supplies and were accumulative. The top prize for the boy and girl who said the most verses was a scientific calculator. For Kenyan kids, Christmas gifts are typically school clothes and school supplies for the new school year beginning in January. These prizes greatly helped the families of these young people. A total of **1,481 verses** were quoted over 8 days in about 8 hours that they were given for quoting Scripture to myself, Bro. Cormier, and two of the young men who were helping us during the youth meetings.



Kariobangi

This month, Karen Baptist Church focused on the area of Kariobangi for evangelism. It is a neighboring area to Embulbul that is also within walking distance from Karen Baptist Church. We walked up and down the main road through Kariobangi visiting the *vibandas* (little shops) that were there. We spent time passing out tracts to the business owners and customers alike. We were able to have many conversations about the Lord and their eternal home. Next, we turned our attention to the *maboma* (compounds) in which the people live. As can be expected, those in their home are less rushed and more willing to hear the Gospel of Christ than those who are out shopping. We spoke with Francis who had been "burned" on how the majority of Kenyan churches practiced. He vented to us about how what he has seen in the Bible is not what is being practiced. To which we could agree. Setting aside the issues brought up, we focused on Francis' salvation. He did not believe anyone could know for sure that they could go to heaven. We took some more time showing him how he could know, but Francis did not make a decision that day. He welcomed us back for a future follow-up visit. Please pray for Francis and the area of Kariobangi as we continue to spread the Gospel of Christ to this area.

Family

We have finally been able to get an updated family picture for our letterhead. We are thrilled at how our son Hudson is continuing to grow. By Christmas, Hudson will be 10 months old. Crystal and I are grateful how the Lord has allowed us to have a happy, healthy baby boy here in Kenya. We appreciate your prayers for our family as we labor here in the Karen area.

Thank you for your faithful prayer and financial support!

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