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*Billy, Crystal, & Hudson*  
**COLEY**

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March 2025

Dear Pastor and Church Family:

### **The Influence of Wrong Friends**

In last month's letter, we asked for prayer for Edna. She has been regularly attending Karen Baptist Church for around 8 years. During this time, the matter of her salvation had come up; but due to the influence of some scornful friends, she had never committed to learning more of what the Bible says regarding the matter. As time passed and she sat under the preaching of God's Word, Edna began to notice a difference between the preaching at Karen Baptist Church and the "sermons" she heard in her home village.

Over time, Edna softened to the Gospel as the Lord began to work on her heart. While my family and I were on furlough, Edna had communicated her desire to know more about baptism. As was mentioned last month in our prayer letter, we had been for continuing in a Bible study series that gives an in-depth look at salvation. As we finished the series of Bible studies on *The Gospel Seed* this month, the last lesson was on "Decisive Faith" where we challenged Edna to examine her own faith to see whether it matched up with the saving faith taught in Scripture. Edna confessed to me that though she believed in God, yet her faith had been lacking knowledge of Bible truth. In short, Edna humbled herself before the Lord, setting aside the works she had been trusting, and accepted the completed work of Christ alone for salvation. Thank you all for praying for Edna!

### **The Influence of a Father**

Kennedy has been bringing his family to Karen Baptist Church for some years. After we returned to Kenya from our furlough, I had begun relieving our Bible institute young men from some of the load of preaching the main service and teaching the adult Bible study class. During the adult class, I often give time for questions to be asked regarding the material covered. Frequently, Kennedy would ask perceptive questions which was an encouragement, as well as a challenge, to me. After class, there were several times where Kennedy came to me asking for further studies on the subjects covered. It was a joy to print off material that would help a husband and father to lead his home in spiritual matters.

Last Sunday after church, one of the children's Sunday school teachers mentioned to me that "Nolan really listened to your message today." I was grateful to hear that an 8-year-old boy was listening to the preaching. Later, my wife informed me more fully of what the Sunday school teacher was saying. Nolan, Kennedy's oldest son, came up to the Sunday school teacher at the end of the day and asked how he might know for sure that he is saved (a matter mentioned in the message and encouraged in the invitation). The Sunday school teacher then had the opportunity to lead Nolan to the Lord. Nolan, privately and without prompting from anyone, approached his teacher while other kids were playing; this showed to us how much importance Nolan had placed on the matter of his salvation. We will follow up with Nolan regarding his profession of faith. Sunday afternoon after church, I thanked the Lord for a father who placed a high importance on knowing God's Word. By this father's influence, his oldest son came to know the Lord as Savior. Praise the Lord for how He is working in the hearts of our people!

Thank you for your faithful prayer and financial support!

*Billy, Crystal, and Hudson Coley*

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