




The Harris Happenings

He Has Risen!



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A Full Month

APRIL 2017 UPDATE

The month of April was busy and SO blessed by celebrations-of life and growth!!! Birthday celebrations, baptism celebration, Bible study celebration...but biggest and best of all- celebrating the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! What a perfect and precious example of how the only true Life we can experience is in Jesus Christ, and Him crucified. Though we are dead (to our old lives, sin, and ourselves), yet shall we live!



Easter morning

We were able to do a small "sunrise service" among the neighbors of our compound, on Easter morning. Although it was a small turn out, it was a big blessing to have this opportunity to reach out to our community with the love of Jesus Christ, and share a clear Gospel message with them. Our family really enjoys this opportunity for shared outreach; the kids were thrilled to wake up early (before the sun) to help set up and serve - and mostly have breakfast and play with their friends before church!

Afterward, we shared a special Easter service at our local church - followed by food and fellowship. It was a beautiful, blessed day of celebrating the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!



Ben turned 8 years old in the middle of the month. And it has been a blessing to watch him grow older physically...but an even bigger blessing to see him grow spiritually, in his own personal walk with the Lord as well.

He had been asking for quite some time about being baptized, and then we heard that the church was going to be having an opportunity for those interested in being baptized, sometime in the near future. So, we have had the privilege of talking with him, teaching him about the real meaning and reason for baptism, and trying to prepare his heart for when it was to happen. He understood, and he wanted to go forward and publicly profess Jesus Christ as His Lord and Savior. And what a beautiful, blessed day it was! It was SUCH a special celebration of witnessing (4 small boys and 8 young guys) publicly identify with the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ - symbolizing the dying to ourselves/old man, and living our new life in and for Christ! And we were so incredibly blessed by our local church community and other special friends/families who were also there to witness and support him that day in a very special way.



Well, I'm no "spring chicken" having had a birthday this month as well. We were blessed to be able to celebrate this day with another family here in Kenya. I turned 41 years old, thus beginning what some would deem the "downhill climb" physically speaking. But just like with my young son, I am growing more and more excited and encouraged by the growth that is happening on the inside-than the dreaded "deterioration and decline" of the outside that can come with age. I am so very grateful to God, for the various things He has carried me through; that have drawn me nearer to Himself, and are helping to change and chisel me into a man that is more molded into the image of His Son. I pray that with each passing year, (day, moment)...I will be "growing in the grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!"



And last, but not least, we also celebrated Rachel's 10th birthday at the end of the month. She continues to grow bigger and more beautiful with each passing year; both on the outside, (and more importantly), on the inside. She had eagerly been anticipating the day she finally reached "double-digits" because Ellie had told her that she would then be allowed to accompany her to a local missionary ladies' Bible study. Well, Rachel did not forget, and held her to her promise! But the way with which she was so warmly welcomed into the group, blessed us both beyond what we had expected! There was a cake, with candles, a card for everyone to sign, and even a few

fun decorations! But best of all, there was an open door, big smiles, and open hearts and minds to receive her. Ellie is looking forward to a special season of opportunity to nurture her relationship with our firstborn - and is also very grateful for this unique opportunity for Rachel to be able to be blessed, encouraged, sharpened, and challenged by other women of God, as well as from her own mother.

We cannot express how much it means to us, to know that we have friends and family who are faithfully remembering us in their thoughts and prayers before our Heavenly Father. Thank you for taking the time to read our updates, learn what we are doing, and how we are doing...and therefore, how to pray. We are truly blessed by all of the encouragement, support, care, and prayers that the Lord gives us through YOU! Thank you for your part in our lives and the Lord's work here in Kenya. We truly appreciate you and all that you do. May God bless you, as you are such a blessing to us!

In Christ,

Brad and Ellie Harris family