
Rwanda is back in lockdown....

Lean on, trust in, and be confident in the Lord with all your heart and mind and do not rely on your own understanding. Proverbs 3:5

Can you read this?



Flora got these letters for Christmas and the first time she placed them up on the shower wall very strategically she wrote this sentence. She asked me if I knew what it said, so I said it says 'sgdhfkyufjvhvhygeg' and she was adamant that I was wrong. "Noooooo - it says, keep your eyes on Jesus and always look for Him and always love Him!" Considering we haven't been to Sunday School since March, sounds like something is going in! The next day or two we were listening to Colin Buchanan Christmas CD in the car and Flora said, see Mum that man sang keep your eyes on Jesus and always love Him!

Please join us in praying for...

Praise Points;

- We are both healthy and well and tests have proved we are COVID free!
- Time together at home in a non paced rush of usual life.
- Flora was able to experience a short lived school life from October - December and thoroughly enjoyed every minute. It was a joy for me to watch her interact with peers her own age.
 - After a somewhat gruelling process our assessor has said she will happily recommend that we be approved for the Intercountry Adoption process. I've been getting up in the middle of night to have zoom calls in Australia as part of this process - it was crazy but we'll do it!
 - When lockdown between provinces occurred our guard Theogene was stuck in the Eastern province - Praise God we were able to get him back 'home'.
 - In all of this we remember that God is in control and not us!

Prayer Points;

- For everyone's sanity as we continue to work full time, and be a Mum full time, without any (Nanny) help at the moment. This week will see me teaching Pre K online in the morning, being with Flora all day and then planning for next week each night once she is in bed - somewhat exhausting but this is our routine for now.
 - That we continue to stay COVID free - just this weekend we've heard of a family from school who has been directly infected.
 - Continue to pray for Flora's passport, but also more specifically a passport is not going to be useful if Australia does not open up her borders and the cost of flights decrease. Currently a one way ticket for one person from Kigali to Sydney is \$35,000AUD. It just sounds so ludicrous but this is the world we are living in at the moment.
 - For our precious friends who are so much more impacted with this lockdown than we ever will be, due to the inability to work and earn an income. For our sweet friend Charles who has been our driver for five years, his wife struggles with mental illness and he now has four young children at home doing 'remote' learning and he can't go to work to earn money. For our dear friend Fred Buyinza, who many of us know, pray for him as he not only leads and guides his family through these days, but also his school community. He had teachers stuck in other provinces who could not return and now

with lockdown his school was unable to open - for the little ones it has been since March last year. No school for nearly a year. Pray for the mental health of locals in these communities who Fred supports, for the mental health of his teachers - who he may or may not be able to pay dependant on how long this second lock down lasts for. Pray for the dedication of his staff - for those who stay and those who leave to find something else to support their family. Pray for the kiddos especially those little ones who can't really understand all of this and why they are not in school - but also the oldest of them too as they prepare for their national exams and how different their school year will look for them.



Last Monday we made up take home packs for each child.

Flora learning from home.

We knocked our tooth out at the swimming pool. (Before lockdown)

For Bishop James and Fred as they navigate what their church looks like, what to do with the Teacher Training College which has not been able to start since last March. Give them wisdom and comfort as their visions and their dreams have changed slightly - all in His time.

You can't make this stuff up...

Day one of lockdown and I am on a zoom call with the whole school and the Director of the school is speaking to all staff. Flora was asked to stay out and leave Mummy alone and not come back in until I am finished. Our front gate door bell kept ringing about three times. I thought, wow, day one of lockdown and already we have the street kids and Mumma's asking us for food. When I finally finished our call and came outside to ask our guard who was at the gate - I found Theogene (our guard) on the wrong side of the gate - it was him riding the bell because Miss 5 had locked him out!!!!

While doing some school work at her school desk, in a moment of exasperation this exhausted Mummy said, “Your teacher needs you to listen to her, to which Miss 5 replied “and your kid needs you to listen to her too!” (I don’t think I won that day!!)

And what about you...

Please share with us how COVID has / is affecting you and your world - we’d also love to pray for you even though we feel so far away prayer makes the world a lot smaller doesn’t it!

Every blessing to you whether you’re in the middle of your summer or the depths of your winter - please know we value and treasure your support to us in all we are continuing to do in Rwanda.

Much love,

Michele and Flora.