



The Master's Mission, Inc.

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Dear ministry partners,

It is Sunday morning, the church is packed, and soon I will be preaching in Swahili trying to remember the cadence of translation as a brother repeats the sermon in Samburu, the local tongue. Some of the hymns are familiar but the choruses in the tribal languages are new. I am in Kenya for the first three Sundays in June, in three different local churches, in three separate parts of the country... in the far North, the North, and in the capital city of Nairobi, and will see local churches in three various stages of maturity.

This first Sunday I am in a congregation whose people have heard the Gospel from long-term faithful missionaries for two generations. The first generation were nomadic animists and a few of them, mostly women followed Christ and introduced their children to the Savior. Those children got a good education and had life options of which their parents never dreamed. A few of those who truly "owned" their faith and did not have faith merely "rented" from their parents, returned to their local community and are now the first generation of local church leadership. They now pool their scanty resources with the resident missionaries to extend the Gospel to the unreached communities in the neighboring mountain range, sometimes with vehicles, often on foot. On the way to the house after church, we met one of the young men who had travelled to preach in a nearby village. When I asked how far he walked that morning, he said, "five miles... each way".

Next Sunday I will be in a local congregation with only the first generation of believers. The pressure from their families and community to compromise their faith and follow the gods of their fathers is enormous and constant. They are currently without either pastor or missionary, but are faithfully teaching and living according to the light they have. But they are vulnerable to false teaching and general discouragement and desperately need some spiritually mature missionaries to come along side them.

The final Sunday I will be in Nairobi, and the preacher will most likely have an earned Doctorate in Theology and an exemplary life of faith. His fellow elders will be spiritually mature and well qualified for ministry. But their church will still not have the temporal resources to extend their ministry even to the limits of their "Judea and Samaria".

Without a "Pax Romana", a universal literacy and language and, most of all, a familiarity with God's written revelation entrusted to Israel, the process of introducing people to Christ and bringing them to spiritual maturity demands not only faithfulness, but long endurance. Thank you for faithfulness in supporting missionaries who spend their lives making mature disciples of Jesus Christ,

Jim Teasdale
For the TMM Family