

Siebring

Flyer

March 2004

A Life Of Goodbyes

This letter is reaching you by the time we have to say some of our hardest good byes yet. Those to our local church and family and friends.

This is still something we are getting used to as we have committed to this life as missionaries. It has been told to me that we should not say "good byes" but "see you later's". I see the truth in that statement since those of the family of God ultimately will hold an invitation to the greatest eternal party.



One last time working with the youth of Newlife

The cold hard fact still remains that we are departing and the world carries on. Everything will change, especially us. That is a price we pay but I was encouraged by this passage Luke 14:25-35 and I know it will challenge you. (Pause to read) Now that you have read that scripture you understand my challenge.

I asked a old missionary friend once "Does it ever get easier, meeting people loving them and saying goodbye?" No, he said, but you end up with family and friends almost everywhere you go.

Then I remember that no price I pay in this life could ever compare to the high price that was paid by Jesus death on the cross that purchased me. Suddenly everything comes into perspective again and I am ready for a life of Goodbyes.

-Ray



Encarta Encyclopedia, Corbis/Diana Frances Jones; ABPL

LESOTHO PROFILE

Pictured here is a small mountain village in Lesotho. The man on horseback is wearing characteristic attire of the area: a colorful blanket is draped around his shoulders, and he is wearing a conical Basotho hat.

Maseru, the capital of Lesotho, sits on a high mountain plain. The city is located near the site where Moshoeshoe, the founder of the Basotho nation, led his people to safety from attacks by the Zulu in the 1820s.

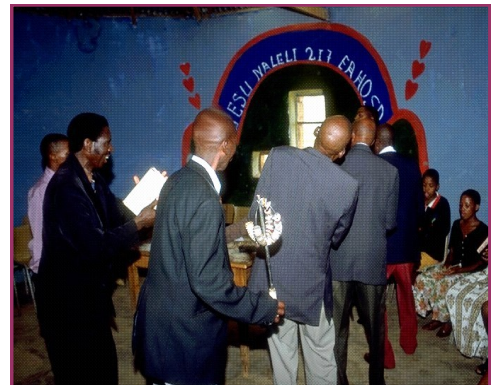
-MS Encarta



Where Is Your Treasure?

As we have traveled all over the country and spoken in several different styles of churches we have noticed a common thread throughout. The churches have had a deep love for missions and a real desire to see barrier overcome to bring the gospel to unreached people groups but, a lack of funds.

"If only people would give we would have more than enough money to fully support you and many other missionaries" pastor after pastor would tell us this same story.



A Lesotho Church Offertory Procession

Pondering these statements brought a passage in Mt 6:19-21 to mind. We must ask ourselves "were really does my heart (treasure) lie?"

I have learned that there is always time and money for the things we really care about or want. Why? Because we go out of our way for them and make sacrifice to get what we want.

What is your passion? Is it things eternal or temporal? I challenge you to get a greater passion for the lost and invest our hearts (treasures) in things that really matter. -Julie

