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**NOAH MINISTRIES**

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## **GOD BLESS AFRICA by Sheri Jones**

Over the summer I had the privilege of going to House of Hope. It was such a joy to be reunited with the children! We spent the summer working on reading. For the older children we worked on context clues, making inferences, and reading comprehension strategies. For the younger children we continued to work on phonics. When I contemplated takeaways that I wanted my kids to have from our time together, I decided that I wanted them to have a better understanding of how the whole Bible tells one story. We focused on the book of Judges. I chose this book because my kids were unfamiliar with many of the stories. Additionally, the book of Judges describes a common cycle that shows human behavior and the consequences of human choices as well as God's unfailing love. We all learned a lot through the process.

Faith and Tecra are about to complete the 5th grade in December. When I see them again in the summer of 2018 they will be halfway finished with 6th grade. In Zambia students take a country wide exam in the 7th grade that determines their ability to go on to secondary school. I am currently working on creating study guides for the kids at House of Hope so that they are able to perform well on that ex-

am. Their scores determine what kind of school they are able to go to for 8th grade. My prayer is that we will prepare the children at House of Hope to be influencers of their culture.

I also had the privilege of going to Congo this trip. I have been trying to talk some of my friends who are missionaries in Zambia into moving to the Congo for a decade. This summer they finally made the move! I am so grateful



that Overland Missions will be doing work to bless the nation of Congo and spread the gospel. I was able to go with them to Congo, as they moved into their new home and started their ministry. So many memories came back to me about how challenging it was when I first moved there without knowing the language or anyone there. I am so thankful that people have heeded God's call even though it will be challenging to live there. I am convinced that

God is going to do great things there!

My time in Zambia came to an end far too quickly, and I returned to the US where I am teaching special education classes at a middle school in Washington DC. I am continuing to work towards my master's degree in special education from Johns Hopkins University. I am currently set to complete in May of 2019. I am continuing to seek God's will for me after I finish my masters, and looking forward to every moment of my summers in Zambia. Everyday I find that God is using me in so many ways in DC. My DC public school is a mission field, as is my community. I volunteer at my church to help at a soup kitchen and food pantry.

Please continue to pray for the children at House of Hope. Also pray for Overland Missions as they launch into Congo. Pray for the Congo and the strife the country is facing both from war and political problems. Thank you for your prayers and support.

# WORLD WAR X by Mike Jones

When in Zambia and Africa I'm prepared for battle. God "called" me to be on the African front lines of battle. I've answered the "call" and have been faithful to it for almost twenty four years. I never struggled with the lack of heating or air conditioning. I sleep in my tent as comfortably as I would in the best hotel. Eating with Africans is as enjoyable to me as eating in an expensive restaurant. I actually enjoy driving through terrible places to bring the good news. Doing it all for Christ leads to adventurous life. This is why it thrills my heart to hear our orphaned children sing "If I suffer, then let me suffer; If I die, then let me die; I'm a soldier in the Lord's army." I'll never turn back from this great work, which is changing nations, until the Lord gives me a new "calling". The love, joy,

peace, etc. that rests on me in Africa is undoubtedly the grace of God that comes with the "calling". We come back to the United States to get the rest and relaxation warriors need from time to time if they are to continue on the front lines. These few months back to the United States has been perfect for me after the operation performed on me in Livingstone. Between sharing with churches and individuals what we have seen the

Lord do in Africa over the past year, which I love doing, the Lord "woke me up" and opened my eyes to some very disturbing problems in the United States. If our "home base" is weakened, the outposts face greater difficulties. Several teachers told me about their schools. Children publicly speak of doing a violent and vulgar immoral

such hatred and cruelty was never in my heart. As a matter of fact, they knew I would defend anyone attacked by such hatred and cruelty. One teacher told me, "They learn bad behavior at school, and the teachers don't want the students to address them with respect." If I learned bad behavior in school my parents knew how to drive that devil out of me! I

hear preachers from the pulpit say, "I lied." It would be a funny joke if they followed with repentance, which rarely happens. A friend recently told me, "A little white lie is OK." I said, "How small does the lie need to be for you to be OK with me telling one on you?" Sorrow visits me whenever I find churches that have removed Deuteronomy 28:12, Proverbs 22:7, and

act against others, including their teacher (you know the word). Their words are condemning others to eternal torment, calling people female dogs, and speaking other words of ugliness and destruction. "...for of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks (Luke 6:45)." How could children's hearts become filled with cruelty and hatred? My children never heard such words of hatred and cruelty at home, because

Romans 13:8 from their fellowship. I have literally cried seeing the homeless in America, especially since I've learned most of them are veterans and former foster kids. War is raging all over the world. We must "hold the fort" in America for us to continue seeing Africa saved. Stand up for Jesus in America while supporting the Lord's work through Noah Ministries.

· Remain Faithful,

## Prayer

For Zambia's coming rainy season and planting.  
God's protection over our children, mothers and  
all of Noah Ministries Zambia while we are out.

## Praises

For Mike's miraculous recovery.  
For time with family and friends.  
For God's traveling mercies.

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