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## **GRADUATION**      by Mike Jones

Imagine the Lord speaking to you and saying, "Go to the place I show you and teach the Bible at the University level to the people in the villages where you will find them waiting for you." I loaded my old Land Rover and started off for a village called Naluja at the far end of Chief Siachitema's area. It was a difficult journey traveling between two and four hours, depending on conditions, all of it off-road. I was met when I arrived with over forty people from various denominations excitedly ready to jump into the lessons. Just the thought of ever being able to take university level courses was miraculous. The average level of formal education was probably seventh grade. Most were not fluent in English, yet all of the material I brought was in English. And who in the world would go to such a far away place deep in the "bush" to teach the Holy Bible? When rainy season came the paths to Naluja turned into rivers and swamps. Driving to the class, where I would "camp" from Monday to Friday sleeping in a tent on top of the old Land Rover, students waited for me to take them. The first time I drove through one of the swampy areas, a student I had picked up told me, "If you get stuck here, the vehicle will not move



until the rainy season ends and the ground dries out." By the grace of God, we never got stuck, but the vehicle took a terrible beating and many repairs were required. For almost a week every other month we studied together. The Holy Spirit would move over the classroom in various manifestations. Often we would fall on our knees in prayer. Sometimes a great hush would come

over us, or tears, or laughter, resulting in us knowing God more. We celebrated together the completion of our studying together, but they will never quit studying God's word. As a matter of fact, before we finished the lessons churches had already been planted from these students! Every church represented became stronger and all look expectedly into sending missionaries. I've

never been more thrilled to preach on New Year's Day than at this graduation. From people you never heard of, and a place you can't find on a map, will come people (God's vessels) that will have a great part in changing the world. "But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: That no flesh should glory in his presence (I Cor 1:27-29)." It's not just Africans that traveled to Naluja to know God more, but me and you as God used us to make it all possible. We are also the most unlikely vessels, yet God chose us for this great work above all others.



Remain Faithful,

# CHRISTMAS and WORK TEAMS

by Linda



Our Christmas Celebrations with the children at both sites were blessed and a bit different this year. They did not do their normal play and invite staff in but Uncle Mike ask questions and shared a story about why Jesus came as a baby. I believe everyone took Christmas to another level of understanding. They loved their new shoes and treat bags and our time together. It is so nice to have their field right within our fence near their houses and the activity center. They planted maize (corn) this year and it's been a bit dry so far but we have received what was needed at the right times, it should do well. I was able to

travel out to Naluja for the MOT MOT graduation on New Years Day. It was my first time to visit there. Wonderful to meet the entire group of graduates on their special day and see them enjoy a feast with their family and friends to celebrate. We were so blessed by a group from Engedi for a few days. The children always enjoy extra love and attention and Michael was blessed with some over due maintenance help around the site. School has started and it takes about

two / three weeks for me to compile our numbers for Global Orphan Relief's orphan school program. I go and visit to see their grades from the previous school year and get our numbers and pay for the new school year. Praying I find good results as I travel here and there. Seems the Hospital in Lusaka has changed procedures with the new Dr. for Mackmore. They want us to come for review before another surgery causing two trips instead of doing everything in one. I am still trying to speak directly with the Dr. to see how we can make one trip since we are seven hours away and it's expensive to travel here. February 1<sup>st</sup> 2019 will be our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of working for the Lord in Zambia. Looking back over the many years I have seen and learned so very much, I still wonder why me....Thanks for your love and prayers.



## Prayer

For Christmas story working in orphans all year.  
For next School of Ministry classes.  
For continuation of the good rains.

## Praises

For graduates taking territory for God.  
For children back with relatives.  
For Luuwo's job in catering.

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