

September
2022

KEEPING UP WITH KENYA

Monthly Newsletter



WHAT IS GOD TEACHING US?

Rachel

This month I have read the books of Exodus and Leviticus. It is always encouraging to see how much God loves His children. He rescued the Israelites from Egypt and is constantly providing for them. Even in the laws He establishes with them, it shows He knows what is best for the people He has created. I am so thankful to be loved by a God that is compassionate, gracious, and abounding in faithful love.



"The Lord passed in front of him and proclaimed: The Lord - the Lord is a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger and abounding in faithful love and truth, maintaining faithful love to a thousand generations, forgiving iniquity, rebellion, and sin." -Exodus 34:6-7a

Tori

This month I have started a new Bible reading plan! I am reading through the New Testament in chronological order. My prayer is that the Lord continues to show himself to me in new ways as I read and spend time with him each day. God has been showing me more and more that scripture points to Him. I have been meditating on this and asking myself if everything in my life is currently pointing to Christ and proclaiming Jesus.

"The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is the one I told you about: 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me, because he existed before me.'" -John 1:29-30

MERCY *Nairobi*

Our team took a tour through the city and prayed over the different tribes/clusters of people groups here in Nairobi. It was very impactful for our team to hear and see the different classes and homes of some of our brothers and sisters. We drove by many temples and mosques, then we drove into the rougher parts of the city and by a slum called Kibera. Kibera is viewed as "the biggest, largest and poorest slum in Africa". We saw many men, women, and even some young boys strung out on jet fuel and a leaf they chew that gives them a high; while driving near the slum. (Please note that we did not go into the slum due to safety reasons)



Kibera Slum



MERCY Nairobi

We had our first Bible Study!!

God is so good and faithful. We had around 45 people show up for our first meeting and 11 of those were kids! We shared a meal together, worshipped and learned how to read God's word! Over the next 12 weeks we will be practicing together how to read God's word by studying the book of John! We even have a kids ministry and they are studying the book of John as well. This month the kids are learning John 3:16 for a memory verse! We were blessed to be able to give those who came a tee-shirt, notebook, pen, stickers, and when the 12 weeks are up we will give them a new study Bible!

Here are a few pictures of the night.



The process of establishing our NGO has been a slow process with elections. However, exciting news that we have shared under our Mercy House section. So keep reading!

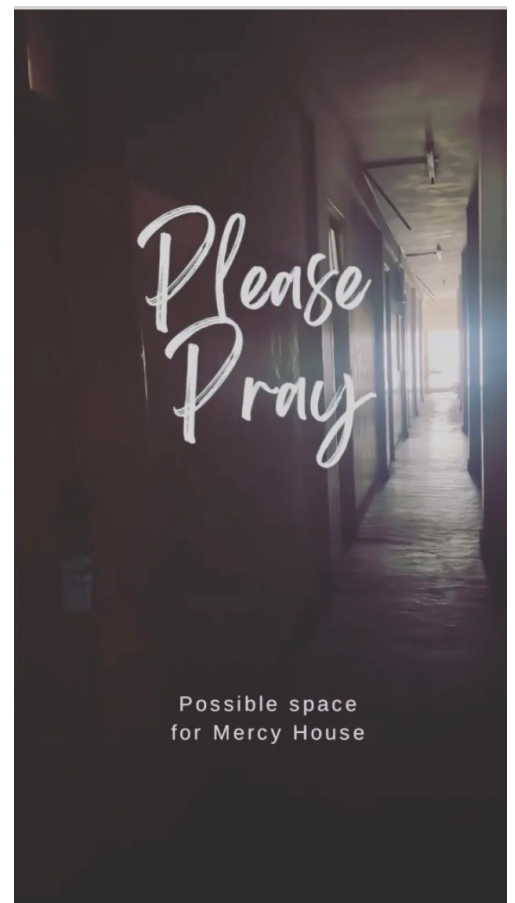
MERCY *house*

We are one step closer to getting the NGO established. The name, Mercy Nairobi Foundation, has been approved by the Kenyan government. There are still many steps left in the process but we are celebrating each milestone as they happen.

We also have a building that we have been praying over. It has two stories and many rooms that could be used for Mercy Nairobi offices and also counseling rooms, bedrooms, bathrooms, and dining rooms for Mercy House. Allan has met with the owner and now is in the process of writing up an offer. Our entire team has gotten excited about the potential we see in this building. Please pray that during the negotiation process, Allan and the owner, Mr. Shah, can agree on a price that works for both parties.



We do not have clear pictures yet of the building but here are two screenshots from a video Allan took of the building in April. The building is walking distance to the YMCA where we are hosting Bible Study. Please pray over this space!



GENERAL UPDATE

We are starting to explore more and went out on a Friday night for a fun activity. We went bowling and Ashley won both games. I had an absolute blast listening to the tunes from the early 2000s.



We have officially hosted our first dinner in our home. We had the Waruhius over for dinner. We have enjoyed turning our apartment into a home.

The Kohmans arrived on August 30. It feels complete having the entire team on the ground now. Jordan, Lee, Sienna (8), Libby (7), and Talitha (5) are starting to getting settled.





Rachel Turned 30!!!!!!

We celebrated my 30th birthday in many different ways. Tori decorated the apartment with 30th balloons and a banner. We went on a safari and saw many different animals. We were told that seeing the lions was a huge treat. Cheesecake is my favorite desert and I was

impressed that my friends were able to find it. I also got a chance to Zoom with my family and have a birthday date with Caleb. It was a great day!



Our Friends got Baptised!

We met some friends, that live in Tigoni with Catherine Mitchell, and were in the school she serves at. Catherine has been investing in these girls for many years. We had the joy of celebrating 2 of the girls, both named Brenda getting baptised last Sunday! It was an exciting time to see how God has already been moving in the hearts of people here!

Please join us in the continued prayers for the work Catherine is doing in Tigoni and for both Brendas as they are growing in Christ!



PRAYER REQUESTS

Rachel

- Discipline to build healthy habits all around
- Team unity and bonding now that the Kohmans have arrived
- Relationship with Caleb
- Kenya job opportunity for Caleb

Tori

- Setting healthy routines at home
- Building relationships with our neighbors
- Time in the Word
- For our Tigoni Friends, who were baptized

Mercy Nairobi Church

- Bible Study as we learn to read the Bible; studying the book of John
- Kids ministry
- Our worship team members to continue growing closer to the Lord

Mercy House

- Mr. Shah's building
- The hearts of the women we are going to be serving. That they will be open to receiving help for their physical needs and their hearts will be softened for their spiritual needs
- Praise God we are one step closer to getting the NGO established