

May
2025

KEEPING UP WITH KENYA

Monthly Newsletter

WHAT IS GOD TEACHING US?

Rachel

This month I have been reading 2 Samuel, Psalms, 1 Chronicles. God has reminded me through the stories of David that God's plan is perfect even though the world is broken. I have also been reminded that God stands by our sides and has a steadfast love through all trials that we face.



“But for me it is good to be near God; I have made the Lord God my refuge, that I may tell of all your works.” -Psalm 73:28

“This God-his way is perfect; the word of the Lord proves true; he is a shield for all those who take refuge in him.” -2 Samuel 22:31

Caleb

My Bible reading this month has also included 2 Samuel, Psalms, and 1 Chronicles. I've been using Through the Word's Psalms Explained Part II, and it's really helped me dig deeper into David's story. One thing that keeps standing out is just how human David is. He messes up—a lot. And yet, even while facing the consequences of his sin, he keeps coming back to God with praise. It's challenged me to think more about what real sanctification looks like: not perfection, but a heart that keeps turning to God. I want that kind of life—one that praises God no matter what.

“God—his way is perfect; the word of the Lord is pure. He is a shield to all who take refuge in him.” - 2 Samuel 22:31



WEST NAIROBI SCHOOL Elementary School

May was a very busy month for elementary students. As we wrapped up the year, students had different opportunities to show off their learning from the year. The K5 class got an opportunity to visit the 5th grade students and learn about their science fair projects. K5 also got opportunities to show off their learning from the year to K4, 1st grade, 5th grade, and their parents. It was such a fun opportunity to see how much they have grown throughout the year.

We also had the second semester club exhibition. Students were able to show off their skills from their various clubs. I had the opportunity to co-lead the drawing club for K4-2nd grade students. You can see some students demonstrating their gymnastics skills below.

The end of year also comes with building lasting memories together. K4 and K5 took a field trip to Domino's Pizza. Students got to tour the facility and also make their own pizza. It was a hit! We also participated in field day together on the last full day.





WEST NAIROBI SCHOOL

High School



This month has been slam-packed with events and memorable moments on the High School side of WNS. One standout was the minor earthquake my students and I felt on May 7th. It wasn't strong enough to do any damage, but we paused class to talk about it—and the tectonic activity in the Great Rift Valley. A geography teacher can't pass that up!

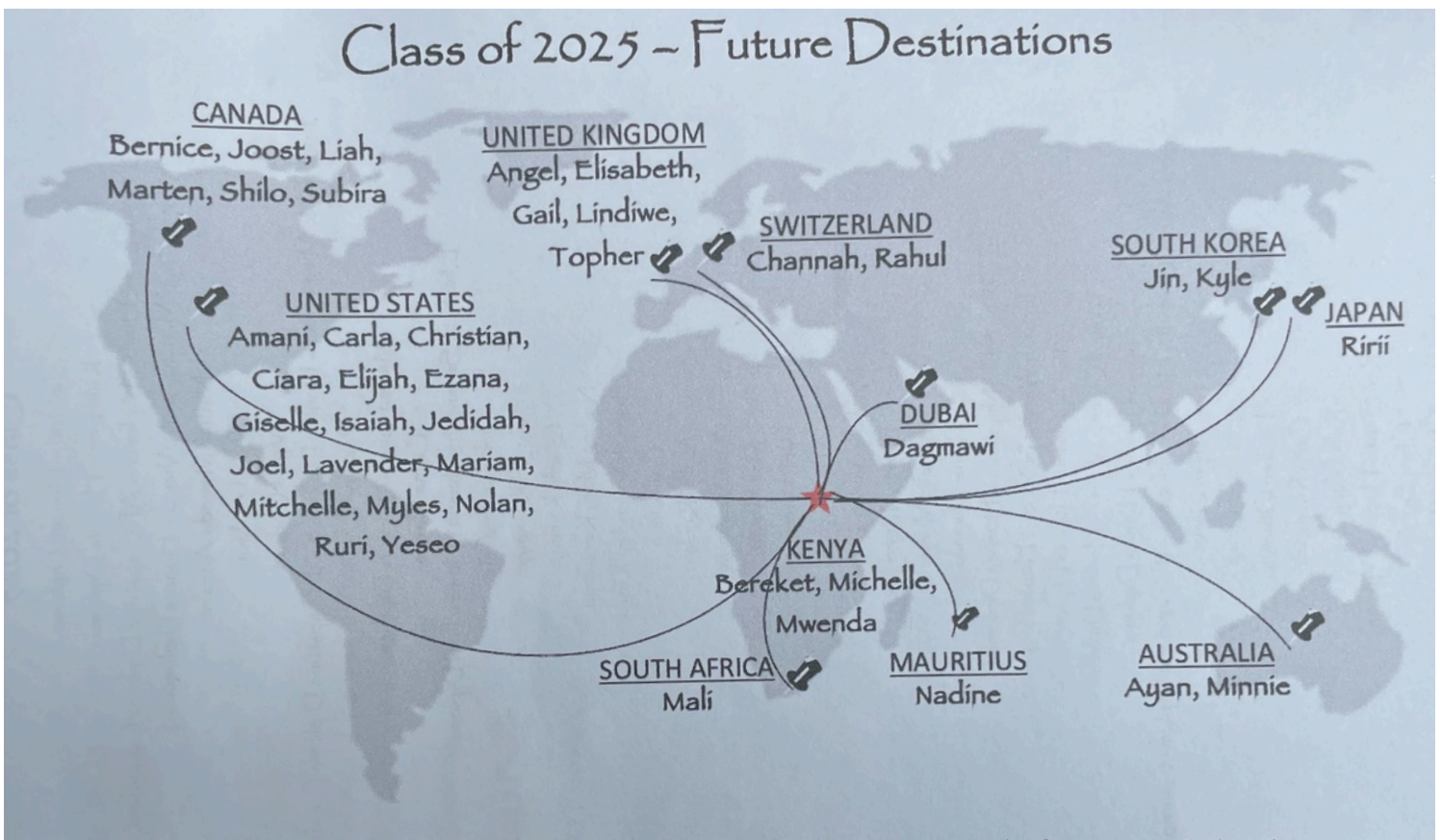


From May 18th through the 21st, I was privileged to join the Class of 2025 on their senior trip to the coast of Kenya. As one of their sponsors, I got to help plan and guide the trip. It was a fun-filled four days that allowed us teachers to help prepare the seniors for their next big steps. We played games, snorkeled in the Indian Ocean, and discussed the importance of diving into Scripture and drawing closer to God in the months ahead as they transition to universities around the globe. Tears were certainly shed by students and teachers alike.



WEST NAIROBI SCHOOL High School

On Saturday the 24th, I spent the whole day once more with our seniors. The morning included final graduation rehearsals (with me sneaking in a Bluetooth speaker and playing different versions of “Pomp and Circumstance” or circus music), followed by a graduate luncheon and the graduation ceremony itself. It was a long day, but so worth it to be part of making it special for our graduates. Our graduating class of 41 students is already making a global impact! They are taking the gospel to every habitable continent!



MERCY *Nairobi*

The Meru team recently returned with powerful testimonies from their mission trip. They conducted a Vacation Bible School that included teaching, crafts, and games for the local children. Despite facing resistance in areas heavily affected by drugs and prostitution—where some locals even asked them not to proclaim the gospel—the team pressed on with boldness. For many of the members, this was their very first mission trip, and they encountered challenges that made the area feel spiritually heavy—even to fellow Kenyans. HIV was widespread, and the need was great. The team provided food relief for many struggling families, offering both physical and spiritual hope. They ministered to teenagers by laying foundations in the gospel, helping them understand their identity and purpose in Christ. A powerful moment came when one man gave his life to Jesus, even though his boss had threatened to fire him if he became a believer. Anchored by their theme verse, John 8:36—“So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed”—the team witnessed 32 people come to salvation: 22 adults and 10 teens.

If you would like to see a video from the Meru team, please see the link attached in the E-mail.





At our recent Mercy Nairobi Church member meeting, we celebrated several exciting developments. The church unanimously adopted its by-laws and elected two new elders, Clay and Evans, a blessing as we continue to grow and mature as a body. Our family group had the opportunity to serve together in a meaningful outreach to the South Sudanese community, deepening both fellowship and mission with children ages 8-12 years.

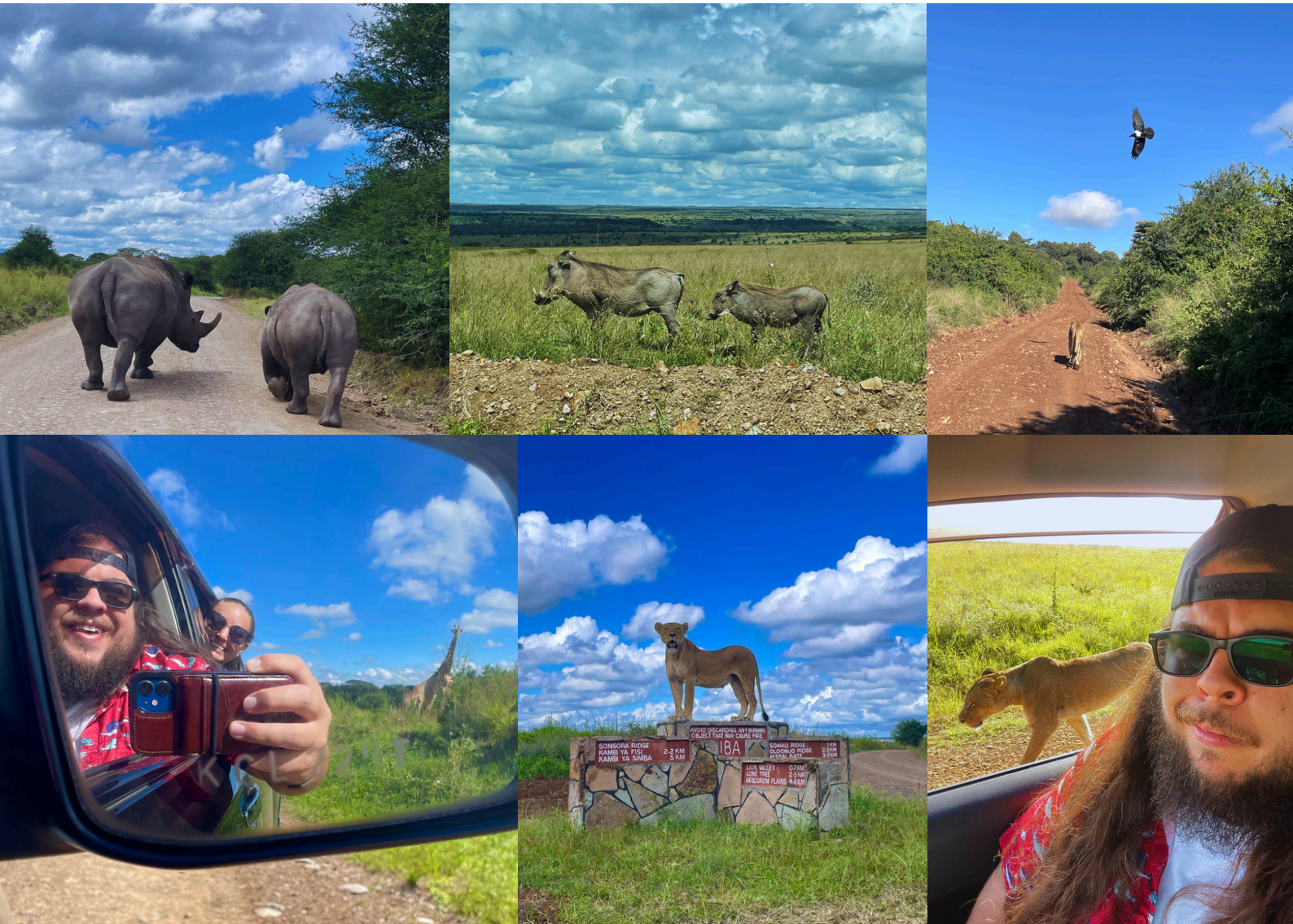
Due to her health, Rachel took a break during the months of March and April from serving in the kids' ministry. Praise God for continued healing! Rachel was able to serve in the kids' ministry during the month of May. It was such a joy to be back with the 3-5 year olds.

In addition, we were encouraged by a visit from the lead pastor and team from Mercy Church Charlotte, strengthening the bond between our churches and reminding us of the global nature of Christ's body.



PERSONAL UPDATE

This month, Rachel and I celebrated two years of marriage! When I returned from the coast with the WNS seniors, I walked into a surprise—our apartment was decked out with flowers, balloons, and hearts everywhere. To top it off, Rachel made Chicken Cordon Bleu, which was absolutely delicious!



We also took advantage of some free time to enjoy several drives through Nairobi National Park in our own vehicle. It's always such an adventure, and we've made it our personal mission to spot the elusive cheetahs that live in the park. Though we haven't found any yet, we did have a full day of seeing lion after lion (4 total!).

One unforgettable morning, we even spent over 30 minutes driving alongside a lioness as she casually strolled down the road. It was truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience!

PRAYER REQUESTS

Rachel

-Health has been quite a challenge this month. I have had a lot of pain and have been fighting a sinus infection. Please pray for complete healing before traveling this summer.

-Opportunities to find true rest this summer as I recover from the craziness of the past year.

Caleb

-Continued ministry opportunities through coaching and mentoring at WNS

-Provision of resources and support for my full-time Dissertation work

-Open doors to share the Gospel at Kenya's National Archive

West Nairobi School

-There are still multiple positions open for next school year. Please pray for the positions to be filled by people that will help grow and better the school.

-Pray for the staff members that are transitioning to new seasons in their lives.

Mercy Nairobi Church & Mercy House

-There will be many missions teams coming this summer. Please pray that this will lead to lots of gospel conversations throughout the city.

-Pray for Clay and Evans as they begin their official titles as elders.