



Habari Leo

A Ministry Newsletter of Jeff and Joyellen Hazard
Serving at Rift Valley Academy in Kijabe, Kenya
P.O. Box 80, Kijabe 00220, Kenya
(p) +254.20.3246.248 (e) jjhazard@kijabe.net

Something Bigger

I have been thinking recently about our ministry. It is demanding. It is tiring. It can be challenging at times. Some think we have “given up” life in America to live here. Such a depressing list.....why do we do it?

Because I have realized that I like being a part of something that is bigger than me. This job is definitely not about me. It is about working alongside others towards a bigger goal. There are many staff members here on this campus and we all have a common goal: to love and pursue the kids we come into contact with and to disciple them in their relationship with the Lord.

We just attended a mentoring workshop last month and were challenged to pursue

the kids who don't usually get pursued and to meet the kids where they are at. That is sometimes hard in a 9th grade boys' dorm! Trying to bring them around to a serious and meaningful conversation can be a challenge sometimes.

But in the midst of the challenging days, I have to remind myself that I like being a part of something big. You are a part of it too! By your prayers and financial support, you are a part of something that is bigger than you. It is bigger than just making money and spending money. You are investing in eternity.

We have had about 80 boys go through our dorm. We still keep in touch with many who have gone on to college

and beyond. It is exciting to see what God is doing in their lives today. To think we had even a small part in that is a blessing to us.

We have referred to John Piper before and I really like his book “Don't Waste Your Life.” He talks about coming to the end of your life being well-spent. There are times we have to work towards the “well-spent” and not “burnt out” but overall, I like the idea. I would love to get the end of my life and feel like I have spent it well. But most of all, I would love to get to the end of my life and know that what I did was part of God's big plan and brought Him honor and glory. Thanks for being a part of our ministry and part of the big picture!

Family and Ministry Update

We are two thirds through our school year. We have a fun, boisterous and noisy group of boys this year! They are a great group and we are thankful. In March, a highlight was when one of our boys made the decision to get baptized. It was an exciting time for us to see him make this big step in his life!

Also in March, we both lead a group of students on an “interim.” Interims are adventure/educational trips that the juniors and seniors take for a week. There are many options to choose from and each one is led by a staff member. We were asked to lead the camping trip to the

Mt. Kenya area this year. We had a super group of 13 seniors! 6 of them were boys who were in our dorm in 9th and 10th grade. We had lots of adventures – camel trek, rock climbing, hiking, and biking. We also learned a lot about the current issues that the Masai people in that area are facing. In light of the

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Matters of Prayer

- Praise that one of our guys was baptized in March!
- Pray for continued spiritual tenderness and growth for our boys.
- Praise for visitors this past month during our school break: Jeff's parents for a month and friends from our church in Michigan – the Meads – for a few days.
- Praise for rain this past month after a long and harsh drought in the land.
- Pray for a great term with our boys – for endurance, patience and wisdom for us as we parent them.
- Pray for us that we will continue to balance our family and ministry well.



Family and Ministry Update (cont.)

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country's drought, water issues were the hot topic we discussed during our week.

During that week we were told, after swimming in a murky swimming hole, that it potentially had cholera! When we returned from our week away, we came back to a polio outbreak in the community...and then one of the boys on our trip came down with meningitis the day after we returned. In one week, there were three diseases floating around! We are thankful that our student recovered well and that no one else got sick. Oh my....only in Africa!

We just began our third and final term this school year. The students were home on break for a month and returned to school on April 27th for another three month stretch. The first weekend of term, Joyellen and 5 other staff ladies led the sophomore girls on an overnight retreat. Joyellen has been a part of teaching this class for 5 years now. Pray for the girls as they think about, and hopefully put into practice the things we talked about—purity, no regrets, and pursuing their Heavenly Father!

Our own three kids keep us entertained: Megan is 6-1/2 and loves to collect rocks and other tempting objects she comes across. She is enjoying reading and learning new things

in first grade.

Lyndsey is 4-1/2 and loves to shop, pick out clothes, play with dolls and do anything dainty!

Ian is two and entertains us daily with his new words, funny faces and silly songs.