

Standing in the Gap

Steve & Rachel Good

October 2009

Five Year Anniversary

In some ways it is hard to believe we have been gone from the U.S. for 5 years this September. It is interesting to think back on how much we have grown in the area of international development and business. We have also changed job descriptions about every year (the average for many international workers) to the extent that much of what we started doing has now been passed on to someone else and we are doing totally new things compared to where we began. That makes for a perpetually steep

learning curve that has us constantly scratching our heads asking, "What's the next step now?"

Some highlights:

- All three of our children have married
- Learned a new language
- Our house in Elkhart is rented to its fourth family
- We have worked in 3 different countries, we have visited or landed in 5 more
- Had multiple visitors in our

- guesthouse apartment, plus 3 longer-term house mates
- Getting African Tick bite fever, but not malaria!
- Met hundreds of new people and friends

We are very grateful for the many ways you have stood by us during the last five years. *Thank you so much!*

Church Partner Coordinating

Rachel has been more involved since April with helping churches who are partners with World Relief and send teams to Mozambique. She helps plan the details of their trips, meets them at the airport, and sometimes accompanies them to the villages for a week (four times this year). The U.S. summer is the busiest time before it gets too hot in Mozambique. In November the last group of the year will be here from Akron, OH. It has been great to be in the villages and help with kid's clubs, accompany the teachings, talk about ideas for small businesses and help the groups adapt to the culture.

Só Natural

Só Natural. Did we spell that right? Some of you may be wondering what has happened to our English since we have been immersed in Portuguese for 5 years. The Só is intentional as it means "only" in Portuguese and still works in English. This is the new brand name for the cosmetic label that we have just launched in Mozambique for our virgin coconut oil product. It does wonders for dry skin and hair. We want to give credits and kudos to our son-in-law, Keith Lowe, who designed the label graphic for us. One Mozambican said it looks "chique." Massage anyone?



playing games at kid's club



village children listening to the Gospel via the Wordless Book

Nicaragua and U.S. Trip

In June, I (Steve) took a business trip to the U.S. and Nicaragua. I was blessed to be in Elkhart on Father's Day weekend to see family and friends, plus all six of our sons and daughters (includes spouses). I traveled with Wiggan Kanchela, our Zambia project director, and introduced him to some of the wonders of the U.S. like fresh strawberries, McDonalds and Starbucks. We also visited our partner, Vicky Wauterlek, in Chicago and ECHO in Ft Myers. The real impact of the trip came in Nicaragua where we saw PAC, a former WR agricultural project that now exports 4-5 million dollars worth of produce and coffee into the U.S. annually. This business model is one we are trying to emulate in Zambia and other WR economic development projects. It was a great trip and educational experience.



visiting a greenhouse in Nicaragua



Rachel with some WR volunteers in Xinhangane

Ancient Paths JEREMIAH 6:16 SEMINARS

Ancient Paths seminars help restore people in the areas of blessing, relationships, marriage, family, finances and purpose.

We continue to lead Ancient Paths seminars in Maputo. We were finally able to organize one with the leadership of our own church and they were touched by God and are excited to introduce it to the whole church. One person who had attended a seminar with a church last year decided it was important enough that he invited 20 people, paid their registrations and took care of all the logistics for a seminar in September.

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Changes at World Relief

Our director, Samuel Grottis has resigned at World Relief and is starting an international economic development organization—AfricaWorks. Sam was the first person from WR we had ever met and the one who invited us to come and “bring ideas” for business and development so that Mozambicans could build an economic base in business and agriculture. He has been a supervisor, mentor, counselor, peer, good friend and brother. Our lives have been closely intertwined with him and his wife Debbie over the last five years and we appreciate the ways he has encouraged and strengthened us.

We will continue under World Relief. Steve has been asked to consult for agriculture programs in all of Africa, not just the southern region. This will involve more travel to the other countries where WR is working in Central Africa (Kenya, Rwanda, Burundi).

We hope to continue doing at least one per month. Pray that more people will come alongside as new facilitators to help us with the work. One avenue we are pursuing is training the local seminary students as facilitators and eventually coordinators so they can minister to incoming students, the local churches in Maputo and then take this ministry back to their home areas.



Partnering
in
Missions

WORLD RELIEF

