



Sabbatical Update

Christmas Greetings from Joe and Elfi Muutuki

December 2017

“I will give thanks to you, Lord, with all of my heart, I will tell of all your wonderful deeds “ Ps 9:1

Six months ago Elfi and I left Kenya for six months sabbatical which took us to Germany, England, USA and back to Germany but leaving again for Kenya on January 2nd. We saw many of you during our visit and talked or communicated with many of you. I, Joe was able to share in preaching in several Churches or was interviewed during worship service. As I shared my testimony about my growing up in a witch-doctor's house, I vividly remember a young girl from one of the Churches we visited coming towards me in tears and said to me, “what you shared is my own background and it has been awful.” I tried to enquire from her with the little time we had as people were surging towards our display table what it was she did not like or liked. The Good News is I reminded her that Jesus can free her from the shackles of her past, just like he did with me. She nodded and thinned out in the crowd.

The realization that there are many people possessed by demons or demonic powers or evil powers of darkness or some form of power that makes them captives and powerless became real to me during this sabbatical. God's kingdom is hindered when such powers take control over us. Satan, our greatest enemy does not want human beings anywhere to worship Jesus freely; he does what it takes to stop it!

Jesus coming to tear down Satan's power, kingdom and diminish his authority on earth is a war that is being waged all over the world even as we celebrate Christmas in 2017. The best thing that God could do and did was to give us his son, Jesus. I now understand why Jesus preaching included conquering the demonic powers which we often do not want to accept but is real.

Psalm 9:1 fits for us this Christmas because we are thankful for God's gift of his son Jesus Christ and are prepared to share with others of this, God's wonderful deed. Indeed Jesus came to free us from all forms of depression and powerlessness so that we can celebrate and appreciate each other, our families, our friends and be thankful to God for everything. May God give you that freedom to do that this Christmas?

Elfi and I wish you *Merry Christmas*

Krismas Njema (Swahili)

Froehliche Weihnachten (German)

Joe and Elfi

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Family and Friends,

After 7 hour and 40 minutes flight from Frankfurt, Germany to Nairobi yesterday the 2nd we made it home safe and sound. There were no hitches, no extra weight payments and we went through all the customs formalities without any hitches at all. We attribute all this to your kind thoughts, wishes and prayers for us.

We know there is much that awaits us in the ministry here in Nairobi after 6 months absence. We already have invitations for dinners as you can imagine starting today. We hope to reconnect with our pastor and his family today and for sure with everyone else on Sunday.

We will update you on how things develop as the Lord unfolds for sure some amazing things in our new team. We wait for pastor Prakash to join us in the course of the week. Please pray for him and his wife as they travel from Tanzania to Nairobi and a such for rental house.

Wishing you God's blessings in the New Year.

Joe and Elfi
Nairobi, Kenya