



Christmas

Letter from
Hippo Valley Christian Mission



Christmas 2020

A GOD-FORSAKEN PLACE? (Don't believe it!)

In the movie, *The African Queen*, there is a scene early on where Charlie Allnut, the crusty and profane old steam boat driver, makes an offhanded statement to Miss Rose Sayer and her brother (both missionaries to the Congo). He said that this country (Africa) was a "god-forsaken place!" Well, Miss Rose quickly fires back at that statement by saying: "God has not forsaken this place, Mr. Allnut, as my brother's presence here bears witness!"



I have often thought about that line as I have done mission work in Zimbabwe, Africa. I have thought about it a great deal as of late and especially now as economic hardships and desperation among the people seem to be at an all time high. Yet the very presence of HVCM and all of our committed workers, both in Zimbabwe as well as our U.S. operations, bears witness to the fact that God has NOT forsaken Zimbabwe!

The many teams from the U.S. that take vacation time and invest their own resources to travel and teach and serve over there bear witness that God has not forsaken Zimbabwe! Our 28 mission schools with nearly 20,000 children attending bears witness that God has not forsaken Zimbabwe! Our orphan ministry with 50 happy and healthy children that has just completed a \$130,000.00 long overdue remodeling project bears witness that God has not forsaken Zimbabwe! Our 1,500 children enrolled in the Living Proof program and all of the many faithful U.S. sponsors bear witness that God has not forsaken Zimbabwe!

Our many Preachers/Evangelists who faithfully work, preach, teach, travel and serve sometimes 2 or 3 rural churches on behalf of HVCM bear witness that God has not forsaken Zimbabwe!

And you, our faithful supporting churches and donors who continue to give in spite of our own issues due to Covid-19, also bear witness that God has not forsaken Zimbabwe! And of course, Christmas is the ultimate reminder that God has not forsaken any of us!

Yes, times are very hard right now in Zimbabwe and all over the world! But this is NOT a God-forsaken world! Zimbabwe is NOT a God-forsaken country! "For unto us a Child is born... And He shall be for all people!" Baby Jesus was Living Proof that God sees and loves mankind. HVCM's presence in Zimbabwe and your support are all Living Proof that God has NOT forsaken this world!

So this Christmas as you see the many nativity scenes, whether in someone's yard, on a stage, a picture or a Christmas card, be reminded of this simple truth: This is not a God-forsaken world! God loved us so much that he sent His son Jesus. The Word became flesh and moved into our neighborhood!

We know that many of our faithful donors think about us this time of year and give an additional year-end gift to the mission. As 2020 comes to a close, we are trusting that God will provide what is needed to close the year out, pay all our bills and hopefully, be able to bless our faithful workers in Zimbabwe with a small Christmas bonus.

If you are moved to make a special Christmas or end of the year gift to HVCM, that will be most welcomed! As usual, we trust in God's provision.

To our faithful churches and supporters we want to thank you for your partnership and financial support, gifts and prayers. And from all of us at HVCM we sincerely wish you all a very

Merry Christmas, and blessed New Year!