

# ACTION



Zambia

# lowdown

ACTION Zambia | NEWS

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## BOOKS FOR ZAMBIA

Tracy Singleton \* PLD Coordinator \* Lusaka, ZM

Serving the church in Zambia, that is what our missionary team has been called by God to do. I serve the African community by investing in mentors, teachers and pastors. Their work is grueling, every day dealing with the harsh realities of poverty, disease, and death. Knowing the Word of God and skillfully delivering it is especially important in these contexts. Time after time, these kingdom workers have asked me for the book-tools that they need to be good workmen who accurately handle the Word of Truth.

Ben Mumbi is a typical example. Pastor Mumbi is an associate pastor of an 80 plus congregation of poor believers. Two years ago, I supplied him with a study Bible which is now his primary resource

for assisting his study of Scripture. Our Pastor Leadership team in Zambia wants to do more. Pastor Mumbi and hundreds of other like him are the reason we are assembling a container of resources to be shipped to Zambia. In this container we are bringing over three resources consisting of a one-volume Bible commentary, a Bible dictionary, and a Bible concordance for Ben and the other pastors in our training program.

But there is more! This container will help us to supply Zambian church leaders with other resources. It contains gospel tracts in several languages. These are ideal tools for evangelizing the lost and discipling the saints. It will contain commentaries, Biblical theologies, and Christian biographies to be placed in ACTION

Zambia's four resource centers in Lusaka for serving a wider circle of Zambian pastors. It will contain books for graduates of several Zambian seminaries for years to come. How exciting to be a part of an effort like this!

Many publishers, churches and individuals have already sent books - enough to fill a container. But, until we purchase a container, they will continue to sit in a Florida warehouse. Would you join us in making an investment in God's Kingdom that will pay eternal dividends? Please join us in getting these much needed resources to African church leaders.



*“The church building is missing over half of its roof; half its walls, and the walls it does have are sheets of aluminum”*

### RAINING DUST AND DISTRACTIONS

*Derek Dearth \* CROSS Coordinator \* Lusaka, ZM*

If you were going to talk to someone about disclosing their HIV status to family and how to plan for the future, where would you choose to meet with them?

Perhaps, at home in the living room, sipping coffee or tea? Or maybe the prayer room at your church? Or the pastor's office, or a counsellor's office? Someplace that has somewhat of a calm and peaceful ambiance and is private, safe and secure.

One of the places we meet for the C.R.O.S.S. Project is far from being a place of calming and peaceful ambiance as we talk with people about disclosing their HIV status.

This particular church is located in George Compound. The church building is missing over one-half of its roof; it is also missing half of its walls, and the walls that it does have are sheets of aluminum nailed to small wood studs. All of that would not be so bad in and of itself, but the building has a tavern on one side and a community school on the other side, which unfortunately make for a rather distracting combination. The tavern cranks up their music (which seems

to be a selection from dramatic movie soundtracks), and it gets so loud sometimes that we have to yell to be heard.

Then, when the kids from the school are out for recess, they run around the building playing tag and bang on the aluminum wall. Or else, they huddle around our car trying to get glimpses of their reflection in our side mirrors or windows. Or, they try to get a glimpse of the mzungus (white people) in the spaces between the aluminum sheet walls and yell, “Mzungu, mzungu!” at us. Added to this, when the wind blows, the sheets of tin on the partial roof bang loudly together, and dust blows down to form a thin layer of brownish-red dust on us, our teaching materials, and Bibles.

Needless to say, I get pretty distracted during these lessons. But it seems like, for the most part, the class does not get totally distracted - just mildly. After all, this is their home - one that is loud, cramped, dusty, dirty, and full of drunken guys (like the one that decided to come and join our class for a few minutes). This environment is very typical for much of the urban poor around the

world...an environment that seems very far away from our prayer rooms of calming ambiance in many of our churches where we can talk with people about hard issues. But this distracting, loud, dusty environment is a good picture of HIV family disclosure in Zambia - messy, unsettling, distracting, and fear-producing.

Please pray for the C.R.O.S.S. team that the Lord would give us wisdom and grace in how to strengthen and encourage the Zambian Church to take a stand against a climate of stigma and fear in regard to HIV/AIDS in their homes, communities, churches, and country.

*Has the Lord placed a call on your life for missions? Visit [www.actionzambia.org](http://www.actionzambia.org) to find out if you could fill one of our vacant spots.*

## MADE TO TEACH

*Karen Singleton \* AZ Missionary \* Lusaka, ZM*

For as long as I can remember I have always wanted to be a teacher. As a nine-year-old, the carport of my house was my "classroom". There I would gather the neighborhood children and have them circle words in a book that would become their spelling lists.

Several teachers throughout my childhood fueled this desire to lead others to discovery, one of teaching's highest motives—Mrs. Tobias, Mrs. McLaughlin, Mr. Johnson, and Mr. Clark. Although I never "officially" became a teacher, I did home school each of my four children, creating an outlet for this passion.

Recently an opportunity opened up at the Baptist Theological Seminary here in Lusaka. The missionary who taught language arts to freshman students retired after 13 years. The dean of the seminary approached me to see if I was interested in instructing students in grammar and

composition, subjects that will lay a foundation for their Greek studies and research papers, respectively. I've accepted this new role for three hours a week teaching three students—Kennedy, Phillemon, and Laban, a class size reminiscent of home schooling days.

Please pray for these young men who work hard to make sense of a language that is not their mother tongue. Pray that I will have the wisdom to prepare these students, equipping them with the tools that will enable them for their remaining years in seminary.



## EARNING THE RIGHT

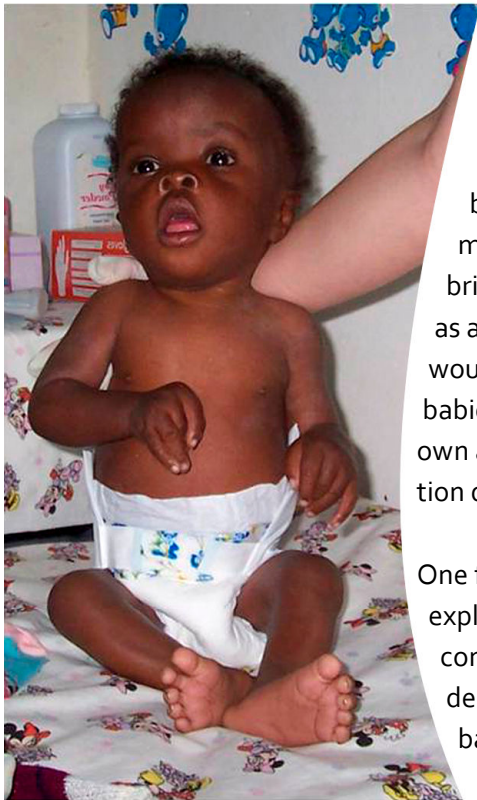
*Andrea Hilty \* Lowdown Editor \* Lusaka, ZM*

A few weeks ago while visiting the Baby Milk and Nutrition Program in Sinazongwe, Zambia, I witnessed something truly inspiring. There, ACTION Zambia partners with Karin Engelbrecht and her trained staff to provide baby formula, health advice, medicine, clothing and nutritional aides. I sat in the baby assessment room looking on and saw baby after baby come in with varying degrees of malnutrition. I couldn't help but gaze at my bright, healthy 6 year old daughter and think that as a baby she was severely malnourished and would have qualified for this program. Many of the babies we saw that day shared a similar story to my own adopted daughter; without nutritional intervention death was imminent.

One family in particular caught my attention. Karin explained that when the mother and baby had first come to the program both were on the verge of death. Now, it seems likely that both mother and baby will live for a good many more years. After

their consultation was over, one of the staff named Agnus shared the good news of Jesus Christ with them and the husband subsequently gave his life to Christ. There is no church in the village where they live. The milk program will send a local pastor to follow up with this new believer and assess whether a church plant is possible.

This opportunity to share Christ and the possibility to plant a church exists because the Baby Milk and Nutrition program is there physically caring for the neediest. Not only were they willing to listen because of the actions of Karin and her staff but they were *able* to listen because their lives had been saved. Missionaries often must prove the Love that indwells them before they have earned the right to present the gospel to a listening ear.





## CAMP CIYANJANO DEDICATION

Friday 12th August 2011—Saturday 13th August 2011



### FAREWELL

*Megan Bloemker \* AZ Missionary \* Lusaka, ZM*

Over the past five years serving with ACTION Zambia Ministries, I've had so many wonderful experiences and shared in so many wonderful things that the Lord has done in Lusaka. Some of my favorite memories are of the times when ACTION Zambia families have adopted. I facilitated the adoption of Ireen Hilty who is now a very precocious big sister of two younger brothers. Then there was Chi-Chi Whitfield, who was a very sick little boy when I first met him; now he's so talkative, healthy and strong. When I first met Rhoda Allen, she and I connected with each other when she was still in an orphanage. She corrected me in her very thick Zambian accent because of the way I was singing "If You're Happy and You Know It". Watching these kids being brought up in the Lord has been such a blessing to me. Helping my fellow workers adopt made the desire in my heart grow even more for adoption!

I've taken part in the international adoption of almost twenty children into loving families. It's clear, facilitating adoptions is close to my heart! Some of you may know that I will soon be transferring to another organization called Arise Africa, where I have been asked to oversee several of the programs they have established in Zambia. The move also makes a way for me to follow God's leading in my life: to focus more of my energies on international adoptions. I can only say thank you to such a great group of people that have been on the ground fighting for the cause of Christ and for the children of this nation. Thank you to all the ACTION Zambia team members past and present for all the support and encouragement over the years! Much love and appreciation to you all!

### PARTNER WITH US

*Tim Hilty \* AZ Director \* Lusaka, ZM*

Thank you for your interest in Ciyanjano. Our campground development and ongoing ministry activities continue at full speed. But there comes a time to stop, look back and give praise to God for all that He has accomplished. That's why we are dedicating Camp Ciyanjano to the Lord on August 12-13th; we are excited!

At ACTION Zambia, we believe that God has called us to testify to his goodness and faithfulness. We are passionate to see others discover the same mercy and love of God that we have. Can you testify of the grace of God in your life? Would you join us in proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ through our camp and retreat ministry in Zambia?

- Volunteer to Help Us
- Pray Fervently for Us
- Give Generously

*Rhoda Allen and Ireen Hilty 2009*

