



# Go Ye Into All the World and Preach the Gospel to Every Creature

## MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE

Altona M. S.,  
Jan. 19th, 1946

Dear Highway Friends:

It's a hot summer evening in Africa. Lovely rains have made it cooler the last few days but today has been sunny. We do thank God so much for the rain. The situation was getting serious. Rev. Paul Nkosi visited us one day and said that four of his cows have died of starvation. He planted his garden but no rain came so everything died. We are so grateful that since then rains came in that section too and the people were ploughing and planting again.

We had a very nice Christmas season and wish to send thanks again for all who sent letters, cards, etc., for they are still arriving. Eugene went for our boys the 12th of December as Harold was very sick with mumps—school closed the 14th. We were sorry that he had to be in bed on Christmas Day, but glad that he was improving.

The boys all passed their exams and Glendon and Reginald returned to Commondale the 14th. Harold is not well enough for school yet and may study at home for awhile.

The Sunday before Christmas we had a special service here. The congregation was not as large as usual, but we had a very nice service. Quite a number of the workers were present and they are always a help in the service.

The day following Christmas Eugene started for the Quarterly Meeting at Hartland. Everyone tells me it was a very good time in the Lord and we do praise Him for His blessings.

I was just listening to an account of the services the evening Eugene returned, when I heard a knock. To my surprise there stood Losaya and she said, "Oh mama, my husband has been bitten by a snake." You can imagine our feelings! I rushed around getting the lance and medicine and Eugene went right up and lanced his foot where the snake had bitten and put medicine in. Mr. Roberts arrived saying that there was medicine to inject at the Klipvaal Mine so Eugene hurried home for the car and they took him right there. The injections are a wonderful help and Zebuloni is now walking around, working in his garden. We do thank God for the way He undertook.

Last Saturday Johanesi thought he would take our horse and go to Mbuca for an evening service and special service on Sunday.

He had hardly mounted when the horse threw him off. He went a little further and

the horse bucked again so he decided he wouldn't try again as the second time he hit his hip. So Eugene mounted but by the time he got the horse quieted to ride it properly, he was too tired to take that long ride. Then we decided we would all go on Sunday morning by car, as I had never been there. I judge it is about 40 miles from here by car.

Sunday was a lovely day and we reached our destination safely. I had heard a lot about that church and was so glad to see it. It is built of blue stone and really a nice little church indeed. About thirty were present, when we started, but others soon arrived until about sixty-five were with us. Eugene's theme was going on unto perfection. After he spoke I also spoke a few words and a few testified. By then the time was finished so Eugene called an altar service and a goodly number came forward and we had a real good prayer service after which we partook of the Lord's Table. Our work in that direction has been greatly hurt by the "Russellites" and I hadn't expected so many present but there is a good stirring among the people now and we pray it will continue. We do praise God that He is with us and we need not fear.

After the service the ladies brought us lovely bread that had been baked in an iron pot over hot coals, and tea and soon a chicken, beautifully cooked and very tasty. We had to eat with our fingers but we didn't mind, and the children thought it was fun.

We said good-bye about four o'clock and started for home but about 25 miles from home there was a snap and down went one side of the car. The rear axle had broken near the wheel and the wheel had rolled over into the grass. The Lord certainly hepled us out of a difficult situation for there was a house nearby and the man kindly brought us right home and promised to have the car taken to his brother-in-law's home, where he happened to be visiting.

Our neighbour, Mr. Roberts, kindly took our children out to school, with his son, so that also was a help.

Our teacher did not arrive on Monday, as he promised, so Eugene has been teaching school all the week. He left this morning by bicycle to see about the car. I do not expect him back to night. Famine is present among us. Many of the children come to school having no breakfast at all, so now we are giving them coffee and bread before school goes in and soup and bread at noon. We are thankful that the school feeding system makes this possible.

The verse in my daily reading book today was "Pray without ceasing." I've been thinking all day how very important it is that we take "everything to God in prayer." I'm so

glad that we are told to come often to Him for some days seem to bring so many little things to disturb but what peace and help when we can take our cares to Jesus!

Tomorrow is Sunday and I must close for tonight. I do pray that God will give us a blessed day in Him—this I also pray for you all and that God will richly bless and help you every day.

Yours in His blessed service,  
GLADYS KIERSTEAD

Hartland Mission Station,  
Natal, South Africa,  
January 6th, 1946

Dear Friends:

Perhaps you would like to hear how we spent Xmas here at the Mission Station. It was a very warm day and one almost had to stretch the imagination to think that it really was Xmas. The people who work on the farm and some of the Hospital patients wanted to watch us open our gifts, so after breakfast they were called in. Grace got her harp out and we sang some carols and had a prayer in Zulu. After that we were very busy opening gifts to the accompaniment of loud hurrahs from the natives as each thing came in view. It seemed that everyone did all they could to make my first Xmas in Africa a very happy one.

On Wednesday our Quarterly started. We were so glad to have Brother Kierstead with us and very sorry that Gladys could not come, on account of the boys' illness. I attended as many of the business sessions as possible and found them very interesting (either Grace or Charlie interpreted for me). But it is a great thrill when one can follow along and understand words here and there and make one's self really believe that you are learning, no matter how slowly. The Lord was with us from the beginning, and it was a good and profitable meeting. On Sunday morning Charlie baptized eight people and in the afternoon service they were received into the church. I went up to the service at one p. m. and Brother Kierstead was preaching when I went in, and there had been another preacher before that. Andrew and Kelina Mtetwa, two of our workers, dedicated their baby boy and we had Communion service and a season of prayer. It was five p. m. when the service ended, but it was good to be there.

The Lord is blessing and we are expecting great things from Him. There is to be a special New Year watch-night service on Wednesday night. The drought still continues and Charlie was saying today that we should have a day of prayer and fasting to pray for rain. Food is very scarce for the native population and things look serious, for the crops that have