

## MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE

Altona M. S.,  
May 21, 1949.

Dear Highway Friends:

Greetings in Jesus' precious name. Our hearts were made very sad indeed to get the news on Tuesday night, of the home going of our beloved worker, Rev. Paul Nkosi. I was on my way to visit at a Native kraal, when suddenly the air was rent by piercing, heart-broken cries from his eldest daughter, Lifina, who is going to school here. "O my Lord, my Father, my Father! What shall I do?" My heart just stood still. Her voice could be heard by all the nearby kraals. Later I went upon my return, to try to comfort her. She had tried two or three times within the last few weeks, to see him. Each time the river was full or heavy rain hindered. And the last time she and her cousin were almost taken down stream by the swift current. As it was Shedriack lost all of his clothes and had to wear her petticoat coming home. By that time I found her so weak from weeping and grief I had to help her into the house where I was told to go to. I did my best to comfort her and we had prayers. In her prayer she asked God to help her to go deeper with Him. She looks much like her father in feature and figure, I trust she will be in spirit and faith too. At present she is going on nicely with the Lord and showing a concern for the unsaved. Yes, Paul was a fine Christian man. One of our best. Deeply spiritual and blessed of God in his ministry. God had delivered him from the superstitions and heathen customs to a great extent. Talida Mtshali, our new Bible woman at Kwabanakile, his home, told of how much he had helped her on this line. How that once, while repairing a grass roof of her hut, a peculiar field-rat was found. It hissed and spit away like a cat baring its long, sharp teeth, striking terror to their hearts. The matter was discussed. It was decided that that terrible creature was sent by some one who hated her and that she would be taken sick. She went to Paul in great fear, just young in the faith. He told her it likely was brought in a stick of wood from the mountain-side the day before, when a load was brought with which to brew their beer. And that she was to have no fear. But she did get sick — say three months later. Then the people looked very knowingly at her, shook their heads very solemnly and said, "We told you so!" Again Paul was her comforter. No doubt most of you know of Paul's sickness. When he returned from Durbin, he had passed through great suffering—also from the X-ray treatments. Satan seemed to come with ten-fold power and determination to shake his faith in God, but Christ gave him deliverance and victory. He slowly recovered and was able to meet a few appointments, then he again took sick. He was planning to attend the Piet Relief Church dedication and Quarterly services, but couldn't on that account. After those meetings, Daniel Sukazi and Timoti Nkosi went to pray with him, and he felt God had touched him and raised him up. They say he prayed so earnestly for the outposts and places where he used to go, asking God to raise him up so he could bring those unsaved souls to Jesus. But said he was ready to go if God so willed. He said he had searched his heart again and again very diligently but could find nothing between him and God. His trust was in God. No doubt Charles and Myra have written also of his brief stay with them. It

has given me such joy to know that he was able to be cared for so well the last week of his life and to have their faith and prayers at the time of his greatest need. I had the privilege of spending ten wonderful days with him and his sweet Christian little wife last year. He told me then he felt his life was drawing rapidly to a close. The treatment he had, operation and etc., evidently added about eight months to his life with the blessing of God sparing him to us that much longer. You could feel the Spirit of God in His life and home. He was loved and respected by saved and unsaved alike. He worked very hard when hardly physically fit, to help complete the Church there, and rejoiced to see it Dedicated. In him we have lost a great soul and soldier of the Cross. We feel our loss keenly! Who shall fill the gap? Thursday, in class, I told the people, as we were trying to comfort each other, that we must work that much harder trying to reach lost souls. That we must pray the Lord of the Harvest to send forth some more labourers to help take his place. Some one to pick up the torch which has dropped from his faithful hand. Who shall it be? Maybe some man at present wearing an "ibeshu" (heathen pants). After class I went in response to an urgent, strong plea, brought by three women in the morning, to see a sick Native heathen man. He begged me to come personally to see him. When I learned he was able to still crawl about a bit, I just sent Malaria Fever remedies saying I would go in the afternoon, as I had Bible Class and the Afternoon Class. I found him very sick, it seemed Malaria Fever with complications. He was most grateful that I came. When I asked him how it fared with his soul, he answered, "It just came to me this morning that I should seek God!" Praise the Lord, He enabled me to help this seeking soul find salvation. Now my heart is white!" Was his joyful testimony! I presume that is why he wanted me to go in person to see him. But it seemed so wonderful to see this heathen man give himself to God, just after what I had said to the people in class. Pray that he may be healed and used of God in the Harvest Field. His name is Mgupa Mota (Gupa means to dig deep or uncover something hidden).

There is a young man in whom I have been very interested and burdened. I visited him last month and found him hard. I tried to enlighten him on the line of God's protection of His children. To-day his brother came for treatment. I told him of the Mota man's getting saved. He said, "That is what we all should do!" Then he told me that his brother said recently he now feels he should give himself as a seeker, but that no one has come since I was there last to pray with him so he can do so! I am planning going there a week from tomorrow, (D.V.) Beloved, pray for us!

Yours for souls,  
GRACE SANDERS.

Altona M. S.,  
May 25, 1949.

Dear Highway Friends:

"Ask, and ye shall receive." "If ye ask anything in My name I will do it." Unitedly—you there—we here; the Natives together with us have been asking for three things especially, viz: The restoration to health of Sister Gladys and Bros. George Sanders and Paul Nkosi. But I'm sure we all desire first of all the will of God. Paul—he chose to take to Heaven. What glory for him, a heathen sinner saved by grace! Praise the Lord! But oh, what a

break in our ranks! Pray God's man may soon be found to take Paul's place. George returned Monday night from Boksburg, having travelled by push-bike a greater part of the way. His surgeon advised much exercise for the strengthening of the weak muscles of the broken leg. The district surgeon arrived here at noon yesterday. He was very pleased to see George back and seemed to marvel at the strength of the union of the bones, which had been broken in five places. Though they are not perfectly in line, he can walk now on that foot, bearing a lot of his weight on it. He said, as I greeted him at the gate, "I'm back for good!" Rejoice and praise God with us, beloved. He is a very grateful boy because he was in a ward where many men were minus a foot or leg. Surely God wonderfully undertook for him. Praise His matchless name! Keep praying just the same, dear friends, that the leg may quickly grow strong, as there is much work farther afield to be done and the labourers are few.

For our beloved Sister Kierstead we just keep on trusting God for her complete recovery. She is reported to be a little bit stronger so we praise God. Oh, for a stronger faith! How impatient we earthly creatures are! God is able—truly there is nothing too hard for Him! Oh, I know and believe this with all my heart! I think we all have received precious promises for Gladys's recovery. The question comes, "Then WHY is she not healed and raised up immediately?" May it be that God's TIME to do so has not yet arrived? Surely there is some purpose—some precious special plan God is working out in, yes and through her for her own sake and for that of others. "No man liveth unto himself and no man dieth unto himself." Our lives touch and influence the lives of others—our joys, our sorrows, our trials—the spirit in which we bear these help or hinder others. In our family prayers we've been reading in Acts. I have been blessed and impressed by the numerous, afflictions of Paul—the hard things, the persecutions and sufferings! How Jesus told him he had still more and greater trials and sufferings to go through, but not to fear. He would deliver him time and again, but that he was to witness for Him before kings! Oh what narrow escapes he had! Each time he witnessed faithfully and suffered more and more. Yet he became still more fearless and to the Philippians he writes: (Ch. 1:12, 13), "But I would that ye should understand, brethren, that the things which happen unto me have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the Gospel: so that my bonds in Christ are manifest in all the palace, and in all other places; and many of the brethren in the Lord, waxing confident by my bonds, are much more bold to speak the Word without fear."

The spirit in which our dear Sister Gladys takes the suffering of her "bonds" is a revelation of the grace of God—the measure of joy, patience and cheer others take note of as it radiates out from her being and touches their lives. It gives one fresh courage to face their own trials which seemed so heavy before. But seem to dwindle away to insignificance in comparison to those of a mother with a family to care for and compelled to lie idly about. Praise God for the sufficiency of His grace. God works in mysterious ways, His wonders to perform! He sees not as man seeth. Thus her sufferings and "trial of faith" are being used of God to encourage others to wax bolder in faith to speak the word without fear. For her working out "a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory."

Yes, God has purposes in sufferings and