

# lesotha letters

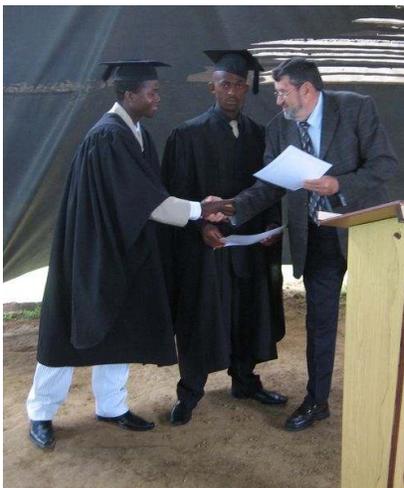
Glenn, Stephanie & Kaitlyn Gault  
Serving with Hope International Missions

March/April 2009

## Prayer and Praise:

- Last newsletter we asked you to pray that the congregation at Ha Thafeng would find a new place to worship. **Praise** the Lord! The chief at least gave us a temporary place to put a modular tin church. We hope to take the church there next week.
- **Pray** for the pastors and the young men who assist them. **Praise** God for these dedicated people!
- Please **pray** for God's continued protection over Stephanie's health. (See Kaitlyn's Korner.)
- **Intercede** for us missionaries as we work together as a team with the leaders of the churches in Lesotho and South Africa. We need much wisdom and God's help to maintain unity and progress.

## Training Church Leaders

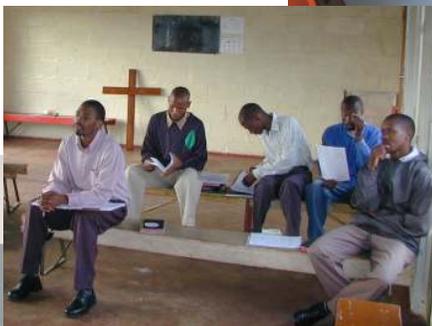


One of the most important ways that Hope International Missions assists the church in Lesotho is through facilitating a training program for pastors and Christian workers. At the Christmas conference in December, the first class of seven students graduated.

Each of these dedicated Christians are in ministry somewhere. Rev. Pieter Marais gave each student their diploma in a special Sunday morning graduation service.



In January we started training a new group. At the moment there are twelve students, but not all of them are sure they will be able to continue the classes because of schedule conflicts. We meet Friday nights from six to nine for three hours of lectures. Please pray much for both the students and the teachers! We're depending on you!



Thanks to your donations we now have tables and chairs (above) instead of writing on our knees (left). These improvements are a GREAT blessing!

Mahlomola (left) is one of the new students at the Bible School. He helps Rev. Kali at the Matukeng and Ha Motheho churches. When I asked him how the school was helping him, he said, "I have learned so much already. I consistently take time to read my Bible and pray. I read the Bible a lot now and understand it much better! I am also learning to meditate on the Word of God and apply it to the problems that I face every day." The first assignment at the Bible School is to learn to write the books of the Bible in order. This is often a difficult assignment for students who have not had much formal education and are not used to memorizing and writing. Mahlomola worked hard on this assignment and mastered it in a week.

## Progress at Ha Matala



For several years our conferences have been in a pole barn with tarp sides. This arrangement is a wonderful improvement over the tent that we previously used, but our goal is to wall in the pole barn and make a comfortable tabernacle.

With the help of volunteers from the church, we have started digging the foundation. The church youth organization is raising money for the project.

**Please pray with us for time, funds, and help to complete this building!**



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## The Shepherd and His Work



We often think of a pastor's work in terms of shepherding God's sheep. This metaphor is especially rich to pastors in Lesotho because virtually all of them have spent some time in their life caring for their families' sheep, goats, or cows.

They know firsthand what it means when Jesus said He knows His sheep, because as shepherds they learned the character of each of the animals they cared for. They understand what Jesus meant about the sheep knowing His voice and following Him. The shepherd laying down his life for the sheep is no surprise to them. They remember friends who were killed by lightning, hail, flashfloods, or hypothermia while trying to lead their flocks to safety.



The story of the one lost sheep is especially meaningful to our pastors. Some of their age mates never learned to count, yet they know their animals so well that as they watch them pass by into the fold at night they will recognize immediately that one out a hundred sheep is missing and know exactly which sheep is lost!

There are about twenty pastors and assistant pastors in Lesotho right now. They face almost insurmountable challenges yet through prayer and great sacrifice, Jesus is building His Church in Lesotho! Please pray much for these faithful shepherds.

The red book is the pastoral ministries textbook that we use in the Bible School. In English, the title is *The Shepherd and His Work*.



## Kaitlyn's Korner

Hi! I have news. In September, I'm going to have a baby brother or sister! I'm very excited, and I think the baby should get here soon. Daddy and Mommy keep telling me that September is a long time to wait, though. Every night I pray for baby and Mommy. I think it will be a girl, but Mommy says it might be a boy!

*A note from Daddy and Mommy:*

*Stephanie is on heparin therapy to prevent another stroke. Both her obstetrician and her cardiologist feel that everything should go well.*

*Thank you for keeping us in your prayers!*



Glenn, Stephanie + Kaitlyn Gault