



THE SCHLEHLEINS

Missionaries to the Tsongas of South Africa



FIVE REASONS TO CURVET AND SIMPER

A Quintet of Praises You Should Know About

Every missionary wants to write with confidence and unfettered optimism, like the guy that does his crossword puzzles in pen. Still, sometimes doubts remain, like *what are we doing here?*

We'll write about the challenges another day. Here are five reasons to rejoice in what God is doing.

1. SEXUAL ETHICS NIGHT CLASS

Every Saturday PM a hardy group gathers at our church for a class on counseling stubborn sexual sins. Fornication is the albatross vice here. Students are church members from the surrounding area but some are like George Sambo, a fifty-year-old member of the cultish ZCC, South Africa's largest denomination.

2. PRODIGALS COMING HOME

Years ago, Wisely Makhuele gave a glorious testimony how he was converted because of our River Plaats evangelism in his village. He was baptized and very active in the church—even having dreams of being a pastor. But when some friends pulled him away, he said toodle-oo to the church for a half year. His heart was hard as he neared excommunication.

But God heard our prayers and fasting. Wisely is back. He stays at our house every weekend so he can attend every lesson. He's thirsty once again for Jesus.

3. BUNGENI BIBLE STUDY

Every Saturday morning I gather a gang of faithful village boys and go up to the taxi rank in Elim to evangelize. I take the phone numbers of the minority that are interested and set up Bible studies at their homes where they can comfortably learn about the most uncomfortable message in the world.

From this has sprung numerous Bible studies in various villages, including the Mashele family in Bungeni village. Each Sunday afternoon church members from Mbhokota travel with us to their home to sing, learn the books of the Bible, pray, and study the catechism. (Above pic, the Cantrells paid us a visit)

This is the glamor-less, get-your-hands-dirty, old-fashioned way of establishing churches. The steps are as follows: (1) Initiate by building your house in a foreign village. (2) Initiate by learning their language. (3) Initiate by taking a Tsonga name (I'm Mzamani Kubayi) which always breaks the ice and brings a smile. (4) Initiate by walking up to strangers and offering to teach them the Bible in their home.

4. HERE'S JOHNNY

One of our Bible School grads recently sent us a 29-year-old Zimbabwean looking for work. His name is Chris Joni (pic, top far right). If that doesn't sound like an African name, you're right. For decades his forefathers traveled for work to South Africa's Johannesburg (or, *eJoni*). Get it? So they changed their last name.

His parents are now deceased and he only reached seventh grade. But he's a hard worker, faithful to every service, a student of the Word and faithful in prayer.

5. SOME MEN STEPPING UP

The two most educated men in our church, Mr. Maluleke and Reginald Ntuli, have potential for leadership among the flock. They've made some healthy strides toward teaching and leadership at Trinity.

Rejoicing together in hope,
Paul & Lindy