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# Missionaries to the Tsongas of South Africa



## INVESTING IN YOUNG MEN

### Preaching the Word is the best way to teach masculinity

The great coach Bum Phillips once said: "The harder we played the behinder we got." We've certainly been working our hardest these many years in Limpopo, but sometimes it only seems we get behinder. Here are some examples of recent growth.

#### SPECIAL U.S. VISIT

A couple weeks ago, two elders from a partnering church in the US visited us in Mbhokota Village.

Matt White and Tom Fox served our congregation by preaching at our church and in open-air evangelism in the villages. During the preaching in one village, they were almost trampled by a donkey that went rogue.

They served the wider church by participating in our <u>Missionary Minds Podcast</u> on issues ranging from missions philosophy to faithfulness in marriage.

They served our family by bringing over a suitcase laden with books and other assorted gifts. They served my wife by fixing an ornery, broken appliance.

And they served some young men in South Africa by discipling them for a week at this year's GYM Camp Sr.

#### GYM Camp Sr.

Nearly 50 young men (ages 16+) gathered together for this year's GYM Camp Sr. The theme was chivalry, an idea all but obsolete in our effeminate world.

Let us remember that the Lord does not only rebuke homosexuals in 1 Corinthians 6:9 (NASB). He reprimands effeminate men too. The latter comes first, then the former. The weather was beautiful. The fellowship was sweet. The speakers were excellent. Some of the favorite lessons were on courting from the book of Ruth, loving your wife from Ephesians and the gospel message from Hebrews.

Some favorite BAMs (Be a Man) activities included hand crafting a stool, changing the car oil, leading family worship, hand-to-hand combat with a spear shaft, & making a budget.

This was a family project that took many months of planning. My lovely wife, along with my children and several lady helpers, worked around the clock for days cooking and serving the food.

The wimminfolk are angling for their own female version of GYM Camp. We are happy to do this if we can iron out several of the difficulties. Maybe we'll keep the name GYM: Godly Young Maidens. Or maybe we'll call it GAL Camp: Godly Affectionate Ladies.

#### PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUESTS

- <u>Praise</u>: South Africa recently passed a rule that allows
  us to travel overseas while we wait for our visa approval.
  It's been year and a half thus far.
- <u>Prayer</u>: We have over a dozen young men at different spiritual levels being discipled at our church. Pray the Lord grows them mightily.
- <u>Praise</u>: there were several baptisms from Seth's church plants at a recent joint service.
- Prayer: We'll be in the US for our quad-annual furlough this summer. We'd love to see you. Pray we'll be a blessing to God's people. We're back from the end of May to the end of September. Our home base will be Oconomowoc, Wisconsin.

Warmly, Paul & Melinda

Audrey, Nathan, Lawson, Owen, Julianna, Clara, Luke, Katie