



Speaking Hope to the World®

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The Lykins Letter

Ben & Stephanie Lykins

TWR USA

P.O. Box 8700

Cary, NC 27512

919-460-3700

www.twr.org

For from Him & through Him & to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever! Amen. Romans 11:36

Africa

I am sitting in TWR's office near Johannesburg, South Africa as I sit to write this letter to you. Last week, another IT member and I traveled to TWR's office in Eswatini. Next week we plan to travel to TWR's office in KwaZulu-Natal. It's my first trip to the continent of Africa.



This is a photo of TWR's transmission site in Eswatini.

Africa is very different than anywhere I have been before. There is a lot of open country here. Many areas are very, very dry. They shake your hand differently – they hold their right arm with their left hand as they shake your hand. Like most places I have been, people are very hospitable. In South Africa, there are many people of German or British descent, but they are greatly outnumbered by indigenous Africans. And, in South Africa, the significant gap between rich and poor combined with limited police control means that burglary is common.

I have gotten to see kids playing outside of a couple of different schools – one in Johannesburg and one in Eswatini. The children run and play and laugh and cry and soak in the innocence of youthful life in the same way that any other child in the world would. These kids have the same needs, same hopes, same desires as any other kid. And they are born with the same spiritual depravity and need of a Savior as you and I and our kids.

That's why TWR is here in Africa. TWR has a vast ministry in Africa. From Eswatini TWR reaches much of the central and eastern portions of Sub-Saharan Africa. From its West African transmitter site TWR reaches areas in the West portion of Africa including many French speaking areas. From Kwa-Zulu Natal, TWR has a thriving ministry among the Zulu people. From the office near Johannesburg, TWR streams a 24-hour broadcast over the internet and has a direct-to-home satellite radio feed. TWR also partners with many local FM stations throughout Africa who broadcast TWR programs.

Africa needs Jesus! Please pray that God would draw the hearts of the people of Africa to Him. Pray that they would hear of Jesus death and resurrection to take away their sin. Pray that they would receive God's grace and forgiveness. Pray for those children I saw and heard on the school playground. Pray that their hopes and dreams would be exceeded through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Prayer Requests

Please pray for staffing needs and that God would send the right people at just the right time. Please also pray for one of our IT members who is fighting cancer.

Pray for TWR's ministry to Africa.

Pray for our family to grow in the grace and faith of Jesus Christ.

The Main Event

For TWR, the main event is having listeners hear the gospel of Jesus Christ and be given an opportunity to respond. Below are a few samples of the many listener responses that were recorded by TWR from July – September, 2019. These responses are all from Africa.

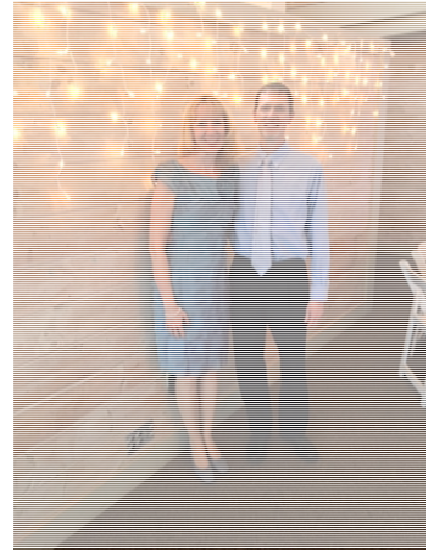
“Having hunger and thirst for God is the message that stood out for me. These teachings made me understand that many people are famous in the world, but they are not all happy! We need to be thirsty and hungry for God every day and desire the things of God as we would water and food every day.

Psalm 41:1-2 helped me to understand the message more clearly in the type of relationship I have to develop with the Lord.” – a listener from Côte d’Ivoire of *In Touch – Bambara*.

“I cannot get enough of this wonderful Thru the Bible program. Please send me the notes. I listen on Radio Overvaal and on the internet.” – a listener from South Africa of *Thru the Bible - Afrikaans*.

“We tune into The Word Today and understand the teachings in the programs. This is the only way we can hear the message from the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Please pray that the peace of our country continues.” – a listener from Somalia of *The Word Today - Somali*.

“I started listening to Thru the Bible radio program a few days ago. I arrived in Maputo a few months ago and happened to tune into this program. If my family reads God's Word, can we become believers?” – a listener from Mozambique of *Thru the Bible – African Portuguese*



Stephanie and I at a wedding reception for the daughter of good friends we made in college.



Daniel in Prague, Czechia. Daniel and I went to Czechia with our church to help with a basketball camp. It was amazing to see what the Lord did in the hearts of the campers.



Benjamin, Faith, Daniel, Catherine, and Jesse having fun during vacation at the beach.