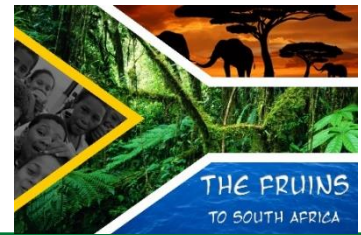


“And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.”

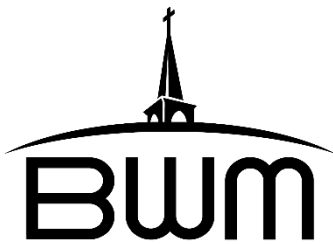
11 Timothy 2:2

THE FRUINS

Teaching the Faithful to Teach Others



SENT THROUGH:



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Dear Friends in Christ,

“Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost” (Romans 15:13).

We pray this letter finds you doing well and rejoicing in all that God is doing. As we communicate here with our South African friends via WhatsApp, it is very common to open a text with something similar to the previous sentence. Of course, we adapted the above sentence to fit our prayer letter and the audience who receives it--YOU. Language, particularly the English language, has been an interesting learning curve for us. As I taught a class in the technical school recently, I mentioned how we all communicate in English here in South Africa, but that English can be very confusing at times, especially when it involves specialized vocabulary. It can be challenging to try to explain technical words, and I am discovering that there can be several English words for the same object, which is due to the multiple cultures that interconnect here. For example, a sawhorse is known as a trestle, an extension cord is called a lead, a breaker box is a distribution board (or a DB board), a ground wire is called earthed, a water heater is called a geyser, and a multimeter is a continuity tester. In preparing for my class, I have also discovered that a new system for color coding electrical wires has recently been adapted here, so I am learning many things right along with my students. You should try going to a hardware store sometime in an “English” speaking country (outside of the Americas) and try to tell them what you want and see what it gets you.

An interesting fact about South Africa is that even though the country boasts of having 11 recognized languages, English is the official language used in overall communication. However, only 8% of the population speaks English as its first language.

Thank you very much for praying for the start up of the Technical School class. We praise the Lord for the answers he has given to the requests mentioned in our last prayer letter. As for the venue, after upgrading some things in Sizwe’s garage, the class has been able to meet there, which is very close and convenient for the students. Concerning the curriculum, although it demands a lot of time and thought to develop, the Lord is bringing it all together for each lesson. Finally, regarding the students, we started with 11 men, but for various reasons, the attendance has decreased to 7. However, each of the remaining students is serious about his studies and eager to learn. I am also thankful for Pastor Eric and Nathan, who have been rotating the chapel times and preaching very convicting messages to challenge the students spiritually. Please continue to pray for these students, that the Lord would equip and grow them. Their names are Bafo, Sbusiso, Velile, Lucky, Roman, Zweli, and Sizwe.

You may remember the carpentry class from last year, how the attendance thinned out as the months went by. One of the students who remained faithful to the end was Thami. He was an older man and a little slower in grasping concepts, but he professed to be saved and heard biblical truth in class. Not very long ago, Thami passed away unexpectedly. but it is a joy to know that he is with the Lord. Since we never know how our lives touch others, may the Lord keep us faithful in our service for Him.

As I travel to the technical class, it is very early in the morning. I must go through some dangerous, crime-ridden areas, traffic can be quite congested, and it can be dark. During the times that the power is out, which is often lately, the traffic lights (robots, as they are called here) don't work and I can't see the intersections. So, for these reasons, I usually take Uber. The Lord has allowed for some interesting spiritual conversations with the drivers during these trips. Some of them are more open than others, some are from other countries, and some are Muslim. Please pray that the Lord would continue to give me divine appointments and that He would use me in the lives of these individuals to either help them to grow spiritually or that they might come to know the Lord as their personal Saviour.

Along with teaching the subject *Basic Electricity and Electronic Skills* at the Technical School, I recently began teaching the same lessons to two teenage missionary boys, Ben Graham and Joel Knipe. Although we have only had two classes, it has been fun to interact with them on a little higher educational level than the South African students.

As mentioned in the previous prayer letter, I have been privileged to co-teach the men's Sunday school class over the past few months. The topic has been on the names of God, and it has been a blessing to see the good attendance and participation in both the men's and ladies' class. Unknown to me, the Lord was also working in another way during these weeks. As we began the study, I saw the men's desire to be able to look up these names for themselves so they could help their families better understand the meanings from scripture, but they lacked the resources. Through that, the Lord burdened me for the need to help equip these saints with a tool for their Bible study, but how? Shortly afterwards, a supporting church reached out and offered to help with any special projects we might have, which led to the purchase of a concordance for each family. It was a blessing to see the excitement as the men received their books. Now more than ever, it is so vitally crucial that the leaders in our Christian homes are training their families in the Word of God (Deut. 6:5-9)

We also shared in our last prayer letter about our upcoming furlough in February of 2024. If you have not heard from me about a meeting at your church, please know that I have tried. It may be that we have the wrong email address or that my letter is being sent to your spam folder. Please contact me at hisinsouthafrica@gmail.com as soon as you can so we can schedule a meeting.

Thank you for your faithful prayers and support towards us and for the ministry God has placed us in. We praise the Lord for you and the privilege to co-labor with you. May God bless you.

Serving the Saviour,

Ron & Tina Fruin

Prayers

- Technical School
- Building for church/training center
- Uber opportunities for Ron
- Preparation for furlough

Praises

- Technical school opportunities
- Concordances from supporting church
- Safety in travels
- Sunday School class enthusiasm