

MARCH 2010 UPDATE FROM GUS & BECKY

Dearest People back home,

The last month has been quite an eventful month with guys visiting from Matlock as well as Katie dropping by on the way to Clarens to spend a month with People of Hope. We also have Tracey with us at the moment. She's from Sydney.



About two weeks ago a local lad in church called Khotatso pronounced Gotatso (a throat clearing sound) announced that he wanted to take me to his home village in the mountains. I was a bit apprehensive and got Mark and Letsema to go with us.

So last Friday we set off at a brisk pace into the interior. At first I understood that we would be going to a place called Mantsonyane. I was quite relieved when we arrived there only two and a bit hours later. Unfortunately it was not the end of our journey. Khotatso meant the region of Mānsonyane. The trek took another hour on a dirt road that got progressively worse. See below.



This bit wasn't too bad! Khotatso and Letsema's moving a rock out of the way.

We finally stopped at a hut in the middle of nowhere when we were delightfully informed that our vehicle wouldn't be able to go any further and that the rest of the way we would have to travel by foot. We were not kitted out for a trek into the mountains by foot at all! After a few friendly words to our friend Khotatso we set off on the last hour down a mountain to his village, sandals and all.

About $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way down and just in sight of the village the local kids noticed us. They were shouting: Ntate lagoa kiane! It means the white father is coming! Hee hee.

It was only later when we were speaking to the local chief that we were told that we were the first white people there...ever! Khotatso later informed us that there is not a single church in the whole region that preaches salvation.

We had a prayer meeting that evening and when Letsema went to look for a Sotho bible he could not find one. It's my suspicion that they probably don't have one in the village. We carried on none the less and at the end every person present (about 8 adults and 8 children) responded to the gospel. Not all the people in the village were at the prayer meeting because some of them were busy skinning a sheep for dinner. A great honour apparently.

When we think of unchurched people groups we tend to think of semi naked Amazon Indians, not people just a few hours down the end of your road! To think how wonderful God's plans are! He sent a young herds-boy to Maseru who became a Christian in our midst to bring back the gospel to a village and hopefully a region that otherwise might never have heard the Good News.

Khotatso in his mountains.

We are planning to go back: this time a little more prepared. With Bibles.

Whenever you think of us please pray for those precious new souls in Christ and ask that the Holy Spirit will be poured out into that region.

I think this is one of those experiences that will always stay with me.



Other news... the three orphan boys are doing well in their own place. They are faithfully attending the college and it seems that they are enjoying the work they are doing there.

The money we receive from you guys will make a huge difference to many people's lives. Thank You.

All that we ask is that you guys continue to pray for us here.

Loads of love

Gus, Becky, Gideon and

Ps. Nearly forgot.

On the way back a bus that got stuck while trying to get through a landslide waylaid us! In the end we had to rough it past the big boulder that about 12 guys were trying to move! We got home safe and sound!

