

## 1.21 Ministry Update-March 2024

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Well, it is a New Year and we all have so much to be thankful for and we are thankful for your prayers and your support. We have been busy as we pack 1.21 Ministry along with our personal lives. Here is a brief summary of what we have been up to:

**Kenya** – God has provided Darryl the opportunity to lead a Friday morning Bible Study with a group of Pastors and Leaders (between 20 and 30 men) in Kenya via Zoom every Friday. The group of men requested Bibles in Swahili and Luhya. This required us to do some research to determine the best pricing, transmit the funds, and obtain a receipt for our records. Fortunately, a couple in our church runs a clinic in Kenya, and a friend of theirs, Christine, who resides in Nairobi, Kenya, conducted much of the research for us. We had met Christine when she visited the United States, so it was fantastic to have this connection and her abilities to contact the pastors and help us get a decent price on the Bibles. The men were overjoyed to the Bibles!

**India** – Pastors in India have received more Bibles and study materials in Telegu. Another Indian pastor requested more wristbands and cards for his travels in Europe, Sri Lanka, and Kenya. VBS booklets were provided for their youth.

**Pakistan** – Requests for 1.21 wristbands and cards continue to be received for this country. Who would have thought?

The testimonies shared above reflect how your generous donations and prayers have enabled us to continue with the 1.21 mission of offering assistance and support!

Recently, I have been thinking quite a lot about how God comes alongside of us humans, whom He created to have fellowship with. We so often hear messages telling us why and how we should walk with God. Sometimes with a really encouraging message, other times with a condemning one.

When does God walk alongside humanity? In the Garden, God walked with Adam and Eve during the cool of the day. Noah found grace with God when the hearts of men were continually evil. Abram and his family were called out of Ur by God to start something new. This calling was passed down to Abraham's sons- Isaac and Jacob. Then there was Moses, whom God called to lead the Israelites out of Egypt, declaring them as God's 'First Born Son.' And then there was David, a young shepherd boy, who became the King of Israel. Throughout the highs and lows of humanity in the Old Testament story, we witness God NOT despising His creation, nor forsaking them, but instead walking alongside them to guide them (us) towards completion.

Last, but not least, we have Jesus, who is Emanuel, God with us, the One who creates and sustains creation, becoming one with his creation, born as a baby, a human being who not only walks with us but lives IN us now and forever. In the Garden, God walked among us. Now, with the advent of Jesus, He dwells WITHIN us. In Him, we move and have Life (being).

**Love you my friends, Darryl and Ruth**