March 18, 2012 Letter

Dear family and friends,

I am now safely back in Kakamega after a lot of traveling and activity. Thank you everyone for all of your prayers. Praise that the car did not break down, and that we didn't get in any accidents!

After leaving Mombasa, we returned to Beka's sisters home where the MI team was still working. The roof was completed, but they found many other projects to keep them busy. I got put to work as well painting a newly constructed see-saw. It's ironic wherever I go I end up painting. This time was better then the last time I painted and all the paint stayed off of me and in the can!

So this week I took a walk into town by myself and found another reason why I love Kenya! I love how I can walk down the street and there are vendors everywhere selling pretty much anything you need. They are fun to talk to and usually their fruit and veggies are better than the stores and cheaper too. I ended up buying an orange and a bottle opener on my way back to the house.

Today we went back to Butere church. Sunday is always an adventure here! First, we have to find the church. Next we have to pray that we don't die on the roads that led to the church. Then one never knows what to expects when one gets to the church! Today I gave a story in sunday school. I ended up doing my rope trick story. I've made a few changes it to it to suit the culture and it went over way better today then the last time I did it. Beka translated for me and I was able to give the gospel pretty clearly. However, I ended up doing the rope trick about 20 more times after church cause the kids wanted to know how to do it. That was ok, cause I was able to give the gospel 20 more times. My friend Celestine translated for me on the parts I didn't know. It was a fun time and a great opportunity! On the way home I experience (not for the first time) another bit of Kenyan culture as we crammed 13 people into a five passenger car! It gets kind of cozy!

My language is coming along. I can't have a long conversation with someone, but I am recognizing words and am getting better at figuring out what people are talking about. It's way easier with kids than adults. The kids try to help me practice my swahili. They'll say a word in swahili and have me try and figure it out. They are also quick to  correct my bad pronunciations. :) I find that I am always learning something new in Kenya. The Lord is teaching me a lot. Just this morning He reminded me in Phillipians that He is working in me and through me; I find it ironic that the very next verse says "do all things without grumbling or complaining." So I need to not complain about the things He brings in my life because He is using them to help me grow.

Prayer and Praise!

-Praise that we made it home safely

-Pray that God will continue to work in me and especially through me as I reach out to these kids

-Pray for continued health and safety

-Pray for the Sunday school training that will be taking place this saturday. Please pray for good attitudes as we are going to be challenging some of their beliefs that a young child cannot be saved.

In Him,

Jen