

Have Sword -- Will Travel: Byron and Judy Cromwell, Itinerant Missionaries
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“Better is the end of a thing than the beginning thereof.” Ecclesiastes 7:8

Independent Baptist Church of Kabwe voted itself independent of missionary leadership in December 2019, but without a pastor. At Pastor Damron’s direction, we assisted IBC during most of March 2020 and discovered a familiar dynamic: absent of foreign leadership, the church unifies in service. I filled the pulpit, and conferred with the pulpit committee. Judy assisted with Sunday School and discipleship curricula, and led ladies’ fellowship.



Upon arrival in Kabwe, I led mid-week service. Stateside churches often preach and pray into the evening for salvation of friends and loved ones, the sick, missionaries, and church leadership. I gave a one-verse devotional so the Zambians could pray and get home before dark. Their prayer was for their nation: the drought would ease for a good maize (sweet corn) harvest; the reservoirs would fill and prevent load shedding (rolling blackouts) so there would be no return to poverty-driven prostitution and crime; and that the upcoming elections would proceed honestly and smoothly.

Praise God for unity among members of Independent Baptist Church of Kabwe, Zambia.

Pray for members of Independent Baptist Church of Kabwe, Zambia. A fifty-pound bag of mealmeal (sweet corn meal) costing about \$7.00 last year now costs \$12.50. Prices for this staple are fixed by the government, but not high enough to cover millers’ expenses, leading to shortages. We learned of at least one market looted of oil, flour, salt, sugar, and other staples when they lost control of the bread line.

Rolling blackouts of five to fourteen hours a day disrupt the economy. Unemployment is high, and employers do not accommodate church.

Pray for the IBC Kabwe Pulpit Committee, as they look for a pastor.

Pray for our meetings and future service - we are currently at 57% of our support goal, and God provides. Our full support goal would allow us greater flexibility in scheduling, and time on the field. This is especially true of schedule changes resulting from Wuhan Virus.

Pray for our African service starting December 2020. We still expect to start a Bible institute.

In Christ,

Byron and Judy Crtomwell