



Learning and Serving in Africa

“O Lord, You have searched me and known me. You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my thoughts afar off. You comprehend my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. For there is not a word on my tongue, but behold, O Lord, You know it altogether. You have hedged me behind and before, and laid Your hand upon me.”
Psalm 139:1-5

Dear Friends and Family,

The end of the year has come and gone. The beginning of the year has come... and gone. As 2007 unfolds before me with her many possibilities, plans, and promises, I realize how faithful the Lord is in His love for us. How gracious He is in His testimony of us, and how steadfast He is in His preservation of us.

I have now been in missionary training with Frontline Fellowship for over seven months, and I have learned *so much*. However, I've noticed something funny: the more I learn, the more I find that I don't know. This makes me very grateful for the Frontline leadership, and their seemingly bottomless supply of patience, instruction, patience, wisdom, patience, understanding, patience... you get the idea.

Discipling the Nations

One of the projects I am involved with is the William Carey Bible Institute. Administrated from the Frontline Fellowship HQ, WCBI distributes leadership and training materials throughout Africa to pastors and other Christians seeking discipleship. There are a variety of correspondence courses that address doctrine, God & Government, Muslim evangelism, and Biblical worldview. Through books, CD's, and power points, the students are able to gain an understanding of the Word. They are then given tests and essay assignments to guide them through the work. The most important aspect is teaching them how to practically apply what they are learning to their ministries.

I enjoy working with WCBI because it gives me many opportunities to interact with and disciple people throughout Africa through correspondence and administration of their course work.



Mary makes a stand for her Savior.



Salt & Light reaches both the English and Afrikaans speaking peoples of South Africa.

On the Air

Over the last several months, I have had quite a few unique opportunities for ministry, some of which exercised my strengths, while others exercised my determination to develop *new* strengths. (Nobody has died of my cooking attempts yet... so far, so good.)

Africa Christian Action, a branch of Frontline Fellowship, hosts a weekly radio ministry called “Salt and Light”. The purpose of the program is to disciple believers and instruct them in leading a life of godliness and obedience to Christ. “Salt and Light” tackles contemporary social and political issues; addresses the media, education, and the family; mobilizes churches and individuals in

evangelism; and emphasizes the Lord's call for obedience as in II Chronicles 7:14: "If My people who are called by My Name, will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land."

I enjoy being involved in the radio program, whether I participate in the preparation, interviewing or as a speaker. So far I have been involved with programs addressing Islam & persecution, the legalization of homosexual "marriages" in South Africa, Reformation & discipleship in Africa, and spiritual commitment. I especially appreciate interviewing Peter, Timothy, and the other missionaries, as they have so much insight into the missions field and the situation in Africa. If you are interested in hearing the program, you can access it live online each Tuesday at 12 noon MST. (www.radiotygerberg.co.za)

KwaSizabantu

The KwaSizabantu mission in Malmesbury has been expanding its buildings in order to accommodate the growing number of people who go to them for help and counseling. Over the holidays, some of us from Frontline Fellowship were able to help them with their building projects including painting rafters and reservoirs, planting corn fields, and preparing their new sanctuary. It is a



During the GCC we were able to help the KwaSizabantu mission paint the new ladies dormitory, later we painted the reservoir.

privilege to help these people and be involved in their ministry. They have a passion for serving the Lord, especially in reaching out to young people in desperate situations.

In the beginning of January they held their first youth camp. At this camp, many young people from the Cape Flats came to the Lord in repentance and submission. KSB will be holding a second camp sometime in March to continue discipling these kids.



This demonstration protested the legalization of abortion in South Africa in 1997, and remembered the 600,000 babies that have been killed as a result.

Outreaches

Since joining Frontline Fellowship I've been able to take part in quite a few outreaches. From book tables in KwaZulu-Natal to a Reformation Conference in Franschoek to tract distribution in the townships, the Lord has provided many "first times" for me in ministry and service. Last week Africa Christian Action lead a funeral march to the parliament buildings to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the legalization of abortion in South Africa. I was privileged to lead in the prayer time at this event.

Through the variety of activities and the general busyness of missions, I have learned a lot about perseverance and quality of work. In some occupations, giving 50% is enough to get by with. In missions, 100% sometimes isn't enough. I've

learned to seek the Lord first in all things; to take refuge in Him from the very outset of a project... not just when times are tough. The biggest challenge is often being diligent in *every* area.

I think my favorite outreach so far was the Biblical Worldview Summit and Great Commission Course that I participated in when I first joined Frontline. The program truly stretches body (physical training early in the morning and hikes late at night), mind (long hours and new experiences), and spirit (pouring yourself out in ministry and evangelism). The next BWS and GCC will be held 29 June – 18 July. I'm really looking forward to the course, as I will be able to serve with the team here, and will have opportunities to minister to many people who are diligently seeking the Lord's will in their life.

So what's it like in South Africa?

The sun rises over the Cape- the tip of the African continent- in an extraordinary display of oranges and yellows. It rises over a country of beautiful wildlife and rampant crime, over an array of unique cultures, and many too-common sins. The Afrikaans people, the only speakers of a Dutch-Anglo language, have a heritage rich with Christian leadership, yet this was lost to a government that has just legalized homosexuality; abortion was legalized 10 years ago. The people of South Africa have always stood up for their country and their God. Unfortunately, what their country stands for is no longer godly or even honorable, and they no longer follow the Jehovah God- often it is no more than the god-idol of man and humanism.



There is no shortage of ministry opportunities in South Africa.

South Africa is identified as a country “of blacks and whites”. But it is, rather, a country of black and white. There is beauty and debauchery, faith and infraction, constancy and mockery. There are those who stand firmly for the Word of God and righteousness. They seek to shine the light of the Gospel throughout their home, their neighborhood, their country, and their continent. Then there are those who stand firmly for “the right of man”. What they mean is the right of convenience, the right of expediency, the right of pleasure. They will fight for the right to kill babies, to oppress employers, to “liberate” homosexuals, and to secularize their country. They are killing the next generation through abortion, they are killing their economy through their regulations, they are killing their countrymen with AIDS, and they are condemning their souls through their disobedience to the Law of Christ.

There is so much to be done in this country in crisis.



Timothy has many opportunities to preach the Word throughout Africa, often with an interpreter.

Timothy in Africa

Timothy is preparing for a field trip in Zambia. He will be running Biblical Worldview Seminars, delivering relief aid, evangelizing in townships, and visiting schools and churches. He will also be delivering some much needed equipment to Excellence Christian Academy, a school Frontline helped establish 10 years ago.

Your prayers throughout this time are very much appreciated. I will miss him a lot, and I will be very glad to have him return home safe and malaria-free.

Wedding Ahead

Only a few more months to go... I will become Mrs. Timothy Keller on **Saturday, May 5 at 2:30pm at Lutheran Church of the Ascension in Tucson, Arizona.** Timothy and I would be pleased if you were there to witness the establishment of our covenant before the Lord.

I am really excited... and I still have a lot of planning to do. It is difficult to make some of the wedding arrangements from 8,000 miles away. Our families have really stepped in, and are making the whole process much easier.



U.S.A.

Several people have asked me if I would be available to speak to their church and youth group when I return to the States. I would love to be available for any kind of ministry, please feel free to contact me. It looks like I will be returning sometime in early April.

Riding off into the African Sunset

I am very excited about the many changes and developments that will affect my ministry in Africa this year. After the wedding, I will be joining Timothy in his field work throughout Africa, including in Zambia, Zimbabwe, Malawi, and Sudan. I praise the Lord for allowing me to become the helpmeet of such a godly man. I'm looking forward to ministering with him throughout Africa- especially in the primary schools.



Morning devotions at Excellence Christian Academy in Zambia.

Please continue to pray for me. Please pray that the Lord will:

- Give me wisdom and strength as I seek to do His will.
- Use me effectively in my responsibilities and ministry opportunities.
- Prepare me to truly be a blessing and helpmeet to Timothy.
- Guide and watch over Timothy as he carries out his field work over the next few months.
- Inspire the people of Africa to an attitude of obedience and thanksgiving.

Thank-you so much for your prayers and support. I greatly appreciate your involvement, intercession, and encouragement. I truly look forward to your letters and emails- please continue to send them! May the Lord lead you to a greater understanding of Himself, and give you pleasure in His service.

Yours for the fulfillment of the Great Commission,

Ashley

Contact me through email at:

ashley@frontline.org.za

Any gifts can be sent to:

Ashley Hilde

c/o Penny Hilde

2240 N Camino Altar

Tucson, AZ 85743

To receive a tax receipt, cheques can be made out to "Pusch Ridge Christian Church" and designated to my name.

"But I am like an olive tree flourishing in the house of God. I trust in the Lord's unfailing love for ever and ever. I will praise You forever, for what You have done; in Your Name I will hope, for Your Name is good. I will praise You in the presence of Your saints." Psalm 52:8-9