

September 23, 2009



Dear dear friends,

It's some time since I last wrote! Sorry about that. Trust those of you in this part of the world have had a good summer. I have taken some breaks over the summer and in particular enjoyed good times with friends over the breaks. A particular highlight of the summer was for my niece, Kagwiria Ndethiu (who I raised as a teenager), to come and start her graduate studies at Wheaton. I know those of you in Kenya have been having the usual "winter" with chilly temperatures and the effects of a long drought. Sorry about the suffering from the drought.

We have had International Executive Team and International Leadership meetings that have gone well and it has also been special to speak to a Global Student program and interact with some of the students. It was also very special to speak at a Worship Leader Conference on the subject of "Christ the Center of Worship". The conference was focusing on The Navigator Wheel – Christ the Center of Worship; Worship in the Word; in Prayer; in Witnessing and in Fellowship.

Christ is indeed the Center of Worship. Everything that pertains to our lives should be one act of surrender – doing whatever we do in His name and to the praise of His glory. (Col3:17, Eph1:17) Paul, after unpacking the Gospel in that masterpiece of Romans chapters 1 – 11, then says in Rom12:1 -- **Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship.** This Jesus who so obeyed the Father, so loved us that -- **being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross!** (Phil2:5-8) He is worthy of our worship! It's the only reasonable response! Obedience is the reasonable response to such grace and love! Obedience is our way of saying "I love you too!" But then the Father did not suffer Him to see corruption. Having obeyed all the way to the most cruel death – death on a cross; having taken all our sin, disease and infirmities and been so disfigured that the rank and file shrank from Him – now the Father has exalted Him to the highest place! All authority has been given to Him! He invites us now, not only to receive the abundant grace and gift of righteousness but also to reign in life through Him! **For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.** Rom5:17. He invites us to be victors through Him! Not victims! I wonder what it means to me and to you to reign in life?! How would/do our lives look like if we were reigning? ☺ A reign of grace. Thanks and Praise be to Jesus for this gift!

Those who have a clue as to who He is fall down and worship (Rev5:14). There is none like Him! He is totally awesome! Awesome in Love, in Grace, in Power, in every way! Worthy of the angelic song of the thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand encircling the throne, singing. **In a loud voice they sang: "Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!"** (Rev5:12) Oh that our lives here would join the song of heaven in worship with the fruit of our lips and as we deny ourselves, taking up our cross daily and keep saying "Yes" to Jesus.

Appreciate your prayers over the coming months:

October 8 – November 6: working in UK and Kenya and visiting with family and friends.

November 9 – 13: International Executive Team meetings.

November 22 – 27: Working in Canada, joining in Canadian Field Leader meetings.

Though the challenging Part 1 (I-360) of my US Resident Visa was granted in May, please pray that the final part (I-485) which is the actual Resident Visa, will be soon issued. Many understood that the actual visa was granted☺! It was only the precursor! Thank God for the journey so far in this. Thank Him too for the granting of the Travel Visa that permits me to travel while the I-485 is being processed.

Thank you for your love, for your prayers, and for your generous and sacrificial financial gifts!

I pray for you and I love you too!

Esther

5850 Cowboy Heights, Colorado Springs, CO 80923; 719-594-2501