

# Christian Seeking Identity

Aug/Sept. 2017

## My Father's House

Have you ever felt stuck in a rut with no way out? If you have, then this month's newsletter will encourage you because it is all about overcoming impossible odds.

Recently we had the privilege of traveling to Zambia, Africa where we worked with a brand new ministry called My Father's house. The founding directors are Emanuel and Grace Njobvu Kanegumbo. He is from Zambia and she is from Russia and only God could have brought the two together!



*(Ourselves, Grace, Emmanuel, Sonya & Sveta)*

When Grace was a child she had a dream about working in Africa. She originally met the Lord in a summer Bible camp. Although her life was hard and her family could not afford the summer camp fees, her way was paid by different sponsors every year. It was here that her best memories as a child were formed and here that she encountered the force that gave her the strength to endure her day to day struggles. She determined that one day she would provide a way for many children to experience the same sense of fun and belonging that she experienced at camp and she would do it in Africa!

Emmanuel grew up in a poor family in Zambia and was the oldest of five children. His mother always encouraged him to get a good education. However, when he was in sixth grade his family could no longer afford the uniforms and textbooks that the schools required and he had to drop out of school for three years. He was forced to work and find ways to earn money just so he and his family could eat. He was diligent and eventually he saved enough money that he was able to return to school, but it was hard! Many people told him that what he was trying to do was impossible! There was no one to help him, but he never altered his confession, "God will pay for me. He is the source of everything I need. He is the great I AM!"

He graduated with top grades and applied for scholarships at the local universities but without success. He went out of his comfort zone and began visiting foreign embassies where he applied for scholarships abroad. After many rejections he was finally granted a scholarship to a Russian university.

After spending five years in Russia he completed a degree in mathematics. During that same period of time he also attended Charis Bible College in Saint Petersburg where he met and married Grace. As their lives melded together, God gave them a different perspective of the things that each had gone through in the past and the future became clear. We need to go back to Zambia and help the people! Emmanuel put it this way:

*This was the start of the vision of "My Father's House." I thought, "Let me be to someone else what no one was to me – let me help them to know someone is watching and listening and caring. That there is an us, that there is a we, and that every child or teenager or adult is loved, and that they are not alone. There is a great need for schools for children whose parents are unable to pay".*

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Emmanuel and Grace are in the process of purchasing a piece of property in Lusaka where they plan on building Heritage Christian School. In addition, they will have a trade school on site and a facility where they can host summer Bible camps.

The second part of their vision is to start a Charis Bible College in Zambia with the purpose of creating an environment where people can be discipled to live with a kingdom mentality.

Mickey and I met Emmanuel and Grace in Saint Petersburg Russia several years ago. In 2016 they told us of their plans to move to Zambia and invited us to be part of a team that would initialize the ministry of "Our Father's House." We traveled to Zambia in August and the ministry proved to be a great success. We were so blessed by the vision and meeting the actual people that will be affected by this ministry and God has personally spoken to us to support them in the following year. It is a great ministry opportunity that we can vouch for and we felt led to share their story with you believing that God may speak to some of you to partner with them as well.



*(Ministering in Sunday Service)*



*(Suzan photo-bombing kids picture)*

If you find this of interest to you, you can find a detailed account of the ministry and its vision as well as contact information by going to What's New on our website [www.christianseekingidentity.com](http://www.christianseekingidentity.com) and clicking on *Emmanuel's Testimony from Zambia*. For those of you who may feel stuck in your own circumstances, reading his complete testimony on our website will encourage you and give you faith to believe that you too can overcome when the odds are against you.

You will also find a youtube video that summarizes our time in Zambia listed under *What's New* on our website, or you can click on this link:

<https://youtu.be/nPnBb8yEX7g>

God Bless you!

Your friends, Mickey & Suzan

Alpha & Omega International Ministries  
800 Carraway Dr, Graham, NC 27253

Email: [aoiministries@Hotmail.com](mailto:aoiministries@Hotmail.com) [www.christianseekingidentity.com](http://www.christianseekingidentity.com)