

October 19

This morning we will be having the truck looked at (again) so that we can “bring it home” as it were. (see previous for details). Ahead of us is that long trek to Serenje. The last section of the road where we must really watch for potholes. We eventually leave around 2pm. It is 230km to Serenje. Normally around 2 hours of so. Likely it will be longer due to the need to slow down to negotiate the potholes. But away we go. I want to make Serenje before sunset. The last 100km from Serenje to Mkushi is a much better road and should be no difficulty to drive.

We make Serenje about dusk and top off diesel. We arrive in Mkushi after 7pm. We encountered a couple of showers along the way. The rains are approaching. Some are saying that they might see rain by the end of October. We check into our lodge only to find that their rates have also increased to nearly double what they were last year. This has really put a strain on the budget for this trip. We have dinner and retire for the night. We will meet with the church tomorrow around 10am. Charles and I talk and we decide that afterwards we will drive the 300km to Lusaka in hopes of saving some kwacha on lodging.

October 20

It hard to realize that I am on the down side of the trip now and the program is nearly over. All that is left is Sunday in Siavonga, Monday to Kalomo and Tuesday heading home to PA.

One thing I have noticed about some of the church leaders up in this part of Zambia. If they own a business they close it for church activities. We pick up one of the elders of Mkushi who locks up his shop to direct us to the building. We have seen this behavior before in people committed to helping the church to grow.

The group in Mkushi began as 15 or 18 people meeting in a school room. Now they have their own building and three elders with attendance somewhere between 50 and 70 on Sunday morning. I believe that they have 4 deacons. They have been doing some evangelistic work in the past month or so and baptized 6 people some of whom will be here today to hear the lessons on the church of the Bible



We have a really good gathering for a weekday. The final count is 64. I speak for almost 2 hours since we only have this brief time here. In the future we will need to plan a couple of days here. The church here always wants to know if or when I am coming and if we are coming to see them. Since we have been coming the church here has gotten more involved with other churches in the area.



elder Katota

Yes yes I know....he's always got his mouth open but its hard to teach without that you know. The brother doing the translating is one of the elders. The song leader is another. He is very attentive during our study and frequently knows the answers to the questions from the text.



elder Katete



All in all it is a good time together as we prepare to take our leave and head for Lusaka.







Here is a picture of a sledgehammer made with part of a vehicle's drive train.