

The Rearview Mirror and Beyond

The greatest blessing from 2015 has been Melinda's burgeoning ladies ministry.

She conducts the lessons much like an escaped convict: on the run. Almost daily, ladies young and old are at our house where Melinda teaches from the kitchen, the school room, the piano bench, the garden or the sofa.

Given's suicide was difficult but it led to several joining the church. The Muslim debate with Abu led an impressive gentleman to join Seth's church.

Our church endured a litany of church discipline issues, mostly over sexual immorality.

Our family's visas are still not in, so we use the government reprieve until they arrive.

We continue to read assiduously; a portion of the books I read in 2015 are reviewed [here](#).

For some time I have prayed for an older man to mentor me. This year God provided Koos Van Rooy, a legend in this area because of his translation of the Venda and Zulu Bibles. We pray and dialogue often.

THE ANGEL FETCHED PETER OUT OF PRISON, BUT IT WAS PRAYER THAT FETCHED THE ANGEL.

Prayer

Oh, do pray earnestly for conversions in Mbhokota and River Plaats. We are helpless in such a task. Satan often strikes us with the rod of discouragement and doubt when the numbers are few and the converts are scant. How can you pray?

Thomas Watson observed that the angel fetched Peter out of prison, but it was prayer that fetched the angel.

Pray that God would use our evangelistic efforts to release many from the prison of darkness.

A Blessed New Year,
Paul and Melinda



SOLANE

Mr. Solane Maluleke was converted five years ago after a near fatal car accident. He is intelligent, earnest and respected in both the church and village.

We have high hopes for him to be the next elder at Trinity. He'll be preaching through 1 Timothy in 2016.



SHADRECK

Pastor Shadreck Zireva is an LBI grad planting a church in rural Zimbabwe. The work has been slow and difficult but he has not despaired.

Many of you gave generously to purchase him a well. With much gratitude, we'll pass on more details when the project is finished.



OUR FAMILY

We've had five children in the past six years, but no--as often asked--we are not Catholic. We live in a dusty village where I preach about ten times per week in Tsonga.

We planted Trinity seven years ago and are now evangelizing the adjacent village three times a week in hopes of forming a new congregation. Melinda homeschools the kids and manages our vociferous home with aplomb. She's Annie Oakley with an education.