

# Ashley Hilde's Prayer Letter

## September 2006



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## Changing Seasons

“Therefore the Lord will wait, that He may be gracious to you; and therefore He will be exalted, that He may have mercy on you. For the Lord is a God of justice; blessed are all those who wait for Him.” Isaiah 30:18

Dear Friends and Family,

I greet you in the precious Name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Thank-you so much for the encouraging letters and emails. Praise the Lord for loving and praying family and friends! You truly increase the pleasure and honor of my work here.

The Lord has been gracious in His guidance and provision. I truly enjoy my work with Frontline Fellowship. Through the mission, the Lord has provided many opportunities for me not only to learn and grow, but also to apply what I've learned to His service.

Additionally, the cold, Cape Town weather is slowly beginning to dissipate- much to my joy and relief!



Sunday at the beach. The water is COLD.

I said, “Yes.”

“Delight yourself also in the Lord, and He shall give you the desires of your heart.”

Psalms 37:4



Mr. & Future-Mrs. Timothy Keller

I am (very) pleased to announce that I am engaged to Timothy Keller, a man dedicated to serving and delighting the Lord. Timothy has served as a missionary throughout Africa, especially in Sudan, for nearly nine years. He is now the Field Director of Frontline Fellowship, and is responsible for the discipleship of pastors throughout Africa.

I eagerly look forward to serving the Lord with Timothy. We are planning a May wedding, after which I will be involved in his ministry throughout Africa.

Timothy will be leaving for a field trip sometime next month, and will be away for many weeks. Please pray for him as he prepares to minister across Africa.

### On the Road

At the beginning of this month I was able to take part in a ministry trip across South Africa with Taryn Hodgson (Africa Christian Action Coordinator) and Timothy. We left



Kyla, a Jivannadi student

bright and early... wait, it actually wasn't bright, or even light, yet... on Monday, August 28<sup>th</sup>. With coffee in one hand, and jackets in the other, we started our journey. It was a bit of a squeeze with the three of us in the front of Timothy's pick-up, but since it's still winter, the extra warmth was welcome! We covered the entire distance between Cape Town and Johannesburg (about 773 miles) in one day - that was about 17 hours of driving.

We spent three days in the Johannesburg/Pretoria area, where we stayed with a wonderful family from the KSB mission. We were blessed by their hospitality and loving, Christian home. Andrea, their 5 year old daughter, prays for Timothy everyday.

While in Pretoria, we were able to meet with several of Timothy's friends and contacts to deliver literature and equipment. We had several speaking appointments over those three days, including a missions presentation to a group of engineers and ministry at a home study group. On Wednesday evening, Timothy preached at a farm just outside of Pretoria. This was an excellent opportunity to present the Gospel and to educate the people about the threat of Islam. The building filled quickly with laborers from the farm. Because few of them spoke English, Timothy's message had to be translated first into Afrikaans, and then into Setswana.

Friday and Saturday were spent at the KwaSizabantu Mission in KwaZulu-Natal. This mission, tucked away in the hills of Zululand, was founded over 40 years ago to cultivate a revival the Lord had sparked amongst the Zulu people. KwaSizabantu, now home for over 4,500 people, functions both as an evangelistic mission and as a farm. Our purpose at KSB was to deliver literature and to attend the Christians for Truth conference. Peter Hammond, the Director of Frontline Fellowship, gave a lecture on Muslims and the Gospel. My responsibility was to manage the literature tables with Taryn and Timothy.



The Frontline Fellowship book table

Sunday morning found us on our way through Tongaat to Jivannadi, a mission for the Hindus. Located in an area with a very high population of Indians, mostly Hindus and Muslims, Jivannadi serves as a church, school, counseling center, and refuge for the local people. Peter preached at all three services on Sunday, as well as at the evening services throughout the week.

During the week we were able to do devotions and Bible studies with the students of the Jivannadi Mission School. The children were incredibly responsive to the lessons, which made teaching easy (and leaving at the end of the week difficult!) Wednesday morning I was able to spend time with the older girls. While I always enjoy teaching young ladies, the Jivannadi girls' persistence in seeking the Lord made teaching them a real pleasure.



Lessons on Joseph

While in the Tongaat area, we were able to visit Good News Community Radio. This Christian,

evangelistic radio station was recently shut down by the nearly-communist South African government. The station is involved in a disheartening court battle to re-open. Please keep them in your prayers.

On Tuesday and Wednesday we ministered in the Chatsworth suburb of Durban. Driving through Chatsworth, we could see Hindu temples, gods, shrines, insignias, and monuments in front of nearly every house. Taryn held courses on “Christian Action Groups” and how to affect the community. Timothy was able to speak about missions and give his testimony at several meetings. It was encouraging to see how determined the Chatsworth pastors are to motivate their congregations to actively serve the Lord. These men are determined to combat secularism and Hinduism with every means available to them.

While in Chatsworth, we were able to make an unplanned literature delivery. We had distributed many boxes of tracts in English, Afrikaans, and Zulu, the major languages of the area. After we left KSB, we still had a few boxes of literature and tracts in various African languages, including Chichewa (Zambia), French (Congo), and Shona (Zimbabwe)



A biology lesson from John Dznusschen

which Timothy had loaded just in case. Well, it appeared that these tracts would be joining us on our long journey back to Cape Town. However, Tuesday night we saw how the Lord brings people together for His purposes. At one of the Chatsworth meetings, we met a man who works in a customs clearing house. He expressed his wish that he had tracts to distribute to the men from all over Africa who bring in the packages and post. “Coincidentally,” we just happened to have some. We praise the Lord that these tracts are now being used to reach places as far a field as the Congo - and that they’re being distributed through an office of the government!

This ministry trip was my first time “out” as a trainee, and I learned a lot! I realized how much of ministry is being available to people. Some want to talk, some want to listen, and they all have a need. From students to pastors, it was a real pleasure to see the Lord at work in His people.

### At Home in Cape Town

At Livingstone House, the Frontline HQ in Cape Town, I have a variety of responsibilities and training opportunities. I am the administrator of the William Carey Bible Institute ([www.williamcareybi.com](http://www.williamcareybi.com)), which includes correspondence, literature dispersal, and assignment management. Through WCBI, I am able to correspond with pastors from all over Africa including South Africa, Zambia, Namibia, Cameroon, Malawi, and Nigeria, to facilitate their theological training. I also administrate the



The Jivannadi first grade class



Inside the GNCR broadcasting center

Frontline Fellowship library (which I finally finished cataloguing), assist with editing, mailings, mission service, outreaches, as well as anything in which I can be of help. Teaching is what I enjoy the most, and I thoroughly enjoy my time with Andrea and Daniela Hammond. Andrea is in 10<sup>th</sup> grade, and is working ahead to get on the US scholastic calendar; I teach her grammar and geography. Daniela is in 7<sup>th</sup> grade, and is working through grammar exceptionally fast!

## Going Forward

Over the next few months I will be involved in a variety of ministry and outreach opportunities. I will also continue to administer the William Carey Bible Institute. Much of my training has shifted from learning the responsibilities of an independent missionary to learning the responsibilities of a missionary wife. I am encountering a whole new realm of information, duties, and disciplines that, well, I didn't even know existed!

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



- Give me wisdom and understanding, and increase my understanding of His will.
- Use me effectively in my responsibilities and ministry opportunities.
- Prepare me to be a wife that delights Him, and honors 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 in His Service,

Ashley

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Any gifts can be sent to:

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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