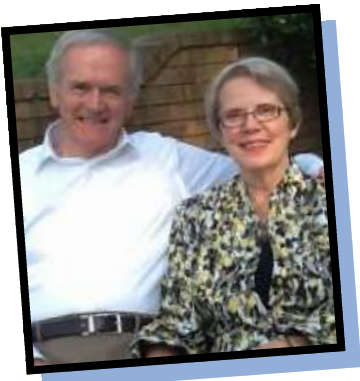


# Back From Kenya!



December 2016

WORLD REACH

## News from the Whitmore's

*"For what we preach is not ourselves but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake."*

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**To live in such harmony—** This was the theme of my time with 21 pastors and aspiring pastors in Meru, Kenya as we looked at marriage and family from a biblical perspective. This theme comes from an adaptation of Romans 15:5,6.

*"May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ."*

If you prayed for my trip, thank you! God honored your petition.

### The Journey

Sometimes, getting there can be an adventure in itself. The flights to Kenya were punctuated with everything from the inconvenient to the disruptive.

For example, I left from Atlanta on Friday evening after Thanksgiving. About eight hours into the flight when it was time for breakfast we were informed that the caterers had failed to load breakfast on the plane in Atlanta. That's an inconvenience. After landing in Amsterdam, I checked in for my next flight to Nairobi. I was told that I had been removed from the flight. It seems there had been mechanical issues with the original aircraft and the replacement aircraft had fewer seats. Because I had purchased a "cheap" ticket, I had the privilege of being moved to a flight the following day. That's a disruption as I would lose a day.

### Sidebar—

The overnight in Amsterdam resulted in an opportunity to have a great conversation with Mohammad, who had also been bumped from the flight. The best his "faith" offered him was a plea that Allah would be merciful to him based on his works. Though resistant to the Gospel, I had the privilege of sharing with him that in Christ, we have a sure hope of spending eternity with our Creator. Pray for Mohammad.

The next night, as we were approaching Nairobi, the Captain informs us that Nairobi's airport was closed due to a plane crash. Because we didn't have enough fuel to delay until it would be reopened, we would be diverting to Mombasa. I needed to be in Nairobi not Mombasa on Kenya's Indian Ocean coast. That's another disruption.

After waiting on the plane for several hours in Mombasa, we finally took off for Nairobi, arriving about 3:00 a.m. on Monday. The next challenge was getting through immigration— more than 200 people and only one immigration officer.

My original plan had been to arrive in Nairobi Saturday evening, get a good night's sleep, make the five hour drive to Meru on Sunday morning and start teaching at 8:30 a.m. Monday morning. By the time I cleared immigration and customs, it was almost 6:00 a.m. on Monday. I had had little sleep in 24 hours but decided to skip the

hotel, drive straight to Meru, and start teaching.

### The Main Thing

**But God...** The personal inconveniences and disruptions I encountered were a small price to pay in comparison to the privilege of digging into God's Word with these precious pastors. Our objective was to gain an understanding of marriage from God's perspective.

We looked at the biblical basis for marriage; how to repair the spirit of their marriage when broken; the differences between men and women; resolving conflict; communicating better; and perhaps most impactful, forgiveness.

The men eagerly absorbed God's Word and learned that, as husbands, their primary "task" was to love their wives as Christ loved the church. This realization challenged them regarding some culturally accepted "norms" that run contrary to God's Word.

### One Pastor's Comment

One pastor who had been married only three months said, "I did not know these things. I really needed this."

I think the thing each enjoyed the most was making a gift for his wife. Based on a package of chewing gum (the kind in a plastic tray that you punch out through foil) they each created a package of personal love notes for their wives. I've included a picture of this on the back.

Thanks again for your partnership, whether giving or praying.

*Paul*



A Gift for Their Wives

### Picker Uppers

For the relief of the following marriage symptoms: *doldrums, lethargy, poor communications, no pizzazz, ho-hums, etc.*

**Directions:**

1. Use as needed
2. Select one capsule at random
3. Pull capsule apart
4. Give contents to you hubby

**Side Effects:**  
A happier marriage

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**Marriage Facts:**  
Serving Size: 1 capsule  
Servings per container: 9

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**Ingredients:**

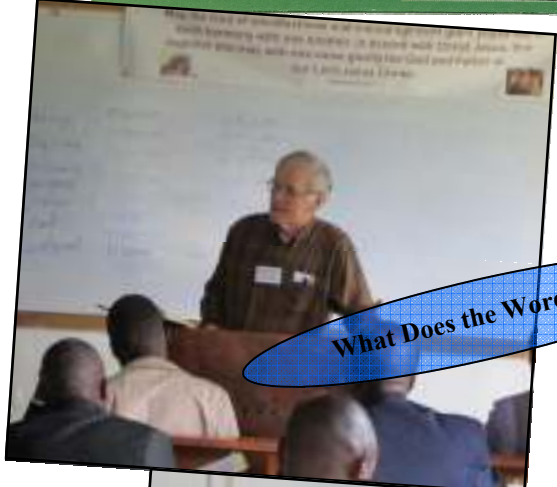
Time	.....	%
Attention	.....	Plenty
Faithfulness	.....	Full
Love	.....	Always
		Endless

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**Guarantee:**  
This product guaranteed by the designer of marriage to improve your relationship.



21 Precious Pastors



What Does the Word Say?



Meet Horace - My Cook



The Meru Campus



After 21 years, I finally saw the top of Mt Kenya!