



June 2014

Dear Friends,

*Missionary zeal does not grow out of intellectual beliefs, nor out of theological arguments, but out of love.* Roland Allen (English missionary, 1868-1947)

**Why do we keep going to Zambia and Wisdom Community School?** God has given us a love for the Zambian people and for the children at Wisdom. Supporting and developing a school for orphan children in a slum area was never part of “our” agenda. But when we were faced with the prospect of seeing a school close for lack of funding, **God clearly told us** that He wanted us to be the conduits of **His provision** for that school and to be the means by which He wants to **share the gospel** with those vulnerable children. **Because of YOU, we can do that!**

**His plans for us have not changed when it comes to ministering to marriages. Because of YOUR support,** we continue to give guidance to those in crisis, preparing for marriage, and wanting to strengthen their marriages. We still see many couples and learn/grow in that area.

If we asked YOU, **“What percentage of couples are happy in their marriage today?”** What would YOU say? Most people guess in the 30-40% range. **Here is some good news for YOU!**

**In a new book, *The Good News About Marriage: Debunking Discouraging Myths about Marriage and Divorce*, Shaunti Feldhahn shares that most marriages are happy not hard.** “Most married people today enjoy being married to their spouse and, given the chance, would do it all over again.” In her research, she found that **71% of married couples are happy**, including one-third being highly happy.

**“Well,” YOU say, “what about Oklahoma? What about other research?”** Even though Oklahoma has one of the higher divorce rates in the country, **68% of Oklahomans say that they are “very happy” in their marriage.** Another 29% are “pretty happy.” Only 3% are “not too happy!” [survey in 2001 by Scott Stanley for the Oklahoma Marriage Initiative]

*Does that surprise you? Does that give you hope? What difference does it make if you are not one of the happy ones?* The numbers show us that **it is very common for people to be happy.** If that many people are happy, **my marriage can be happy too!** Is marriage hard work? **Yes, we often have to work hard but we can also have fun in marriage.** “May you rejoice in the wife of your youth.” (Proverbs 5:18) “Enjoy life with your wife.” (Ecclesiastes 9:9)

Happiness is not the goal of marriage - **honoring and glorifying God with our marriage is the goal.** Our marriages are to reflect the relationship between Christ and the church. Certainly, **enjoying our marriage would be part of that picture.**

**Your prayers for our final preparations and funding are greatly needed and appreciated!** See the enclosed card for prayer requests and our schedule.

**Thank YOU** for your continued support! **We could not continue this ministry without YOU!** We love and appreciate YOU and your support of what God is doing!

Our love in Christ,

Donna and Ed Edwards  
**P.S. Please pray that the Lord will raise up the remaining \$1,000 to finance this mission.**

*The water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life.*  
John 4:14b

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