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Sharon and I moved to Zambia in August of 2022 with a passion to reach the people of Zambia with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We are now serving in the Sekute (seh-koo-tay) chiefdom in the southern province of Zambia. This chiefdom is made up of Lozi, Tonga, and Tokaleya people groups. In November, we planted a church, Chabantu Missionary Baptist Church, and are in the process of training three local men as pastors. Chabantu is a Tonga word meaning "for all of the people," which implies that everyone is welcome to attend, regardless of their tribe or village. During the week, we spend our time conducting Bible studies, learning local languages and culture, and meeting with local headmen about bringing the good news into previously unreached villages. The three local men being trained as pastors are partnering with us to teach Bible studies in other villages throughout



the week. Sharon has begun teaching the local women within the surrounding villages as well. These ladies are so excited to have the opportunity to learn.

The area we are working in consists primarily of the Tonga, Tokaleya, and Lozi tribes, each of which speak their own languages. Villages are made up of family groups governed by a headman who answers to a senior headman that oversees 25 village headmen. The senior headman reports to the tribal chief. Many of these villages use traditional medicine, which is overseen by witchdoctors. White skin is seen as having a lot of money and being willing to just give it away.

## Prayer Requests:

- New church plant, Chabantu Missionary Baptist Church and the three men we are training as pastors: Lackson, Danny, and, Felix
- Guidance of the Holy Spirit as we navigate the cultural differences, as well as wisdom, protection, and guidance as we combat animism, spiritualism, and witchcraft
- · Funds to complete the church building and our support fund

## Praises:

- · Permanent work permits have been issued.
- Chabantu Missionary Baptist Church is growing. It is made up of several villages including Chibinga, Kawewa, Kainyandela, Luvinda, Dube, Mulingula, Simondo, Makunka, and Simanyungu.
- Many men and women we meet with have a hunger to learn.
- We received permission from the tribal council to enter any village in the Sekute chiefdom and conduct Bible studies and plant churches.