



Eric and Allison Foster

Serving with



Helping to give spiritual direction to new believers around the world

February 2009

Following JESUS—Africa

Most of us have experienced the complications of miscommunication. Numerous books have been written on how to effectively communicate with spouses, children co-workers, etc. For the last several years, as Eric has worked with teams of international staff, communication (or lack of it) has been one of the more frustrating parts of his work.

In Africa, Eric works with a team of 10 staff from 8 different countries, each having ideas of what the follow-up videos should look like and each have different ways of communicating what they want. It can make meetings like the one last month a bit tense, as each person tries to make the rest of the group “see it his way.” Before Eric left for the meetings, he was concerned that there would not be enough time to accomplish the task—revising and re-writing 6 scripts in 6 days. Since each script is about 20 –25 pages long, it was about 125 pages to edit. This was a monumental task!

As he opened the meeting, Eric asked each attendee to bring their own ideas, desires, expectations and wants to the altar. He encouraged everyone (including himself) to leave them there and trust that through the week of prayer and work, we would take off the altar God’s desire for the project. God honored their prayers. By the end of 6 days, they had been able to edit each script, based on the feedback received through six month of field testing the pilot episode, and the leading of the Lord.

Every day the group would read the scripts line by line and tell Mike, the script writer, every change they wanted to see, mistake he made and why his script would not work. Mike’s humility in the process was an example to us all. He told the group on the last day that he believes the updated script is better and more powerful than his original. He certainly put his script on the altar.

It was amazing to see the Lord unite the group and help us come to unanimous choices on almost every decision. By giving up our desires, and getting ourselves out of the way, the Lord was able to work through us to create something that He will use to reach millions throughout Africa. While the process has been messy and frustrating, the result will bring Him more glory and will yield an army of grounded believers in Africa, ready to go out and reach others with the Truth of His Word.

Thank you for being a part of this important ministry.
We love and appreciate you!

Eric and Allison

Joshua ... milestones



Joshua's shirt says it all!
"Teeth are Overrated!"

Joshua is getting so big! He is 7 months and has his two bottom teeth! It has been a big month for him. When January started, he was barely sitting up by himself. Now, he sits up on his own, and if we put him on the floor on his belly, he can get himself on all fours. He rocks back and forth a few times and then he lunges forward before falling back down. We figure he'll be crawling in a few weeks! He eats lots of baby food, and so far we haven't found anything he dislikes, as you can tell by his size. He jabbars a lot—he says “na, ga, da, ba,” and he definitely lets us know when he's frustrated by letting out a high pitched squeal. He has struggled a bit with his teeth—it's been pretty painful at times — but overall, he's handled it well, probably better than Mommy! He brings so much joy to our lives and we appreciate your prayers for him.

Praises:

Eric, Bruce and the African staff had safe travel and a productive time in Nairobi

Now that Josh is older, Allison is able to once again take a more active part in the JESUS film ministry.

Prayer Requests:

For the countless details involved with the African follow-up films. That the Lord would continue to lead and help Eric to accomplish all he needs to, in order to be ready to film in March and April.

Verse for this month:

My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

John 17:20-21