January 31, 2018

**RE:** Report on my trip to Nairobi, Kenya

**FROM:** Richard C. Barcellos

I arrived at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) in plenty of time to catch my flight to Amsterdam on Friday, January 12, 2018. I was informed soon after that my passport expired before the deadline to travel to Kenya. I was told to take my revised plane ticket (they moved me from Friday to Saturday at no cost) to the US Federal building to get a new passport. Much to my surprise they were able to issue a new passport in about two hours.

The flight was long but I was able to read most of the way. I arrived in Nairobi to a group of men who kindly welcomed me. The first night I did not get to sleep until about 3am. I did not wake up until 11:30am. After showering, Pastor Igweta took me out to lunch to experience my first taste of Kenyan food. It was very good. In the late afternoon/early evening I slept again for a couple of hours. Later that evening I was treated to the first of many meals at the Igweta home. I found the Pastor’s home and family a warm refuge in the midst of a new environment. The next day is still a bit foggy to me. I think I slept and read most of the day. On Tuesday, Pastor Igweta took me sight-seeing, a real treat. I could be mixing up the days of the sight-seeing. After dinner on Tuesday, I studied Philippians 2:12-13 in preparation to preach at a local University on Thursday night. I scribbled down my outline on a piece of paper.

The course on hermeneutics began on my first Wednesday there. I was still very tired. The first day seemed to go a bit sluggish. This was due, I am sure, to my being so tired. As the days progressed, the men and I became more comfortable with each other. This was indicated by the attention level of the men, the questions they asked, and the time we spent during the breaks. I think the lectures went well and hope they were helpful for many years to come. I enjoyed the students and their love for Christ and the written Word of God.

On Thursday night of my first week there I preached to hundreds of students at a local University. The text assigned to me was Philippians 2:12-13. It seemed to have gone well.

The Lord’s Day was quite encouraging. I felt most at home worshiping with the saints of TBC. The preaching seemed to have been well-received and I greatly enjoyed discussions with many people throughout the day and evening.

On one of the days after the lectures I was privileged to lead a study of A. W. Pink’s *The Attributes of God* with some ladies from the church. That is one of the highlights of my trip.

The greatest highlight, other than the Lord’s Day, was meeting and becoming friends with Pastor Igweta. In one sense, I feel as if the purpose of my trip was to gain a new friend.

I want to thank TPC for the opportunity to serve the school. It was and is a great honor.

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