



THE ISHLER ISSUE

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Our Sending Church:
New Life Church
530 Big Spring Road
New Cumberland, PA 17070
Home Address:
PO Box 53483
Yellowwood Park 4011
Durban, South Africa
email: dkishler@abwe.cc

Darin and Kathy Ishler Serving in South Africa with ABWE

Church?

I'm doing a Bible study in Ephesians with a young lady who has not come to church in over 18 months. She used to teach Sunday School, come to Young Adult Bible Study, and help at VBS. JD Greear gave a disturbing statistic that 81% of people say they can be a very good Christian without going to church. But JD explains that if you want to be connected to God, then you need to be deeply connected to the church. The church is how God works in our lives. It is where we hear God's Word preached, where we can encourage our brothers and sisters in Christ, and where we can learn and use our spiritual gifts to serve the Lord. Please read these verses and see if you agree- I Corinthians 12:12-27 and Hebrews 10:24-25.

A call for help came a few weeks ago from one of the young adult's that Darin had disciplined years earlier. He was working in a different city and found out that his mom had been abducted and then released only after being taken to several ATMs and forced to empty her bank account. The whole experience seemed to last an eternity, and she did not know if or when they would let her go. Darin said he would go visit the family and see how they were doing. The lady was traumatized, and Darin tried to comfort her with some verses from Jeremiah chapter 29. Pastor Dennis had just preached a message the day before entitled, "What is an expected Biblical response during tough times?" She had certainly gone through a tough time and so had the Israelites. In Jeremiah we see Israel taken captive and forced to live elsewhere. It was not

going to be a short captivity; it was going to be 70 years. In verse 4, Jeremiah reminded Israel that it was God who caused them to be taken away from Jerusalem. God was aware of their circumstances and was still with them during the captivity. Jeremiah also encouraged them to focus on being productive instead of focusing on getting out of exile.



He told them in verse 5 to build houses, plant gardens, get married and have children. God didn't want them to stop living because their situation has been challenged and complicated. Please pray for the Ndlovu family. They don't have a personal relationship with Christ.

In October, I received a disturbing text from one of the young adult ladies I have counseled over the last year. One of her friends was planning to hang himself. She wanted to help the young man but asked me for some help. I was able to remind her of the Scriptures we had studied together which say that she is God's treasure, that she is loved, and God created her with a special plan. I encouraged her just to share with the man what she

had learned and how God has saved her from the dark place she was in. The young lady said, "I'm scared Auntie Kathy, but with the help of the Lord, I will speak the truth." We can only rely on God and His Word to help others. We do our part and leave the results to God. The young man is doing better, please pray for Nkanyiso to accept Jesus as Lord of his life. Then he can truly experience the hope and peace we have in Him!

Requests: Our praise and worship leader has relocated, and we desperately need several willing people to use their musical abilities to serve the Lord in this important ministry. The girls' visas expire in May. The government only extended it until then because that is when their passports were to expire. We renewed their passports, and now we must begin the long and tedious visa process again for them. Finally, please pray that the municipality will approve the rezoning for our church property.

Praises: The flooding problem at our house has been fixed! We are so grateful to God that we can sleep peacefully at night when it rains. The system has been tested over the past few weeks. We have had several torrential downpours and all the rain disappears down the drains. To God be the glory. We also praise God for YOU! It is a privilege to share the love of Jesus with the people in South Africa, but we could not do it without your faithful prayers and support. As we count our many blessings during this Thanksgiving holiday, please know that we count YOU a blessing from God to us. We love you and look forward to seeing many of you next year!