



## A Day in the Life

(Rachael's perspective)

Many times when reading prayer letters, you read of the highlights and the many exciting ways God is working in the ministry. You may hear about people accepting Christ, being baptized and growing spiritually through discipleship. While this is the main focus and goal of any missionary's work, I (Rachael) would like to take you on a small journey and give you just a glimpse "behind the scenes" of our life here in Madagascar.

**Busyness and Devotion:** Our day often starts early. Wake up, change, eat, and get ready for school! Two of our younger children (Chloe and Levi) have been attending a local school so they can be fully immersed in language. The older two girls (Moriah and Hannah) are homeschooled which is where you will find me most mornings. Of course, little Joelah is normally busy doing her part of being a mobile one year old by creating plenty of distractions and laughter for her older siblings. Despite each busy morning, we do our best as family to gather around God's Word for family devotions. This often helps set the tone for the day.

**Interruptions and Flexibility:** Because we live in the community in which we work, it is not uncommon for church people or others to stop by at any time. Somedays, the doorbell rings just once or twice, but other days, it seem like we have a revolving door for a gate. We have learned to be flexible and open to whatever interruptions may come. Of course, not all of these interruptions are unplanned. Sometimes it is the "egg lady" bringing eggs for the week; sometimes it is the "meter man" checking water and electricity; sometimes it's a teenager stopping by to ask for help with homework; or sometimes it's more serious like a church member informing us of a relative who just passed away (in this culture, it is important to let everyone know of a death even if you never met the person). We try to take these opportunities to pray with the family and show them Christ's love. Some days, interruptions are well timed while other days, they come at a very inopportune moment. We ask God to help us be flexible yet wise with our time being ready to help as God gives opportunity.



**Discouragements and Grace:** Although we do not often publish it, there are times of discouragement and setbacks in the ministry. Recently, these have come through the form of theft. Over the last few months, we joined the rank of the many who have been robbed. Once, our downstairs window was opened in the early hours of the morning and some items were taken, and a second time, my purse was taken from inside our house. While we know Satan tries to use these to discourage and distract us from our calling, we strive to use these opportunities to display the love of Christ.

**Learning and Teaching:** A missionary never really stops learning. It is important to constantly learn about culture, language and other shortcuts that help you on the field. For me, a few of the everyday task that I constantly try to learn are market shopping, cooking from scratch, appropriate parasite medicines, disinfecting fruits and vegetables from uninvited critters, and frequent power cuts.

I am thankful, however, that I have also been given opportunities to teach. Every quarter, our ladies meet together for a time of food and fellowship. I have never been much of a public speaker, especially in another language! However, God has given me grace and has allowed me to begin teaching the ladies as we meet together. Dan and I also have been able to work together on marriage counseling and discipling couples in our church. Also, each year, we try to produce a small and simple book with encouraging Biblical thoughts to pass out on Mother's Day and Father's Day. It has been fun to dive into God's Word and put these resources together for our people. We have already seen God use these books in positive ways in the lives of the people here.

**Pray and More Prayer:** Our lives are a lot like yours, we just happen to live in a different culture and speak a different language. And so, we kindly ask that you would pray not just for the ministry we often highlight in our letters, but also for our everyday life, even though at times it seems mundane.

Thank you so much for faithfully praying for our family and ministry, and supporting us and the work here in Madagascar.

### *The Browns to Madagascar*

*"The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few;  
Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest."*  
**Matthew 9:37-38**

## Praise

- ◆ *For the three individuals baptized in May.*
- ◆ *For a new family we recently started attending our church.*

## Prayer

- ◆ *For a new friend Rachael has been meeting with; opportunities to share the Gospel*
- ◆ *Our children as they go to school and continue to learn both French and Malagasy.*

#### CONTACT INFO

The Browns  
(570) 317-6893  
[www.browns2madagascar.com](http://www.browns2madagascar.com)

#### SENDING CHURCH

Kendall Park Baptist Church  
(732) 297-4644  
[www.kpbc.net](http://www.kpbc.net)

#### MISSIONS AGENCY

BIMI  
(423) 344-5050  
[www.bimi.org](http://www.bimi.org)