



At work in my office



Home, Sweet, Home



My friend (and roommate) Katie



From my trip to Lake Victoria

PRAYER NEEDS:

- * Safe travel to Ethiopia in Sept.
- * My daily work at the office
- * Settling in w/ new house-mates
- * A continually deepening relationship with God

HABARI ZENU! (Greetings from Kenya!!)

Summer is almost over and autumn is on its way...or at least in the United States! It seems so hard to comprehend that back home, everyone is gearing up for a new school year and is ready for relief from the warm temperatures. Here in Nairobi, I have been wearing sweatshirts and scarves and even closed shoes and socks (which is big deal for those of you who don't know me as well!) However, the clouds broke yesterday, and I enjoyed basking in the sun over lunch today. From here on out, it will become sunnier and warmer.

It sometimes seems that a mission compound has a continually revolving door. People come. They leave. After so many goodbyes I sometimes wonder if it's worth it to really pursue deep relationships. However, looking at the last five months, I have been blessed beyond measure by the friendships I have made...even if only for a few weeks or months. So instead, I am learning to make the most of every moment, to take hold of each opportunity to bless and be blessed by those who come across my path. With that being said, I have already said goodbye to two wonderful room-mates, but this morning I was able to go to the airport to pick up my friend Katie who had originally planned to come with me in March but was detained. I also have 2 other house-mates at the moment and another coming soon! So we are a full house. Since my last newsletter, I moved from one house on the compound to the one I will stay in the remainder of my time here. After a few weeks of adjustment, I feel quite at home and am glad I made the decision to move.

A few months ago, I was reading a missionary biography and was struck by something that was said to the missionary: *"If you are on the mission field with the purpose of serving God, you might as well go home. Your purpose at any point in life should be to KNOW GOD BETTER, and through that, everything else will fall into place"*. It seems so much easier to DO something for God than to focus on the relationship! But that is my goal. I am meeting with the director's wife for mentoring each week and have set specific goals in order to keep my focus on deepening my relationship with God.

Another lesson God seems to be teaching me is the importance of serving, whether in small or large tasks, and realizing that God is glorified through both. Life in Nairobi has settled into that "ordinary" daily routine, and there are honestly those days that I really do not want to work on a computer or be on the compound. There are days when I feel I have nothing tangible to show for my work, but God has shown me that it's not about the end result. It's about the journey. He is teaching me that He can be glorified through mundane tasks as much as through larger, more difficult, and exciting jobs. Besides photographing ministries, I also catalogue photos, write ministry reports, make ID cards, and help missionaries with computer problems. Lately my priority has been the SIMKenya website which is now up and running (www.simkenya.org) although not finished.

THANK YOU so much for your continued prayer and support! If you are interested in photos or weekly updates, please visit my blog (www.cmveer.wordpress.com)

In Him, For Him, and Because of Him

Christy Veer