

Habari usubuhi!

This means good morning in swahili, one of the many languages spoken by kenyans. I am also beginning to learn a little Kamba and sign language.

I have been in my place of ministry for nearly a week now. The clinic is located in Kithioko where I take a matatu to and from to get to my village of residence, Mwingi. Rich experiences have already overloaded my cultural capacity here. I am counseling patients at the clinic and assisting the clinical staff, preparing sermons in order to speak at youth conferences, visiting churches and fellowshiping with people of faith in the area, hiking up rugged hills and attempting slight rock climbing adventures, and partaking in everything that is Kenyan and more specifically, Kamba, culture. There is much for me to learn yet there is also much that I have and will teach the people I interact with.

On Saturday, I went to a meeting at a boy's secondary school for YAP, youth against poverty. The object was to help the youth in the country to change their attitudes, way of thinking, and to acquire a voice for the youth of Kenya. Currently, the youth, which includes anyone who is not married, do not have a voice. What a concept! Even a 40 year old can be a youth. I think it is a good movement and am supporting it in a several ways which I will relate to you after they unfold. After the meeting, several of the boys approached me in order to ask for money to continue their schooling or do some other project. It was very traumatizing, I had talked to my SIM contact about before hand, but the actual event was still shocking. I am not to help people through giving them money because they are always dependent upon the west for funds. SIM's ministry is to provide people with skills and talents by which they can help, not revenue.

Yesterday was market day in Kithioko, which means that the clinic was extremely busy. I am enjoying the patient interaction immensely. They are so interested to see a wzungu! (white person). Many are even shy or afraid of me, but I am trying to be as friendly and loving as possible. Also, after each patient that I nutritionally counsel, I ask if I can pray for them. All have accepted the invitation and are very thankful for the encouragement.

**Please pray the God would give me wisdom when working in a new culture and accuracy in providing proper nutritional counseling.**

I love you and am praying for you,  
drew