

I would like to start by thanking everyone who supported me for the opportunity to come on this trip. I have been incredibly blessed by it. I loved how organized and thoughtful all the classes were. I would also like to mention that Bro. and Sis. Durand did an incredible job helping us to connect with each other, spending time with us, and sharing their missionary experience with us. I appreciate how approachable, sincere, and passionate all the instructors were. I value the opportunity to learn from men and women of God that have dedicated their lives to a journey that is not walked by sight, but by faith. Before I came on this trip, that was what I looked forward to the most.

During the past 3 weeks, I was able to serve in a lot of different areas of ministry:

- speaking and singing at church services and Ladies Conference
- singing in Swahili as well as speaking with a translator (I really appreciate the opportunity to get used to speaking with a translator, which is something I find very valuable to learn when pursuing missions)
- assist with Sunday School
- give a devotional on the last day of training
- assist with Adult ESL class at bible school
- participate in a prayer walk in downtown Mwanza
- learnt and used some Swahili alter working phrases

We also had quite a bit of time to get familiar with the country and the culture:

- I rode a boda boda (motorcycle taxi) for the first time
- learnt how to bargain with people that do not speak my language
- saw some beautiful sights and met incredible people
- explored the streets of Mwanza
- spent some time at the market and at a beautiful plant nursery
- had amazing food everywhere I went
- learned how to speak Swahili

This trip has already expanded borders of the areas where I can serve in the kingdom and it has only been 3 weeks. I am so thankful that Bro. and Sis. Adams and Bro. Sisco came to minister and invested their very busy time training us to become the missionaries God wants us to become. I am glad the training not only focused on all global missions, but a part of it was specifically dedicated to missions in Africa. I enjoyed that there was a balance in the curriculum to train future missionaries, future home missionaries, and future Aimers to Africa.

Words cannot express how much this trip has impacted my walk with God, so I will let my life show it.

God bless you, Jennifer Duarte





