

The Robert Smith Family

Cheerfully serving on the island of

Barbados, West Indies

November and December 2023

Christmas and New Year greetings from Barbados! The Lord has been wonderfully kind to us in these last two months.

The blessings:

1. A new home for us. In our last letter, we had asked for prayer as we sought another home to rent. Rent prices have soared past our ability to pay. We were asking the Lord for a three bedroom, 2 bath house on one floor in our present parish of St. Philip. After calling seventy-one realtor phone numbers in our phonebook and driving up and down neighborhoods looking for a home, the Lord opened the door to *the one house* in St. Philip that met our needs! You will notice a new home address in the information below. God is so gracious!

- 2. A baptistry is on the way! A dear family from a supporting church in southern Illinois bought a stock tank for us, filled it with tracts and Bibles, crated it, and shipped it to Barbados for us!! Praise the Lord!! A customs broker is working on clearing these things now. We will soon have a baptistry at our church!
- 3. 10,000 John & Romans are here in the port waiting to be cleared! When Bearing Precious Seed of Milford, Ohio, heard of our need for the John/Romans, they printed the Scriptures and the custom covers with our church information on it, then they crated and shipped them to us. We need to pay them for the custom covers and the shipping. I would also like to pay for the Scriptures so that they can use that money to print Scriptures for others. The total cost for the printing and shipping is \$2,700.00. We have received \$100 already towards this.
- **4. Sunday School curriculum for Nigerian pastors-** We have received two gifts of \$360 dollars each from two families since our last letter. These gifts have been sent on to Nigeria. Thank you all for giving so that ninety-six sets of curriculum could be provided for these pastors. Praise the Lord! If you would like to make a difference in a Nigerian pastor's ministry, consider providing a three year set of Sunday School curriculum for one pastor. Each set costs \$180. Our goal is to provide 150 Nigerian pastors with their own set. We have only 54 sets to go!
- 5. Last Saturday I was visiting an elderly lady in our church. She is often home bound because of her health. Her eldest grandson, Jamal, was visiting with her on the porch. Jamal is around 30 years of age. I asked him if he knew for sure that he was going to heaven. He replied that no one could know that. He quietly listened as I shared the gospel, and then he bowed his head to pray and receive Christ! What a marvelous job I get to do!

Please pray that (1) for the Lord to provide for the duty and taxes on the two shipments. (2) For people to be saved and to grow into faithfulness and service. (3) That our upcoming ladies' conference January 22nd will be a Spirit-filled occasion of great help to those who come!

Thank you for your prayers and support for these many years. It is a joy to serve the Lord! Blessings on you all,

Robert and Rhoda with Buddy and Becca away on special assignment