

Dear friends,

It has been three months since we left for our trip with Trans World Radio (TWR) to Africa. It was an intensive, inspiring trip in which we met many people and were able to see and experience up close what it means to work for TWR.

With this (first) newsletter, we want to tell you how we are doing and where we are in the process with God and Trans World Radio. The background of our journey and the run-up to it can be read at <https://davidenlinda.nl/en/>. Here you also can find the link to the telegram channel where we gave a daily update during our trip.

## Backhome in the Netherlands

It was a bit of a switch to be back in the Netherlands and we needed some time to process our experiences and impressions. But before we knew, we were back in the normal rhythm and daily routine. We went back to work and celebrated Linda's birthday in October. And we took another week off together and stayed in a cottage in Noord Brabant for rest and to pray.

From the very beginning in our contact with TWR, Samuël Bekx has been by our side. Samuël works for TWR International and is HR recruiter for Europe and CAMENA. We really enjoy being guided by Samuël in this process. Two weeks after we returned to the Netherlands, Samuël visited our home, we had dinner together and discussed our trip. We experience peace and confirmation from God during our journey in Africa and feel that we can take the next steps.

An important next step is involving our church congregation in this phase of our process. In the discussions with TWR it emerged that, should it come to a deployment with TWR, it is important that our church joins early on in the process in order to work together with us. In the run-up to and preparations for our trip to Africa, we have already informed the leadership of our church congregation and the first conversation about this has now taken place.

## The upcoming period

In the upcoming period, we will continue to explore what it means to be a missionary in God's Kingdom and discover what is needed both practically and spiritually. We have another appointment with TWR in November and in the upcoming months we will be attending a number of information days and weekends that are mission-related.

On 12 October, for instance, we visited the Xplore Mission day in Utrecht. [Xplore mission](#) is the collaboration between four mission organizations (Interserve, OMF, WEC, Wycliffe) that have the vision to help others move forward in their quest to find their place in mission. This day we got to listen to the experiences of missionaries when they themselves were at the beginning of their quest. During conversations over lunch, we got to share our story and listen to the experiences and stories of others. It was an inspiring day.

In early November, we will attend an information day organized by [Missie Nederland](#). This day is all about the home front team. This day will take us through setting up a home front team and to think about what your expectations are, your dream and vision in this. We will also discuss the various functions within a home front team and how to shape a function. How to build your home front team together so that it stands like a house! This is totally new for us and we are looking forward to what this day will bring.

Early next year we have a mission weekend planned that we will attend, more on that later.



## Personal

**[David]** In my Bible, I often underline a Bible text that has spoken to me or that I heard during a sermon. I always write the date next to it and where I heard this text, it then reminds me of that particular moment.

Before and during our trip to Africa, I asked God for His confirmation of the longing that had arisen in me and to show me His will. While reading the Bible on the early morning of July 24 in West Africa, I opened my Bible at the book of Isaiah. Here I had underlined a Bible verse only this time it did not include where or when I had heard it. I had underlined Isaiah 30:20-21, which says: **"The Lord will give you bread in affliction and water in distress. He who taught you will no longer hide. With your own eyes you will see your teacher, with your own ears you will hear a voice behind you saying, 'This is the road you must follow. Here you must turn right. Turn left there.'**

The text touched me immensely and did not leave me the following days, is TWR the road I get to follow with Linda, is it Africa what God means?

Two weeks later, we are at TWR in eSwatini, one evening I search the internet for "God's will" and "destination". I stumble upon an audio speech by Corrie ten Boom posted on [YouTube](#). Her talk is called: "How to know God's will" and begins with Isaiah 30:20. Coincidence? I don't believe so. In prayer, I ask God for confirmation, Lord is this from You? I want to hear this text again from You.

And the third time follows, completely unexpectedly. We are at the Xplore Mission day in Utrecht and during the lecture on missions, God's will and promises, the text comes by again. I am moved and get tears in my eyes. Thank you Lord, thank you!

## We love it if you stay involved with us

We cannot and will not embark on this adventure alone. In the first place, God is present, He is leading us on this path and in Him we put our trust. But the involvement of people around us is just as important. Would you like to stay involved and be kept informed? Then send a message via the contact page <https://davidenlinda.nl/contact/> or an email to [davidenlinda@proton.me](mailto:davidenlinda@proton.me).

## Grateful and prayer

Grateful:

- for our health
- for the friends close to us who support us
- for the good support of TWR
- for the donations that have been received and fully benefit the TWR locations we have visited.

Prayer:

- for God to bring people on our path from whom we may learn
- for God to open the doors for our next steps
- for God to put people on their hearts to walk alongside us
- for wisdom, insight and understanding God's voice

