

*Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. John 15:4*

*Susan Overton  
in Kenya*



August 2008

## PRAYER REQUESTS & Support Needs

✠ Please continue to pray for God's guidance and leading in my life and new ways to reach out to these teens!

✠ God is faithfulness and will provide, however please continue to pray for my finances and for my support level to maintain.

✠ Please pray as our teen group increases and for another successful season as I start up again with the teens at Toad Hall boarding school. May God have his will in each one of their lives.

*If you would like to partner with Susan, please send your tax-deductible donations payable to:*

**SEED Ministries**  
P.O. Box 3746  
Cleveland, TN 37320-3746

**Memo line: Susan Overton**

*For more information  
please visit*

[www.seedministry.org](http://www.seedministry.org)

Susan's NEW email  
overinafrica@gmail.com

Susan's P.O. Box  
P.O. Box 806, Karen  
Nairobi, Kenya  
00502



*My teens and me on Sunday*

*Hello  
everyone,*

I hope you're all enjoying the summer! I'm getting the opportunity to experience what it feels like to live where the seasons are opposite, as it is our winter time. It can certainly play with your head. For the most part the days are cold and damp and feel like Thanksgiving, as if the holidays are just around the corner, and then I remember 'it is only August'. Gets a little confusing and I often forget what month it is!

*The Group with  
No Name*

About half the church attendance drops during the summer as August tends to be the month that most families leave on holiday and go out of town. So what the Vineyard Church has done in the past is stop all Sunday School classes for the month of August and have the teens and small children sit in the main service with the adults.

***My teens want more of Jesus Christ, how amazing is that!***

However, at the end of July, as I was letting the teens know this would be the last Sunday School class due to the break, they asked me if I would continue teaching. I was really excited at what that meant; they want the Word of God! My teens want more of Jesus Christ, how amazing is that! So, I agreed to teach through while the other classes are on break for the month. Also I've been encouraged to see more teens show up with their Bible. Before I came they were used to a slightly different way of teaching. A rotation of teachers would talk about different, random topics each week for about 15 minutes and then the rest of the time they would play sports down on the field. However, since my time here I have tried to focus on showing them how to grow deeper in their relationships with Jesus Christ and the importance of God's Word. I have now implemented a curriculum on teaching using a book called 'The Grid' which is a thirteen week course on God's justice and grace at work in our lives. We read from the Bible and then discuss how to apply that lesson to our lives. In September when we go back to the teaching rotation, we will all be teaching from the same material now.

## *Teen Home Group*

Again since the summer months my home group has also dropped to one teen and I, however it has been a great time of discipleship and mentoring. Sheila and I have met each week and read through the book of Ruth. If you haven't ever explored the book of



*Sheila and Me*

Ruth, you might want to. Even though it is a small book of only four chapters, it has some wonderful and very practical lessons for our lives today.

Not only does the book of Ruth have one of the greatest love stories ever told in it, It's also about Redemption, Revival and Restoration and is a message

of hope to anyone who feels wiped-out, hurting and hopeless. Naomi is an amazing example of the prodigal daughter that comes home. Ruth is a picture of you and me and Boaz is a picture of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Like Ruth we are lost, impoverished, hungry and if we were willing to open our eyes we will also find ourselves, like Ruth, in His (God's) field.

Isn't it amazing that God already knows the ending to our story, we don't have to worry...about anything! He just wants us to trust Him. Faith combined with hope grows into trust, or as Brennan Manning says in Ruthless Trust 'Faith arises from the personal experience of Jesus as Lord. Hope is the reliance on the promise of Jesus, accompanied by the expectation of fulfillment. Trust is the winsome wedding of faith and hope.'

The more I know Jesus Christ the more confident I am that God will carry me through any and all situations of life. He doesn't always beam us up and out of the painful and difficult times, but it is in the difficult times that we can know He is in control and will work all things together for the good of those who love Him. ~ see Romans 8:28

I am so excited to know I can trust God with ALL of my life and to bring the teens into their own personal realization of that too!

*Serving the Lord,  
Susan*