

Jess Frith - March 2010 Update

Hey everyone!!!! - I hope everyone is well?!!

I have certainly had a life changing month! It's been very eventful with Ian visiting me here, which was fantastic! Oh, and the part where Jason asked me to marry him!!!! Yey!!

It was great to have Ian for a week here coming to meet all the lovely friends and co-workers I have made and for him to get a brief insight to the schools ministry that I do here. He arrived on a Sunday evening and came to have a meal with Jason and I up in Oribi where Jason lives. We then went to visit the ministries in Port Shepstone linked to the church, which Jason works for, as well as Scripture Union. Ian said he got some great ideas of community outreach programmes from visiting the community centres and gyms in the area...and might even try starting a gym/sports outreach in his area in Uganda!!! Pretty cool!

We then left to head to Westville, Durban where I'm based. A lovely family, Mandy, Shaun and Catherine, who took great care of him and spoilt us both throughout the week by their hospitality, hosted him. We went to visit three schools during the week and Ian told the students a bit about Uganda! He was even asked to give a small devotion to a school's Christian group, which is not so unusual for visitors to do when visiting, and he talked about Roman's 12vs 1-2 being a living sacrifice for God as our worship to him.

I think Ian found South Africa extremely different to Uganda-which it obviously is- but he especially noticed the division between races here, which still remain after Apartheid. In Uganda, when I went to visit, the locals were very proud and 'stood tall' when I talked to them, however, in South Africa, many Africans here will still communicate to you as if they feel second class to a 'white' person by the way they speak and their body language. Hopefully this will change more over time, but South Africa has still got a long way to go in breaking down all the barriers which were so strongly built into people's mindsets over apartheid.

It was great to have Ian come to stay, and hopefully he will be the first of many more to come and visit!!!

The second major event that happened this month was the day after I dropped Ian off at the airport, and was the day Jason proposed to me!!!

It was very exciting, and hopefully many of you got my email of how it all happened, but I was completely taken by surprise on the day and went around in shock for a few days afterwards!!!

We have been planning a few things, and the date (we think!) will be on December 16th here in South Africa, outside in the beautiful scenery of Oribi Gorge.

We will then come to the UK shortly afterwards to have a Blessing celebration with friends and family there, probably in late December... so I will let you know the date for you to keep open as soon as we finalise it!!!!

I am very happy indeed, and I'm having such a lovely season in my life. God is good and has blessed me so much with Jason, and we are trusting in him for our futures together.

Thank you everyone who has been praying, emailing and sending cards! It is always fab to hear from you all and know that I am still remembered and supported by everyone in Bognor!!!

Sending much love in Christ,

Jess x