

David & Billie Blessing

Amelie, Annika, Elijah

//

Serving God in West Africa

{End of Summer 2014}



Ebola Crisis in Guinea

We have lived through many crises during our time in Guinea. From riots and demonstrations to military coups, we have experienced many trying times. We usually keep an evacuation suitcase at the ready in case circumstances require us to evacuate. The latest crisis to fall in our lap might be the most serious so far. Since early this year, the scourge of Ebola has been spreading throughout our region. Nearly three thousand people have died and the World Health Organization predicts that thousands more will die before it is over. Nations around the world are mobilizing resources to combat this illness, but there is fear it may be too little, too late. We need to pray for God's intervention to halt this epidemic before it spreads further. Will you join us in praying for an end to this tragedy? On a personal note, Ebola has not reached our town, and we feel safe for now. We are closely monitoring the spread of the disease and the impact on daily life and travel options. We are on high alert and will take necessary steps to protect our family. Your prayer support is critical.



Church Pastor Elected



In late August, at a special meeting of our church, we selected one of our leaders as our first pastor. Please pray for God's hand of wisdom and integrity on Pastor A.



Discipleship Retreat



At the end of May, we co-hosted a discipleship retreat for Fulbe believers from a few nearby towns. Over thirty believers and seekers attended and spent three days and two nights together in prayer, worship, and Bible study learning how to share God's Word with their family, friends, and neighbors.



Baptisms

At the end of June, David stood waist deep in a rushing river at the bottom of a waterfall. A group of observers cheered on, including two other missionary families, David's mom, and a good friend from the U.S. One at a time, Amelie and then Annika went into the water to be baptized. They were so excited and eager. Earlier this year, they both trusted Christ as Lord and Savior. They could hardly wait for Grammy to arrive so that she could see them get baptized.



Visitors from Home

We thoroughly enjoyed a visit from two special people this summer. Weslie visited for a month and a half and was a great help to Billie and the kids while David traveled. David's Mom also visited for a week and got to see for the first time in person where we live and work. Thanks to both of them for making the long trip to see us!

Good News for the Fulbe



English Classes

For the spring semester, David taught English at the headquarters of a local NGO. In their conference room, he taught a group varying from 10 to 20 students three times a week. Through these classes he was able to build relationships with the students that resulted in two nonbelievers attending our church's spring discipleship retreat.



Local School Outreach

In May, we gave out almost 150 schoolbags with donated school supplies, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and Scripture calendars to kindergarteners at a nearby public elementary school. We were able to give a brief presentation and share God's Word. Parents in the community still thank us for these gifts.

Gifts from the Garden

This year, we saw a harvest of beans, peas, lettuce, corn, and several other vegetables from our garden that we were able to share with our neighbors. We praise God for these and other open doors to share the Gospel.

www.blessingafrica.org