David & Billie Blessing

Serving God in West Africa

PIONEERS
bringing salvation to the ends of the earth
Acts 13:47

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Summer 2006

La Vie en Afrique (Life in Africa)

God is faithful. Yesterday, by His grace, we were able to lead a Muslim to place his faith in Jesus Christ. To see God work in such a mighty way was awesome to behold, and we feel privileged to be a part of His work here. You, too, through your prayers have played a role in seeing this man become a part of the family of God. We are convinced that your prayers have not only paved the way for our smooth transition to life here, but have also prepared the hearts of our new friends to accept the seeds we sow. Thank you for your continued prayers.

Your Partners in the Gospel,

David & Billie

Some highlights of the last three months:

Celebrating Easter

Celebrating the 4th of July at the Embassy party

Billie being serenaded on her 27th birthday

Sharing at a public high school

Meeting the U.S. Ambassador

Spending time with new friends

Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved. Acts 4:12

Sights and Sounds of Africa

Bargaining for a taxi next to the watermelon stand

Our local "garbage men"

Our City: Population 2 million

Local mosque

Reflections of Truth

In our city, there are thousands of street children called *talibes*. The word *talibe* means disciple. These are boys whose parents have sent them off to live with a Muslim religious teacher and receive instruction in the Qur'an. This teacher then sends them out on the streets during the day to beg for food and money.

One night we went out to eat. Outside the restaurant a group of *talibes* was begging. Billie had brought along some food for them. While leaving the restaurant, she stopped to give them the food. One little boy snatched it out of her hand and ran away to gobble it up all by himself. He didn't want to share with any of the others, nor did he say thank you.

How many times have we received a gift from the Lord and forgotten to thank Him? How often have we hoarded His blessing for ourselves not realizing He intended us to share it with others?

It's amazing to realize what a person can live without. One Sunday morning, on the way to church, Billie saw an illustration of this very truth. Two little kids were running around a tree chasing a goat. They were giddy with delight. The goat was happy, the children were ecstatic, and all that without an Xbox, a TV, expensive toys, or fancy clothes.

Some have inquired about our diet. We are happy to report that we are eating well. Here is one recipe we have found particularly tasty.

Elephant Stew

1 Elephant, medium size
Brown gravy
2 rabbits, optional

Cut the elephant into small, bite-size pieces. This takes six weeks. Add enough brown gravy to cover. Cook over a kerosene fire for four weeks at 465 degrees. This will serve about 2,800 people. If more are expected, add the two rabbits. Do this only if necessary, as most people don't like to find hares in their stew.

We love getting mail!

David Blessing
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Praises

- Salvation of "Stephen"
- Great progress in language learning
- We have received encouragement from friends and family in the U.S.
- We received our residency papers.
- We have made many new friends.
- We have settled into our apartment.
- We had the opportunity to spend some time with our mission area leader.

Prayer Requests

- More opportunities to share the Gospel with people here
- Further progress in language learning
- Health of our teammate Sue
- We will be attending an upcoming church planting conference.
- We will be taking a survey trip to Guinea this fall.
- Continued good health

If you feel God leading you to contribute to this ministry, please make checks payable to:
PIONEERS, 10123 William Carey Drive, Orlando, FL 32832.
Include a note designating your gift for the ministry of David & Billie Blessing, Account #010888

Visit us on the web: www.monclovabaptist.org/blessings