



David & Billie Blessing

Serving God in West Africa



Winter 2007

On the Move



And Jesus, when he came out, saw much people, and was moved with compassion toward them, because they were as sheep not having a shepherd. Mark 6:34

Please pray for:

- ❄ Salvation for our Chinese friends, 'Wes' and 'Larry'
- ❄ Salvation for our friends: 'Anna' 'Betty' 'Jane' and 'Fran'
- ❄ Preparations for moving to Guinea

Anna, Betty, & Jane

Since November, Billie has been sowing into the lives of her classmates 'Anna' and 'Betty.' Anna has shown great interest in spiritual things, and it's obvious that God has prepared her heart for the Gospel. A few weeks ago, Billie spent several hours with Anna between classes. Anna shared her doubts about God, and a real fear of being cursed by jealous friends and family. That night she was planning to go to a Muslim healer for a magic charm to protect her family and to help her find a job. Billie shared Scripture, truths about God, and prayed with her.

Billie is planning to spend more time with Anna before we move. Pray with us for Anna's spiritual protection and for her to see her need for Christ. Pray that God's plan for Billie to share the Good News will not be thwarted and for Anna's salvation.

We were also able to share the Gospel with an American classmate, 'Jane,' before she left Senegal to travel to other African countries. David very clearly explained the Gospel to her, and although she listened, she said it would take a lot more to convince her to believe. Please pray that she will seek God and search for Truth as she travels.

Dear Prayer Partner,

During the journeys of the Apostle Paul recorded in the Book of Acts, it seems he never stayed long in one place. What caused him to launch out time and again into the unknown, to cross the next mountain, to seek out the distant horizon? Without a doubt, it was his firm conviction that God had sent him to bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to those who desperately needed to hear it. Paul knew there were still countless people who had not yet heard.

The situation remains much the same in our day. Multitudes of people still have not heard the Gospel. For this reason, we are preparing once again to launch out into the unknown. From our base of language study in Senegal, we are relocating to Guinea, our field of ministry. Perhaps you have seen in the news the turmoil that has recently enveloped that country. As the smoke clears, we will be entering a situation that God has primed for the Gospel message. The people are hungry for hope and looking for a new beginning. The time has come. God is on the move. Like Paul, we will blaze a trail to the unreached, that they may hear the Gospel. Pray for us as we go.

Until All Have Heard,

David & Billie

- ❄ Relocation to Guinea
- ❄ Peace and safety in Guinea
- ❄ Team development in Guinea
- ❄ Guidance for ministry in Guinea





When the Fish Jump into the Boat...

Praise God for the many witnessing opportunities He has given us during the past two months! A classmate at the university invited David to teach English to two men who work at the Chinese embassy. Recently, David explained the origin of the Scriptures and began sharing Bible stories with them. Please pray that David will be able to sow seeds that take root, and that 'Wes' and 'Larry' will understand and accept the Gospel, even in the few short weeks we have left in Dakar.

"It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year!"

While there was no snow or decorated tree, there were gingerbread cookies, hot apple cider, chicken dinners, and even a Christmas movie. Our holiday season was simply fantastic. We want to thank everyone who sent us care packages. All the cards, junk food, and goodies made our holidays away from home extra special.

We were especially blessed by the visit of David's mom and two friends from our home church over Christmas. Jeanie, Georgia, and Tyler were able to meet our friends, serve at a boy's home, and experience a slice of life and ministry in Dakar. We also spent some time traveling. It was neat for them to see so much of the country, and it was exciting for us to share those experiences with them.

They were a huge encouragement to us, and we are thrilled that our newsletters and prayer updates will now be more real to them, and they'll be able to pray for us and our ministry with greater insight. They have gained a treasured life experience we know they will share with others.



Trauma Tills Guinea for the Gospel

This January and February, tensions in Guinea brought on by decades of poverty reached the boiling point. Strikes and riots broke out around the country leading the president to declare martial law on February 13. The military took control, muzzled the media, closed the borders, and threatened to shoot looters, troublemakers, and anyone caught breaking the strict 18 hour curfew. Nearly 200 people were killed. Americans who could safely evacuate to other countries did so. With such turmoil, we were forced to delay our planned move to Guinea in mid-March.

President Lansana Conte quickly came under heavy domestic and international pressure to end the chaos by working with Guinean unions to reach a compromise. On February 26, Conte appointed a new prime minister approved by union leaders. As of this week, a smooth governmental transition is underway. Peace and calm are returning to Guinea. People are looking for hope, and we are making plans to bring it to them. We are preparing to move and hope to be in Conakry by the end of March. We believe God has sent us to Guinea for just such a time as this, though we know it will be more difficult than previously anticipated. Please pray for us as we relocate and pray that God would bring a lasting resolution to the crisis in Guinea.

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Visit our redesigned website:

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You can reach us in Africa using this U.S. phone number.

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Field Address:

Due to our move to Guinea, our field address will soon be changing.

Financial Support:

PIONEERS

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Make checks payable to **PIONEERS**.

Include a note designating your gift to the ministry of David & Billie Blessing.
Account #110888