



Spring 2008

Spring Forth Praise



While winter releases its icy grip and spring unfurls its green tendrils on the U.S., life-giving rains have returned to West Africa. Guinea is once again enjoying greener views, cooler weather, and all the pleasures associated with flowing water in the rivers and streams, including fresh mangos!



Life in Labe rolls on at a faster pace than we imagined possible in an African town. You can easily track our travels and keep up with us through our website. It is regularly updated and gives glimpses of our lives that can't be shared in a quarterly prayer letter. Be a part of what God is doing among the Fulbe through www.piguinea.org/blessing.htm!

Your Link to Guinea,

David & Billie



Language Learning

Learning Pular, the language of the Fulbe people, is our main focus right now. Both David and Billie study with a professor four days per week. David has excelled at learning this difficult language, and can already understand about 60% of the recently printed Pular New Testament.



Billie's progress in Pular acquisition has been slower, but she is thankful for the improvement and expects that progress will increase over the next few months.

Like 70% of Guinea's population, Mr B, our day guard is illiterate. Recently, David began teaching him how to read and write. It is our prayer that one day he will read the Bible in Pular, his heart language. Please pray for him as he attends weekly literacy classes.



Ministry Among the Fulbe

At Easter, David shared the resurrection story with Mr. B. We continue to sow into his life and hope to bring him to a point of decision for Christ this year. Please pray with us for his salvation.



We have been encouraged by opportunities to hand out tracts, Scripture calendars, Scripture portions, and Pular New Testaments to police officers, national day workers, and friends. We are glad for the opportunity to share Gospel truths even before we are fluent in Pular.

Life in Labe

With global fuel prices on the rise, gas in Guinea is \$5.88 per gallon. It costs about \$280 to fill up. In a poor country where people struggle to keep food on the table and fuel is at a premium, theft of gas from vehicles is common. Recently, we were the targets of such a robbery.



Late one night during a thunderstorm, a thief cut our garden hose and tried to use it to siphon fuel from our car. Thankfully the tank was empty because we had just returned from a trip to Conakry. In the end, the thief only got away with our garden hose and little or no gasoline.

To read more about this story or for other tales from the trenches, visit our website.

For as the earth bringeth forth her bud, and as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth; so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations. Isaiah 61:11



And Then There Were Three...

With so many missionaries leaving Fulbe ministry, we praise God for Georgia, our newest teammate. She is settled in, meeting other missionaries, learning about life and culture in Guinea, and ministering in meaningful ways to us and to the nationals. We have gained at least ten pounds from her great cooking and baking!

Georgia is learning French, the trade language of the Fulbe people. She meets with a French tutor four days per week and is excited by the positive evaluations she has received. Please pray for her language studies.

Georgia is also working with Billie to plant an experimental garden and begin the 2009 Scripture calendars. They hope to use these tools to reach friends and neighbors with the Gospel. They have already handed out Scripture portions to children who come to the garden to watch them water and weed.



For Prayer:

- ☞ Pular language learning
- ☞ Karilyn's safe arrival

For Praise:

- ☞ Georgia's safe arrival
- ☞ Protection in the midst of trials

Prayer Points

While language learning is our primary focus right now, we still spend a great deal of time on immediate necessities around the house. David recently began installing our solar-electric equipment. Billie is preparing to paint, sew curtains, have furniture made, and finish guest house renovations. Please pray that less and less time will need to be spent on maintenance so that more time can be spent in language study and with nationals.

Pioneers presence in Guinea is expanding! Karilyn hopes to join us for six weeks this summer to learn more about ministry among Muslims, be a part of what God is doing among the Fulbe, and get a closer glimpse of God's heart for missions. Please pray for her as she prepares for this adventure and prays about her role in reaching the nations for Christ.

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the ministry of David & Billie Blessing,
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