

Serving the Lord in Côte d'Ivoire, West Africa



*"I am sending you to them to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in Me."
~ACTS 26:17-18*



Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.

TRUSTING GOD IN TRANSITIONS

Throughout Biblical history God's children have needed to trust Him through transitions. The Israelites trusted God as He led them out of Egypt and into the promised land. Ruth trusted God as she left Moab and returned to Bethlehem. Mary trusted God as she went from being a young girl into being the mother of our savior Jesus Christ. These are great examples of people who could not depend on their own understanding but had to trust God. This fact remains true for us today. Transitions are a part of being a child of God. The best way to get through them is to follow the examples of those who came before us and trust God. When we lean not on our own understanding and submit our ways to Him, He is always faithful to direct our paths.

Judith and I are in that position of trusting God now. We just made the transition back to America from Estonia. We want to **"Thank You"** with all of our hearts for your prayers and support during our first term. We have begun itineration and are excited about this year of ministering in churches throughout Texas and other states. As we trust in the Lord and submit to His will, we know that we will see lives touched by Him in the services and places where we minister this year. When the time is right, He will bring forth the provision we need to return to the field in Cote d'Ivoire, West Africa. Just as He promised, He will make our path straight!

In Christ Service,

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God Changing Lives in The Darkest Places

Remember the story of Meelis in our previous newsletter? He is the man who has a blood disorder. He can't speak or use any of his body except his feet. After we led Meelis to Christ, he was excited to share his faith, so he reached out to another disabled man named Ahti. Meelis asked us to visit Ahti and talk with him about God. Ahti has been confined to a bed since he was a teenager due to a wrestling accident. He can't even sit in a wheelchair or a chair. He has been cut off from society most of his life. Ahti had been wanting to know about God for a long time but had no one to share with him. God used Meelis to connect us to Ahti thus we were able to share the message of faith, hope, and love of Christ into Ahti's life. Now, he is a believer of Jesus Christ! We were blessed to be with Ahti when he took his first communion. In a nation where there are very few believers, the odds of Ahti ever hearing the gospel are very slim. Praise God, He reaches into the darkest places to save those who seek Him!

Farewell to Elu Kogudus (Life Church)

It was a great privilege to work with Bob & Chrissy Godwin in their church planting ministry in Tallinn, Estonia. Elu Kogudus (Life Church) is being planted for such a time as this. We witnessed the goodness of God and saw lives changed by His grace. We built great relationships with the people in which God opened the door for us to share our faith and minister to them. Our hearts filled with joy when Elu Kogudus blessed us with a farewell party. It was a great time of fellowship and saying our "goodbyes". Thank you, Elu Kogudus, for allowing us to serve! May the Lord continue to pour out blessing and favor upon you.

QUICK FACTS!!!

- Did you know the official currency, the West African Franc is also used by countries like Togo, Benin, Guinea-Bissau, Burkina Faso, Mali, Senegal and Niger.
- Côte d'Ivoire or Ivory Coast is home to the largest Basilica church in the world named the Basilica of Our Lady of Peace in Yamoussoukro.
- Côte d'Ivoire is a very diverse place. Around 42 percent of the population is Akan and there are five major ethnic groups.

PRAYER NEEDS...

Please join with us in prayer for our Ministry.

- Blessing and favor for our itineration 2020.
- Connection with people, churches/pastors, and prayer intercessors who will partner with us and support us in prayer.
- Financial blessing and provision for our budget to be completed so we can return to the field in Fall 2020.
- Our transition to Côte d'Ivoire that God will be glorified through our lives and use us to reach the lost in great measure.
- Wisdom to learn the French language and flexibility in adjusting the culture.

"This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us." ~1 John 5:14