

## Ministry Events and Blessings



October, 2017

Dear Praying Friends,

Simialo (pictured above) was concerned a “fool” in this culture, perhaps even “possessed by spirits”, before she accepted Christ. She was often undressed in public, disheveled, disorderly in conduct, with a running conversation with herself most of the time. Her husband and family had consulted the witch doctor many times to no avail. One day when we were holding an outdoor evangelistic campaign, she approached and paused to listen. The gospel penetrated her lost soul with enough understanding that she accepted Christ. Simialo is no longer considered a “fool” as before, but some now consider her a fool in her zeal to win others to Christ! Even though she is uneducated, she has been able to master reading the New Testament in her mother tongue. Her husband sadly, has abandoned her because of her faith in Christ, and has taken the three children to an unknown location. In spite of this she remains undaunted, knowing a joy that she could never have imagined before finding Christ.

Last month we were a part of two burials. The first was a very elderly mother of a pastor’s wife. This interment was deeply fetish and oppressive as attendees consumed large amounts of alcohol, threw ash on each other as they danced, performed fetish ceremonies, and then placed the body of the deceased on a dancer’s head to be taken to the burial site. The second was a faithful believer in the Pagouda church who was saved in her 70’s and died with a good testimony for Christ. Her family who are unsaved permitted the cathedral to conduct the funeral. Normally, a burial among non-believers means that there is a huge fight in the family before the body is allowed to be placed in the ground. Instead everything proceeded peacefully! We are so thankful for the gospel which continues to change lives.

We married off one of our “kids” several weeks ago. Hubertine came to us under difficult circumstances 3 ½ years ago, and has lived in an apartment at our house since then. Ben her new husband was saved in our son’s church in the south and came up here to attend our Bible Institute. He was casually “wife hunting”, and he found a jewel in Hubertine! Their wedding before unsaved family was a testimony to what Christ has done in their lives.

A pesky pidgin has been coming through the air block of the Lome II church and attempting to build a nest at the top of one of the 3 ceiling fans. During a recent service the bird kept attempting to enter the building but hesitated, stopped by the motion of the 3 fans. Finally he gathered courage and tried his luck at arriving at his burgeoning nest. Just as Bienvenu was making a particularly strong point in his message we heard a big thud as bird met blade. Feathers and bird rained down on those in the execution zone and were disbursed all over the building by the 3 ceiling fans. The amazing thing is that people stood up, brushed off, sat down, and Bienvenu continued preaching!

Togo is again experiencing deep upheaval in the political realm leading to great unrest. Communication services are frequently interrupted due to this. Please pray for our country that a peaceful solution would be found, and that we can continue to be a part of spreading the gospel among this needy people.

Your missionaries in Togo,

Randy and Jeanette Alderman