



Joshua and Julie Mead

August 2018

The Sahara Initiative

In our last prayer letter, we mentioned the relaunching of a BIMI project called "The Sahara Initiative." Almost half a century ago the former African Director began a focus on the needs and opportunities in North Africa. Many missionaries surrendered to go to North Africa and establish churches and gospel preaching centers throughout the Sahara as a direct result of this initiative. My family and I have the privilege of continuing the work that some of those missionaries pioneered. But now, sad to say, there are no more BIMI missionaries in North Africa.

The purpose of the relaunching of the Sahara Initiative is threefold. The first initiative is to **raise awareness of the opportunities** for missionary service in North Africa. We are specifically praying that the Lord will call 12 individuals or families to serve in this region of the world. The second initiative is to **help prepare those who surrender** to go for effective, long-term service. We will be launching a missionary internship program that will base out of our country of Senegal. Missionary candidates will have an opportunity to prepare for the mission field for an extended period of time. The third initiative is to **strategically partner** with missionaries and nationals to not only continue the existing works throughout North Africa but to **pioneer into unreached regions**.

My family and I will be in the States until the end of November. I had the privilege to preach a revival meeting in Kentucky recently where we saw 9 saved and 6 follow the Lord in baptism. Pray as we visit Bible colleges and churches to promote The Sahara Initiative.

African Baptist Church

Pastor Malick Diop and his wife have been doing a tremendous job continuing the work in our absence. Please continue to pray as they minister to the church and community through the various outreach ministries. Malick reported that they have had several visitors and many coming to the Friday night film night. Pray that God will continue to work the hearts of those who are coming to our Center seeking truth.

