

Alderman Lifeline

Togo, West Africa



Dear Praying Friends,

April, 2022

Gospel films are a great way to draw a crowd to hear a message that they would not ordinarily listen to. We had planned a weekend evangelistic outreach with film-showings at the church plant at Tchintchinda in March, but showers coming in the dry season surprised us both nights and rained us out. Members from three other churches had helped us invite those in the neighborhood to attend. When we could not show the films, Pastor Henock as well as those who had participated in the door to-door- invitations were very discouraged. We were, however, successful in showing the films the following weekend, and several people accepted Christ as Savior. As a result there is also an encouraging increase in people coming to the Sunday services.

We traveled to the village of Mewede for Easter services, and also the very first Christian wedding held in this predominantly Muslim village. A great number of people spilled out of their homes to come to see Germain, one of the Bible Institute students, marry Benjamine, who was saved in the church-plant we have in this village. As the bride exited the door of her home, neighbors who had known her since childhood cheered and also insisted on decorating my truck that would bring her to the palm-thatch covering the church had constructed for the wedding. Benjamine made the most of her special day taking 20 minutes to walk from the truck to the front of the structure where we held the ceremony. Many unsaved family members, visitors, as well as special village leaders were in attendance and heard the gospel presentation that Pastor Abalo gave. We began at 9am and finished at 2pm, about the normal time for a wedding here in Togo.

Every 3-4 months we hold a pastor's fellowship with the goal of encouraging those who work in especially isolated regions of the country. During the last one the pastors also made plans for upcoming regional Bible conferences. Transportation in and out of remote areas is difficult and expensive, so having these conferences regionally allows for more church members to participate.

Over Easter, congregations in central Togo were able to join together for a special time of worship in two different locations, Blitta and Lama-Tessi. Pastors Abalo and Emmanuel each faithfully serve 3-4 churches in this region.

Recently Pastor Philippe and I were sitting together examining potential candidates for an upcoming baptism. As we were asking questions to confirm that all understood the significance of baptism and were truly saved, I noticed that those young people who had come up through our children's church ministry answered confidently without hesitation, indeed, much better than the adult candidates. This was again a reminder of the importance of a strong children's ministry in church planting.

Thank you for your prayers as we continue to serve God here in Togo.

Because of Him,
Randy and Jeanette Alderman

