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Goals:
Evangelism
Discipleship
Church Planting

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you Matthew 28:19,20

Sent by: Bethel Baptist Church 434 Wilson Park Dr. West Carrollton, OH 45449 Pastor Jim Shihady (937) 859-4713

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January-February Prayer Letter

Victory! I enjoy singing the song "Victory in Jesus" as it reminds of the spiritual victory we have through Jesus Christ. Spiritual victory is definitely the most important, but it is also nice to be a part of a sports victory. Ivory Coast hosted a big soccer tournament (The African Cup of Nations) during the months of January and February. As we are currently serving here in the capital city of the Ivory Coast, we were able to experience the culture and their love of soccer. It was fun to participate in the national pride and celebrations of the country we now call home. As my sports teams back in the states don't win much, it was also nice that my team finally won something as Ivory Coast finished first and became champions. We enjoyed the sports victory, but we were also able to invest in the spiritual side as we went to the stadium to pass out tracts to the crowds of people in the area. I was able to have two conversations in particular where I was able to clearly share the gospel, and I am praying that those conversations and the many tracts which were given will impact hearts and yield spiritual victories.

Other spiritual investments these past couple months include the continued Bible studies at the literacy and basketball center. It was a particular blessing to me and the students to have some guest speakers at the literacy center. First, some of our colleagues' family were visiting and were able to share their testimony at the center. Secondly, this week we have a missionary from Quebec teaching at the Bible Institute, and his son was able to come with him. Since he already speaks French, he was able to teach the Bible study for the week. Both of these instances helped reinforce the Biblical principles being taught weekly and were an encouragement to the ministry.

We appreciate your prayers for the ministry over these past two months, and I have some prayer requests for the upcoming months. First, I have the opportunity to visit a friend who is a pastor in Togo. We are working on some dates for when I can take the short trip over to visit and minister in his church. Please pray that the trip goes smoothly, and that I could be a blessing to him and his church family.

Secondly, please pray for the country of Mali. As you know and as our letterhead indicates, our goal is to minister in the country of Mali. As we have been serving our first term with the Mach family here in the Ivory Coast, Mali has been going through some changes. The military arrested the president and took over the government. They have forced out the UN troops and European forces which were helping them combat terrorism. They then invited in the Russian military Wagner group. They are also making changes to the constitution among many other things. Please pray the door would remain open to minister in this country.

It has been encouraging to receive emails from several churches hearing how the Lord is using you in your area of the world, and we are grateful to be your representatives in this area of the world. May the gospel be spread as we continue serving the Lord together.

-Josh, Alyssa, Adelynn, and Judah Clay