

Praise International

Providing a *Lifeline* to National Pastors in Poverty-Stricken Countries

September 2013

Dear Praise friend,

We are grateful for your support of this **ministry to national pastors**. Your partnership enables Praise International to encourage and facilitate the ministries of so many national pastors. Consider the impact that these pastors have on hundreds, maybe even thousands of people for the gospel of Jesus-Christ. We play a role in this!

On **November 9 to 24** Praise International is taking a Mission Team to Cote d'Ivoire to visit our pastors and to help the evangelical church finish an urgently needed medical dispensary. **The evangelical church is making a big impact!** God has orchestrated this! Kandee and I saw this first hand in October 2011.



Praise International sponsors about 20 pastors in this region. These pastors are able to better provide for their families and **serve more effectively as pastors and church-planters**. Their churches, which are steadily growing numerically and spiritually, have become a more visible and vital part of their communities.

After years of devastating civil war (approx. 2002-2011), particularly in this region, so many villagers had been killed. **Many were left homeless, widowed or orphaned**. Because the evangelical church had such a good reputation, village chiefs looked to the church for relief. Praise International played a key role in the churches' ability to respond.

When Kandee & I arrived on the scene, **the villages were in desperate need of a medical facility. There was nothing, NOTHING AT ALL for miles!** Since transportation by foot is the modus

We met so many beautiful families in the villages. There are always many children & extended family. The children and elderly are the most vulnerable to infections and diseases.

operandi, receiving proper medical care is impossible. Village leaders have solicited the church non-stop for help. On numerous occasions village chiefs met with us to tell us how urgent this need was. **At a special meeting with the church leaders, we discussed this and prayed for God's intervention.** The very next day a member of the church offered a vacant building, that he owned, to be used as a medical dispensary!

Church members began renovations on this old building but, running out of resources, the work eventually came to a halt. That's when Joseph Oulai, Director of Praise International West Africa, asked me if we could bring a work team to help them finish this **tragically needed dispensary**.



I squatted down to say hi to this little girl. With her runny nose and sad face, she looked straight at me with those innocent eyes. It gave me pause. A sober thought entered my mind, "Will this girl survive childhood?"



This is Pastor Alexandre and Sylviane Gueu. Their little boy died of anemia right before Christmas. Their second child, safe in his mommy's loving arms, also has anemia and will not survive, if there is no medical facility.

It is tragic! I feel strongly that God wants to use Praise in this way. In December, the 6-year-old son of one of our Praise pastors died of anemia, due to no medical care facility in proximity. His little brother also has anemia and will die the same death, unless there is a dispensary. One of our own pastors died of Malaria in February. Another pastor's wife recently came very close to dying of malaria.

Infectious diseases, infant mortality, childhood sicknesses, age-related illnesses, all of these could be properly treated, if this region had its own dispensary. They need a medical facility! It's "indispensable"!

On **November 9 to 24**, our Mission Team will help them finish this dispensary! We will work alongside local pastors, church members and other villagers. For this to be successful, we need your fervent prayer. There will also be

evening evangelistic meetings. This is so appropriate. **Helping them build a hospital for their physical weaknesses is necessary, but many need spiritual healing, a touch from the Great Physician's hand.** Please pray that many are touched by God's Compassion! Even village leaders!

Would you pray with us that God provides the funds necessary to make this mission project happen?

- 1. Building Materials \$10,000**
- 2. Trip admin/ministry costs \$3,000**
- 3. Video Projector (for evangelistic films) \$600**

Would you consider making a donation at this time? I can't think of a better moment or a better reason to give. It is safe to say that your gift to this medical facility project, be it \$10, \$100 or \$1000, will help save the life of **a villager, a child, an elderly person or maybe a pastor** serving the Lord in the region of Dakoupleu!

If God leads you or other individuals to make a donation, please use the enclosed donation envelope and designate it: Africa Trip. Make checks payable to **Praise International**. From our website, you may also make donations through PayPal.

If your church is located in the Pacific Northwest, I'd love to come in September and October, set up a table in the foyer and have a couple minutes to share about the ministry of Praise International. If interested, please contact me.

Thanks in advance for your prayers and generous gifts for our Mission Trip to Cote d'Ivoire. Pray that they may see Christ's Compassion on display and make Christ their Lord and Savior.

Sincerely,

Freddie L. Harris, Jr.
Executive Director
Praise International