


August 2009

MISSION

John & Geri's Newsletter

We hope you have been able to follow our blog <http://2digitalpro.com/blog>



“People think God is far away from them. This isn't true.”

DEAR FRIENDS AND MINISTRY SUPPORTERS...

John has posted pictures, videos and comments describing his experiences. For those who haven't been able to read his posts on the blog here is a recap of these events.

In spite of the intense heat and harsh conditions John saw God at work in Burkina Faso, Africa. Translation of the Bible into the Nanerige language has been going on for 20 years and is now nearing completion.

John brought back one story about Maliki Watara, a Nanerige man, who became a Christian as he was helping with this work. One challenging experience was a 1 1/2 hr. trip via motorcycle to Maliki's remote village, where his family is just now learning that God can speak to them through his Word. Maliki says, “People think God is far away from them. This isn't true. God has not left us and gone far away. That's why I translate God's Word into Nanerige, so that everyone else can know that God is speaking to them.” John was moved when the village leader asked them to come live among them and tell them more.

In the midst of corruption and the breakdown of the roads, electricity, schools, and health-care system in DR Congo, God is there. John worked on a story about a Christian Congolese man, Delphin Kapasa, who along with two others, started the Bon Berger health clinic in a slum in the capital city of Kinshasa.

Since its inception the death rate has decreased, young women have been taught sewing skills and hygiene, children are able to go to school, and micro loans have made it possible for them to start small businesses and become self-sufficient. These 3 Congolese men could have chosen to work at higher paying jobs, but felt God calling them to reach out to the people of this slum of 100,000 people. Together Bon Berger (The Good Shepherd) and an MB church are bringing light into an otherwise dark community.



Maliki Watara-translator
Has worked alongside Phil & Carol Bergen, MBMSI Missionaries in Burkina Faso for 17 + years.

FAMILY PICS



Thank you for your continued support and interest in the ministry God has called us to.

We are excited to be on this journey and are touched by how God is working in peoples' hearts around the world.

MBMS International
4867 E. Townsend Ave
Fresno, CA 93727 USA

This summer, while he was working on video projects, John was also planning and overseeing a video project in Paraguay and Brazil, South America.

MBMSI sent a team to do the work (John was able to be here with our family, visiting from Germany). It had its challenges, health being one of them. The videographer was sick for many days and was barely well enough to make the trip home. We had to trust in God's sovereignty since these are His stories.

John is already planning for the projects that he will do in India and Europe this fall. It will most likely be a lengthy trip, but I am planning to join him for some of the work in Europe.

Meanwhile, there are videos to finish for disc 5 and my school job will start on Aug. 17.

We were blessed with wonderful family times this summer.

Stephan, Amy and little Joshua (14 mths.) were able to come from Germany and be with us for 5 "short" weeks.

They were filled with wedding events, a week in the mountains, Joshua's 1st time at the beach, visits with our kids from down south and visits with extended family and friends.

While they were here Stephan also tried to work on his PhD thesis. He hopes to finish by Sept. 2010. We had so much fun watching Joshua learn to walk. We miss his hugs and laughter.

July 21st we got a call from John-Mark that their baby was coming 10 days early. We dropped everything to be down there when Jude Elliot was born. He joins big sister, Gabriella, who turned 3 the next day. Even Aaron was able to join us. They are all doing well and adjusting to life as a family of four. Ella loves her little brother.

Aaron went on a trip to Zambia, Africa this summer with Luv 'em Up Ministries. They participated in evangelistic meetings and outreaches as well as visiting orphanages and the poor. Aaron even took a turn at preaching. They saw God at work, bringing many Zambians to himself. Along with Luv 'em Up Ministries he works in a restaurant in Julian and is involved in his church.

John and Geri



Support Needs:

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