



Cameroon Report

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Church of Christ, Nso'
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Dear Brethren,

WONDERFUL NEWS! In so many ways, the Lord is showing that HE is in charge of the Universe! So many great things have happened in the last 6 months, it is impossible to give them all in one page. However, there are two that are Greater than others: First, today, May 23rd, we are resuming our Annual Scholarship Lectureship at Kumbo Christian Bible School, Nso'. This has been funded by a congregation in Memphis, and they have made it possible for us to plan to have it every year. We are expecting over 500 people to arrive, for 3½ days of meatier lessons. This is not an evangelistic lectureship like the annual one held in a different place every November, but is in between them and should have representatives from more than half of the congregations in the country. Lots of plans and work have gone into getting ready for printed matter, housing, speaker systems, eating, transportation, etc.

Secondly, we have finally, after a delay of 3 years, been told that the Nwa' Nyuy, the complete Bible in Lamnso', has been printed and is in the ship on the way to Cameroon! Lamnso' is the largest dialect in the English-speaking section of Cameroon. This is the first Old Testament translation undertaken by the Cameroon Bible Translation Association, and the first O.T. translated into one of the 253 dialects in Cameroon in over 100 years. On November 19th, we will have the Launching/Dedication ceremony for this Bible. I am spearheading the Planning and Preparation. We have over 100 representatives from the Church, and several denominations also, on the 12 committees. Our ambitious plan is to have 25,000 in attendance in the municipal stadium, including schools where they have been teaching Lamnso', and to feed 10,000 guests that day! Involving all the religious groups, our optimistic budget is \$30,000 for the occasion, so we have lots to do. Janet and I hope to have every arrangement in place before we go on leave on July 28th. Our next big meeting, for reports and budgets, is June 4th.

The Bible School had a graduation ceremony on March 15th. We graduated 6 students, some with Third-Year Diplomas, and some with regular diplomas. Our regular School runs from September 1st to March 15th, two terms, (6 in all) so students can go home and plant. Then they work with their congregations for 5½ months, keeping their farms and businesses going. We have four French-speaking students right now; in fact, we have graduates from 6 countries. Most of our graduates are back at home, supporting themselves. We will have Advanced Courses starting on June 5th. Four summers are necessary to obtain a Third-Year Diploma. I am teaching Greek Word Studies, and Composition & Writing Skills this year. We anticipate having from 10 to 15 students during this two-month session.

During this dry season (beginning of November to the end of April) our four TEAMS have been preaching in 8 villages once or twice every week. We leave after Chapel on Friday (around 10:30) and come back by 8:00 a.m. Monday, resuming classes by 9:00 a.m. No days off after October! One TEAM worked where there was a congregation already and has had 7 baptisms. Two of the other TEAMS have started congregations and have had 16 baptisms already. I need you to pray for these prospects, please, by name: Ernestine, Mariana, Jonah, Johnson, Esther, Celine, Christopher, Ernest, and Marie.

So, keeping busy with (1) Bible School and Advanced Courses, (2) the Annual Scholarship Lectureship, (3) Preparations for the Bible Dedication, (4) Public Bible Lectures/ Church-planting, and (5) taking care of the 70 congregations we have started in this area, we also have to make plans to visit the States, to report and raise funds. We hope to see most of you in the Fall, up to early Spring. We will need to buy 5,000 Bibles, but we are also appealing to you for used songbooks and used eyeglasses. So look out for more news as we get ready to visit you.

In His service,

Paul

JOTS from JANET

Dear Brothers and Sisters and Friends,

My husband informs me that it has been almost a year since I have written my Jots. So I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you who have prayed for my family and my sister, Margie, during the cancer illness and her passing last August. I was able to get back to the States about three weeks before she passed away, so I could also help to care for her. A HUGE thank you to the Bartlett Woods Church of Christ for my transportation to and from the States for this sorrowful event in my life.

This congregation, Bartlett Woods, in Memphis, has also provided most of the necessary funds for the Annual Bible School Scholarship Lectureship. The congregation at Nkavikeng invited the surrounding congregations to come and take part in a clean up work day. We had about 30 people to come and scrub walls (to get rid of dry season dust), wash the windows, blackboards washed and painted, scrub benches and floors. There was debris from the construction, including cement dust and pieces of broken cement, broken wood, nails. The outside of the building was also picked free of these things, as well as digging out the dirt gutter on the entrance and road that runs in front of the premises. I know one pick-up truck load of dirt was carried away, maybe two. All the floors on the three levels were washed by using floor rags (no such thing as a mop here), and carrying water from a drum. When the water in the drum was depleted, water had to be carried from a nearby stream. Most workers left by 2:00, when I went with a driver about 8 kilometers out of town to the small airplane runway (air strip) to take 5 metal drums I had already bought. By 5:30 I had stencil painted "Church of Christ" on them. These will be used for collecting water for people to take a bath with, and any other necessities, like flushing the toilets. Other water will be available in 10 covered buckets and gallons for drinking, which I also stenciled. This is so they won't "get missing." I am chairman of the Logistics committee which oversees these necessities. My committee will meet and work at 7 a.m. every morning of the four days of the lectureship, to sweep and make sure everything is in its place. If some men sleep downstairs, mattresses will have to be stored in a secure room for the day. There will also be 5 other places where visitors will be sleeping. Mattresses and water and security will also be provided for these places.

Please pray for the success of this special effort. We will be back in the States before long, and we will see many of you this Fall, and through the Winter, into early Spring. We will be collecting used eyeglasses again this time, along with used songbooks, so keep us in mind. Reporting and fund raising is a lot of travel and work, but we are blessed by getting to see many of you again.

In Christian love,

Janet M. Kie

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