
Watchi Harvest Fields Work Report ~ July-September 2005

Murphy, Christine, Stephen and Matthew Crowson

Work Activities

Week 1 – July 1-6

- Visited Sendome Christians. Talked about the past few months and prayed together.
- Worship with Adabgbe Cluster. I encouraged them and their walk with Jesus and greeted them from churches and friends in the States (including the Bunners).
- Happy Birthday to Murphy!
- Office work: read “Spiritual Power and Missons.” Prayer time and Bible study. Also began reading “Mighty Prevailing Prayer,” still having computer problems. Shopped and ordered parts online to repair computer. Works reports.
- Met with Adangbe leaders and discussed with the the selection of their regional committee and also their selection of the Organizational committee members.
- Men's/Women's prayer and business meetings.

Week 2 – July 10-16

- Worshipped with Batoe. I taught a lesson on Psalm 32: Confessing our sins.
- Prepared for survey trip to Mali: email, working fund report, medicines, packing, getting car ready, fixed a flat tire and other household preparation.
- Left for Mali to survey the Dogon people. Drove to Kara. The car broke down again but I made it to Kara. The problem couldn't be fixed so we left the car in Kara and took Don Neal's vehicle.
- Three day drive to Mali. Then we began on survey.

Week 3 – July 17-23

- Worshipped with the Eglise Evangelique in Koro, Mali. After church we continued interviewing people and visiting with Dogon pastors and Christians.
- Visited Bandiagara region and did a logistical survey of that town as a potential place for a mission team to live. Looked at housing, visited the mayors office, visited the market, met with pastors and Christians, etc.
- Went on to Severe and continued our logistical research as well as enjoyed a night in a nice hotel. Visited Mopti too!
- Then returned to Ouaga, Burkina Faso. Then took the interns to Nazinga game park. Then headed back to Kara arriving Saturday night.

Week 4 – July 24-30

- Stayed home Sunday morning to rest (I was exhausted). I also had a passionate and emotional prayer time with the Lord concerning my vehicle. After much prayer I decided to go ahead and drive it down to Tabligbo (hoping it would make the trip). I couldn't find a mechanic to fix the problem in Kara. Praise God, I had a safe trip home and the car made it!
- Setup/rebuilt a computer.
- Men's/Women's prayer and business meetings.
- Traveled to Benin border to get car paper work renewed.
- Traveled to Lomé to pick up a mechanic that I had come over from Accra to look at the car. He said that I would have to take the car to Accra to get it fixed. Celebrated Ellianna's birthday with the team!

Week 5 – July 31 - August 6

- Worship @ home. Still no car.
- We prayed and God guided us to a good mechanic in Lomé. I took the car to Lomé and left it with him to diagnose the problem.
- Men's/Women's prayer and business meetings.
- While in Lomé with another team vehicle, I had car troubles again. We fixed the brakes and changed a belt.
- Spent Saturday resting and praying after a difficult emotional and stressful week.

Week 6 – August 7-13

- Worshipped with Sendome. I taught a lesson on prayer from Luke 11.

- Office work: web site development/updating, email, lesson preparation.
- Lomé trip to see the vehicle again. Found out that we would have to replace the engine. At this time we were considering buying a second vehicle as a backup. We shopped around a while trying to find a legitimate place to find a used vehicle. We also gave Simon over \$2,000 to buy the new engine in Accra, Ghana and to get it brought to Togo.
- Continued to prepare for the Rwanda trip through books and videos.
- Watchi Annual All-Church Conference. 1 day with the leaders and three days with the rest of the churches. Spent four nights in the village of Dagbati. I taught part of the leadership meeting along with my teammates.

Week 7 – August 14-20

- Worshipped with all the churches at the conference in Dagbati. Returned home in the afternoon exhausted!!!
- Rested on Monday.
- Tuesday I picked up the vehicle in Lomé.
- Took the car to Lokossa, Benin for annual inspection and renewal of car papers.
- Men's/Women's prayer and business meetings.
- Worked on school computers getting them ready for the new school year. Organized the computer equipment at the school and set everything up.

Week 8 – August 21-27

- Worshipped with the Adidokpo church. I taught a lesson loving our neighbor as ourselves and taking up our cross and following Jesus.
- Went to have a meeting with Sendome church but the meeting was canceled. They forgot about the meeting and had scheduled something else.
- Meeting with Batoe leaders: prayed for a long time and went over their assignments from previous meetings.
- Morning meeting with Kpeve: prayed for a long time and went over their assignments from previous meetings.
- Afternoon meeting with Didokpo: prayed for a long time and went over their assignments from previous meetings.
- Men's/Women's prayer and business meetings.
- Morning meeting with Kptonou: prayed for a long time and went over their assignments from previous meetings.
- Saturday morning spent in prayer and Bible study.

Week 9 – August 28-September 3

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Week 10 – September 5-11

- Worshipped with the Ahepe church. I taught my lesson on prayer from James. Effective prayer requires faith, good motives and righteous living.
- Office work: Tabligbo Times, website, planned Train & Multiple lessons for the next three months.
- Had to repair the front grill and luggage rack on my vehicle.
- Train & Multiply meetings with the Kpeve and Adidokpo elders, and the Batoe and Kptonou leaders. I took Late, a Christian who is working with the churches to help develop their agricultural skills, to Kpeve and Adidokpo. He spent the whole day planning and discussing their upcoming work together.
- I couldn't get to Batoe on Thursday because a huge semi truck was stuck in the mud on the road there and I couldn't get around it. I waited for about an hour hoping they would get it out but then gave up and returned home.
- Men's/Women's prayer and business meetings.

Week 11 – September 12-18

- Worshipped with the Adakonou Kope church in the Atitogon area. I again taught a lesson on prayer from James. Effective Prayer requires faith, good motives and righteous living.
- Train & Multiply meetings with the Kpeve and Adidokpo elders, and the Batoe and Kptonou leaders. I continued the lesson on how to study the Bible in the Kpeve, Adidokpo and Kptonou areas. Wednesday was one of my best days so far in the Adangbe area. I praise God for these leaders and how He's using them to accomplish His purposes.
- I couldn't hold the Batoe meeting because there were some people that wanted to be baptized. I can't think of a better reason to cancel a meeting☺ This was an incredible week! There were five baptisms in the Sedome cluster; three new Christians in the Sedome church and two new Christians in the Batoe church. The angels have been rejoicing all night because these lost souls have been found. Of the three in Sedome who were baptized, one was a Huno, a voodoo priestess, who discovered that God is the one true God. She had an illness and spent almost three year's worth of wages on sacrifices to the voodoo gods to find healing but found none. She finally went to some Christians. They prayed for her and God healed her. For the last month she's been studying with Denni, the leader from the Sedome church, and yesterday she gave her life completely to Jesus!

- Antoine, another person added to the Kingdom from Sedome, was a "wife" of a god. I know it's hard to imagine a man being a "wife" of a god. I'm still confused about that. But we are the bride of Christ, so I guess that a man can be a "wife" of a voodoo god. Anyway, he had dedicated his life to serving a particular god. But about a month ago he showed up at church and said he was fed up with worshipping the idols who have no power and he wanted to worship the living God. Again, he studied with Denni and yesterday gave his life to Jesus.
- Ton, another man from Sedome, has been studying with Denni for almost six months. He and his wife have suffered tragedy after tragedy as several of their children have died after childbirth. This past spring his wife became a Christian while she was expecting another child. We prayed fervently for her, that the Lord would bless this child with life. Sadly, this child also died shortly after childbirth. Obviously this was discouraging to her and to her husband who was studying about God with Denni. Ton also struggles with alcoholism. But in spite of their hardships, yesterday he put his faith in Jesus and became a "new man" in Christ.
- The two people from Batoe were both in Komlavi's family. One was his son, Elom, and the other his sister-in-law, Tanti. We praise God for He is certainly working to seek and save the lost! Keep on praying for God's Word to spread, He is listening and He is answering!
- We also celebrated Matthew's 4th birthday this week!

Week 12 – September 19-25

- Worshipped with the Batoe church. Christine was sick, so the boys and I went. I taught a lesson from the Sermon on the Mount. Jesus tells us to love our enemies and pray for those who persecute us.
- Train and Multiply meetings in Kpeve, Adidokpo, Sedome and Kptonou. This week's lesson in Kpeve and Adidokpo was on giving. How are lives are to be filled with joyful service and giving. Freely we have received, freely we give. We also talked about the church collection, how to keep good records and also how to be accountable to the church.
- The Batoe meeting was rained out and the Kptonou meeting didn't go because no all of the leaders came.
- I also visited with a man named Michelle who I hadn't seen in six months. His wife went to stay with her deathly ill father six months ago. Thanks be to God, her father recovered and is now doing well. However, his wife never came home and all of his attempts to go and bring her home have failed. They have seven children and she left him with six and took one. His heart is breaking and he doesn't know what to do. I prayed with him and we made a plan together that he would take a Christian brother with him this next week to see her again and try find out what is going on in her mind, why she hasn't returned and what they can do to reconcile their marriage.
- Men's/Women's prayer and business meetings.
- Office work: I reformatted the Tabligbo Times and also began sending out the Times in plain text format for those without html email. I also spent a significant amount of time learning Macromedia Flash for website development.
- Christine taught a lesson on "Loving your enemies" to the Atitogon Christian women at their monthly women's meeting.

Week 13 – September 26-30

- Worshipped with the Kptonou church. I taught a lesson sexual purity and living righteous lives so that we can be useful tools in the Kingdom for the Lord. I was encouraged by this church. Although they're remotely isolated, they continue on in their faith and have several strong families who desire to serve the Lord with all of their hearts.
- Train and Multiply meetings in Kpeve, Adidokpo, Sedome and Kptonou. In Kpeve and Adidokpo I taught a lesson on "Organizing the Body of Christ." The five steps of a church. Beginning conversions, choosing leaders, working together to grow in Christ and evangelize, good discipline and recognizing and using God's gifts of each Christian to build up the body of Christ. I finished teaching on the first two steps and will finish the last three next week.
- Batoe meetings were rained out. We had a lot of rain this week and the road was simply impassable!
- I also met with Michelle, a Christian man from the Kpeve area again to hear a report about his recent efforts to bring his wife home. She refused to come home and it looks like she has permanently left him.
- I also heard word that the Koleve and Agbeku churches are going to start up again. These churches had a hard time during the rainy season and stopped meeting. But there are still some faithful Christians who have realized their lack of faith and want to continue on worshipping the Lord. I pray that this will happen.