

# IVORY COAST CHRISTIAN MISSION

Bob & Connie Sheffler

sponsors of:

**Christian Leadership Training Institute**

and

**Grassroots Leadership Development**

**SHEFFLER UPDATE - AUGUST 2011**

Hello friends and supporters,

**Christian Leadership Training Institute**

**Visit Our New Web Site**

**The Christian Leadership Training Institute has a new web site.** Recently their contract with the I.T. company which designs and hosts the Institute's web site was up for renewal. Stephen asked if I could design a new web site and arrange for the hosting so that we would have easier access to update it and also save money. Last winter I designed a web site for **Grassroots Leadership Development**, and I was able to find a host for less than \$5.00 a month.

**Visit the new web site at the same address: [cltigh.org](http://cltigh.org).** Some pages are not completed and there is more information to be put on some of the pages. However, it is about 85% complete.

## **NIGER**

This is not Nigeria, but the country of Niger. **Niger is located north of Ghana and Nigeria.** Their national language is French since they were once a colony of France. The country is in the sub-Sahara region of Africa and is land-locked. Foreign supplies must come by air or over land through other nations.

Last month, Stephen flew to the capital city of Niamey. **Stephen held a training seminar on the T.E.E. method of the Institute for the leaders of churches started by Kwame.** Kwame is a Ghanaian church planter sent to Niger by Christian Church missionaries. Six churches have been planted so far. Kwame has trained local leaders to pastor the new churches.

They are **starting a T.E.E. program under the supervision of the Institute to train elders, deacons, deaconess, and other leaders for the new churches.** The classes will be conducted in French. Most of our courses are translated into French and are ready to print. One result of the T.E.E. training will be more local leaders to start new churches.

**The leaders were very eager to learn and anxious to use the techniques** Stephen taught them concerning leadership development. They were most excited about the technique of using questions to stimulate discussion in a way that will enable leaders to take action.

## **IVORY COAST**

Roujee Morris reports that students have not returned for classes because security is still a problem in the capital city of Abidjan. Food is available, but it and everything else are expensive. ***"Many churches are still closed and many Ivorians are not going to church again. The churches got involved in politics; hence, they were targeted and their image tarnished. There were many false prophets, so many Ivorians are now disillusioned [with the church]."***

## **ANNUAL BOARD MEETING**

The annual board meeting of the Christian Leadership Training Institute will be held on September 10 at the Central Office near Accra, Ghana. Wayne Meece and I will be there along with the supervisors from all four countries. **We will hear financial and activity reports, review goals, approve budgets and make decisions about the future of the Institute.**

I will be in Ghana for about a week. During that time **I will meet with some of those whom I trained last year in creative writing.** I will look over their compositions and give advice for improvements. I will

**meet with two church planters** who receive support through Ivory Coast Christian Mission.

I will also **install a new engine on the lawn tractor** used to cut the grass on the compound. I will take the engine on the airplane as a piece of baggage. I had to remove some of its parts and put them in my suitcase so the box would not be overweight. It is not an exact replacement so we may have to do some fabrication to make it work.

## **ABOUT BOB**

**I keep busy with preparations for travels to India and the Philippines next year.** I am preparing teaching videos and programmed instruction materials that can be used to train leaders in the method of leadership development that we set up in western Africa. The materials can be used by those whom I train in order to train others.

**Connie badly sprained her right ankle about four weeks ago.** Her recovery is slow and may take another three or four weeks. It is hard for her to sit around with her leg up while others are busy doing things. Crutches slow her down, but she is learning to use them as tools to get thing done. She has used the time to catch up on reading, etc., but looks forward to normal activities.

**My back continues to be a problem.** An injection has reduced the pain, but not fully taken it away. I am limiting my physical activities hoping it does not get worse before I travel to Ghana. I am also meeting with a neurosurgeon to determine if there can be a safe surgical solution to the problem. In the mean time, I focus on office work, but would love to be outside working in the yard or doing something physical.

## **PRAISE AND PRAYER REQUESTS:**

1. Thank God for the successful training given by Stephen in Niger.
2. Thank God for relative peace in the nation of Ivory Coast.
3. Pray for a successful annual board meeting for the Institute on September 10.

**4. Pray for safe travels for the board members who are coming from five different nations.**

**5. Pray for the success of the new T.E.E. program being set up in Niger.**

**6. Pray that the new web site for the Institute will encourage more churches to train their leaders using our T.E.E. courses and other resources we have for leadership development.**

**7. Pray that there will be a good solution for Bob's back problem.**