

Equipping Leaders to Train More Leaders



IVORY COAST CHRISTIAN MISSION

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Christian Leadership Training Institute (west Africa)

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SHEFFLER UPDATE - OCTOBER 2022

NATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY – NIGERIA

The theme of National Women's Day on October 9 was "A Garment of Praise." It was celebrated in each congregation. Participation was massive and encouraging. Pray for the annual church conference scheduled for November 11-13. It will be held regionally instead of at one location.

FOUR NEW TEE CLASSES – GHANA

The supervisor for TEE in Ghana reports that during October four new classes were started in the Borae, Chinderi and Glubi areas. Also leaders in the Glubi area and at Jato Akura were given training in Discipleship and Church Multiplication.

PRAISE GOD FOR THE KINTAMPO CHURCH PLANT

Kintampo is a typical rural district capital (county seat) except for one thing.



It is the home of the College of Health and Well Being which is being upgraded to a University. The college was established in 1969 to develop human resources capable of promoting health services that are simple, broad in scope, affordable and of high quality. It is the only

college of its type in Ghana. It began with two certificate courses. Today it offers Diploma and BS degrees in fifteen medical vocations such as physician assistant, dental assistant, disease control and community health. Its motto is *Education for Service*.

The upgrading of the college to university standards has brought growth and investment into the college and into the community.



This makes the church plant at Kintampo very important. Numerical growth brings more opportunities to win souls. University growth brings converts from the educated upper class. These

converts bring financial and leadership resources to build a strong congregation which can evangelize the Kintampo District. Pray that we can soon put the roof on the new church building. Pray for Daniel Marley as he evangelizes Kintampo and the college/university.

SOME THOUGHTS ABOUT INFLATION AND MISSION WORK

Sometimes I am asked for the cost of a project or a need on the mission field. Recently this has been a moving target for several reasons. I got a quote from Daniel Marley on the cost of steel rafters for the church building at Kintampo. The price was in Ghana cedies – the local currency. The price was good, but it was only good for one week. Unfortunately we did not have the funds. Also, by the time we got the funds transferred to Ghana, the price in cedies would have increased.

Another moving target is the exchange rate between US dollars and the Ghana cedi. When I was in Ghana in September, the exchange rate was 10 cedies for one US dollar. I checked the internet today and the international rate is 13 cedies for one US dollars. I have no idea what rate the receiving bank in Ghana will give our next wire transfer. You would think the increase in cedies for our dollars would be to our advantage. However, the cost of imported goods, such as steel, also increases to keep up with inflation and the devaluation of their currency on the world market.

We base the salaries of our workers in Ghana on the US dollar, not the local currency. We hope the exchange rate of cedies for US dollars will keep up with the inflation rate in the country. However, all indications are that it does not. This means that, generally speaking, the cost of doing mission work is also increasing in US dollars.

We have a moving target when we set a budget or give a quote on the cost of a need on the field. **With high inflation both here and there, we never know where the actual cost will land.** The African workers make every effort to be frugal and still keep the work going. Next month, December, we need to pay advance rent for the Supervisor of TEE in Ghana. He lives in Tamale, a large fast-growing city in the north. He lives there because it is close to his work. The shortest time period that landlords will accept payment for rent in a large city is one year in advance. Most want two years paid in advance.

PRAISE AND PRAYER REQUESTS

1. Thank God for those who want to be trained for leadership in the Lord's work.
2. Thank God for the financial resources to do the Lord's work in Africa.
3. Ask God to bless Daniel Marley and the leaders of the Kintampo church as they evangelize and train disciples for Jesus.
4. Ask God to enable the roof to be put on the church building at Kintampo.
5. Ask God to provide funds to pay the advance rent for the Supervisor of Ghana.
6. Ask God to keep us strong as we struggle with inflation here and on the mission field.
7. I will be seventy-seven years old this month (November). Ask God to send someone to replace me in this work. We need a forwarding agent who can raise funds and visit the field once a year.