

STEPHEN & JULIE KNICKERBOCKER BURKINA FASO

June 2015

Dear Pastors, supporting churches and praying friends,

Preparing To Leave

It is not until you get ready to leave for a couple of months that you realize how much is going on. We had to make sure to arrange the surveillance schedule for our guards during our absence so that no one gets tempted to plunder our property. Paying our water and electric bills in advance is important if we want to have them running when we return in August, unless they are already cut by the city for conservation reasons. Several of our ongoing Bible Studies had to be interrupted during our absence and we informed the Local Church we are involved in that, as we are leaving for a bit, we can no longer attend to the responsibilities that were handed to us.

What Are We Doing Here?

The Lord has given safety as we traveled by plane back to the USA for a few months. The first few days, we experienced minor reverse culture shock due to the abundance of things and wealth that surrounded us everywhere we went. I asked myself several times "what are we doing here? We are supposed to be in our place of service doing the Bible Studies with the contacts that God has given us." I cannot stop thinking of several young men with whom we were working out our schedules to start Bible Studies. There are so many exciting things taking place in Burkina Faso that it felt premature to leave at this specific time; however, my dear brother Jeremy is getting married on July 11th and we are thrilled to see God working in his and his fiancé's life. As you can imagine, there are a lot of mixed emotions that have accompanied this trip, but we are thankful to have been able to spend time with friends and family thus far, to have visited our home church and Pastor, and to have met our newest niece, Sophia.

"Take Marc..."

The Lord allowed us the opportunity to visit a few churches to give a report of our first year in Burkina Faso. It has been a joy to have my youngest brother, Marc, traveling with us for about 4 weeks. I have been encouraged with our fellowship and by hearing of his testimony for the Lord. It is a privilege for Julie and I to spend time with him as he is at a major crossroad of his life with big decisions to be made. During our time in the USA, we arranged a time when I could get my four wisdom teeth taken out. I praise the Lord that the bruising was minimal and the healing fairly rapid. I am extremely thankful to my wife who has taken good care of me during this painful experience.

Thank you for your prayers, encouragement, and partnership in the work of the Lord. Looking unto Jesus,

Stephen & Julie Knickerbocker

"Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it"

1 Thessalonians 5:24

Prayer Requests

- Continued health
- Moré learning
- Faithful church attendance of our contacts during our absence.
- Bible studies with: Victor, Paul, Edgard, Ali, Francis and Christophe
- Stable jobs for Aimer, Ali and David
- Our short trip to the USA on June 15th- August 7th.
- Complete healing from wisdom teeth removal
- That we would be a blessing to churches as we report
- Wedding of Jeremy and Emilie on the 11th of July.
- My brother, Marc, as he will be making important decisions in his life.

Praises

- 1 new bible study started
- Time we can spend with Marc
- Fellowship with supporting Churches as we give reports
- We presented our ministry in a new Church.
- Our favorable testimony in the community

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Birthdays

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