

# STEPHEN & JULIE KNICKERBOCKER BURKINA FASO

**October 2015**

Dear Pastors, supporting churches and praying friends,

## House to House

There is no secret in getting the Gospel out to the lost. We must go where they are. Our Lord Jesus said to go and preach the Gospel. The world is not going to come to us to hear it; therefore, we must go to them. As we seek to start churches, we have a brilliant idea to be successful in this great task: we are going to do what God's word says! Praise the Lord for His all sufficient Word which is our guide. In addition to the organized soul winning efforts on Saturday mornings with another missionary friend, we are going house to house in our neighborhood with the objectives of presenting the Gospel and inviting folks to follow a Bible study to learn more about God's word. Several people have made a profession of faith and have been attending our Bible studies on Thursday and Sunday evening. As we knock on peoples doors, we find many souls hurting, struggling, and searching for answers. Perhaps, certain folks take refuge in their homes for fear of the unknown. What a joy it has been to see many of these people smile as we share the love of God with them and to see several attend weekly Bible studies faithfully.

## Bible Studies

There are probably many ways to start a church, but as a young missionary couple, we asked ourselves: what should we do? After giving out the Gospel from house to house, we have kept up with the contact information of each individual who demonstrated interest in following a weekly Bible study. Praise God that so far, 16 different people have showed up, 3 of which are brothers who used to follow Islam but have recently put their trust in Christ as their Savior. Of those that attended, six are Catholic, four are Protestant and five are Muslim. One faithful young man said that the reason he keeps coming is because we are teaching directly from the Bible. This is quite a contrast from one of our neighbors, a protestant pastor, who said « the Bible works for certain people, but others need miracles. » What a tragedy that one thinks that the written Word of God is not for all. Sadly, if the local pastor thinks this way, it is no wonder that the people are destitute from God's direction in their lives. One of the recently saved Muslim brothers pulled me aside to talk after one of the evening studies and asked me if his father could also attend the Bible studies with him. « Of course! Invite everyone! » was my reply. It is exciting, not only to teach God's Word, but also to see those who receive it begin to have a desire for their loved ones to hear it as well.

As we hold these Bible studies, our desire is to see our Lord Jesus Christ build His church. We do not want to force anything to start, but long for the Lord to lead us every step of the way. However, as we minister, we are continually asked « Where is your church? » We have let people know that we have begun a Bible study and that eventually, our desire is that a church will be started with those who attend. Let us understand that we are not starting a church; we are workers of the Lord helping Him start His church.

## Education and Scripture

One of our neighbors has started a primary school and is attempting to add grades each year. As we were conversing about spiritual things, he asked me if I would be willing to teach a bible class at his school once a week. He recognized the need to accompany education by teaching biblical principles and accountability to God. This is a tremendous opportunity to make a difference in the next generation. It is also an answer to prayer as we have been desiring for God to open door so we could get into the schools in our area to begin biblical education in the form of a Bible Club or Class. Thank you for your prayers, encouragement, and partnership in the work of the Lord. Looking unto Jesus,



*Stephen & Julie Knickerbocker*

*“And how I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you,  
but have shewed you, and have taught you publicly, and from house to house”*

*Acts 20:20*

## Prayer Requests

- Continued health
- Moré learning
- Bible studies Sunday and Thursday evening
- Stable job for Aimer
- Continued peace in Burkina Faso
- Upcoming presidential elections on November 29th
- Wisdom and direction in starting a church
- National pastor that we can train for the ministry
- New contacts who desire to begin bible studies
- We eventually need to buy land for a church and other projects and need the Lord to open the right doors and to guide us.

## Praises

- 3 muslim brothers professed faith in Christ, among others
- 16 different people have attended our weekly bible studies
- We have an open door to teach the Bible in a local school
- We are enjoying fellowship with the Garcias family and learning from their ministry.
- Continued health!

## Contact Information

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## Sending Church

Temple Baptist Church  
Pastor Clarence Sexton  
1700 W. Beaver Creek Dr.  
Powell, TN 37849  
(865) 938-8182  
[templebaptistchurch.com](http://templebaptistchurch.com)

## Missions Agency

WWNTBM  
P.O. Box 725  
Kings Mountain, NC 28086  
[wwntbm.com](http://wwntbm.com)

## Birthdays

Stephen 9/15  
Julie 9/26