

STEPHEN & JULIE KNICKERBOCKER BURKINA FASO

July 2017

Dear Pastors, supporting churches and praying friends,

Land Update

Early in the month of July, I was able to have a meeting with the mayor who told us that the government is proceeding with the paper work to make the property we have requested available for use. This is a positive development since the only request for a project on the property near the current church location is our request. The mayor did warn us to anticipate opposition from the community who may not agree with the project of a church in their midst. There have been situations in Burkina Faso where people have protested against a project that they deemed unworthy. We ask that you help us pray that the Lord would give us favor with the community so that there would be no opposition to us having the land for the church. We have already met many people in our community through our door to door visitation effort who have expressed their support and desire to have the land be used for a church.

Family Conference

We've had the desire to do a family conference to equip and encourage the families who attend church regularly to walk in unity with the Lord. This desire came to fruition this month. We praise the Lord that several other churches participated in the conference and expressed their gratitude for the helpful themes that were covered. We invited a fellow missionary (Keith Shumaker) to speak on one of the evenings on the subject of rearing children and disciplining them. There were 44 different people who attended through the 4 days of meetings. We even had a visitor who was so touched by the teachings that he decided to join the church. We praise the Lord that this family conference was successful in encouraging families and single people to seek the Lord and the teachings of His word concerning love and respect in marriage, rearing children for the Lord, keeping the home a refuge, and being a godly spouse. We are planning to make it an annual conference.

A Witnessing Couple

What a joy to see Omar and his wife, Safi, growing in the Lord! Many of you have been praying for these two precious souls who have been transformed by the power of the Gospel. Not too long ago, Omar told me that he was sharing Jesus with a muslim whose vehicle had broken down on the side of the street. When Omar started to talk with him, the man aggressively responded with insults, telling Omar that back in the days, he would have had his throat slit for talking the way he did. Omar told me of the confrontation, explaining how he was shocked by the menacing remarks that were targeted at him. He asked me how he should have reacted to such a threatening attitude. I told him that not everyone is sympathetic to the Gospel message and that our responsibility is not to convert people; it is to share the Gospel with every one. We also found out that in addition to Omar's personal evangelism, his dear wife, Safi, who trusted Christ just a few months ago, is having prayer meetings where she gets together with some of her neighbors to read scripture and pray. What an encouragement to see her share her new faith with her neighbors. Please pray that Omar and Safi would soon be married even though their families have demonstrated opposition. Omar and Safi were living together before they trusted Christ and have a daughter. They understand the importance of marriage before God and are eager to get married and live together for the Lord.

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

Stephen & Julie Knickerbocker

*"Choose you this day whom ye will serve... but as for me and my house,
we will serve the Lord." - Joshua 24:15*

Prayer Requests

- Spiritual and physical growth of the church
- A pastor to train
- Salvation of Zeinaba
- Monday Evening preaching seminar
- A stable job for Aimer, Omar, Aristide and Ring
- Permanent property for the church (\$40,000+)**
- Favor with the community and the mayor's office.
- Christian Youth camp from the 14th to the 19th of August.

Praise Reports

- We had a wonderful family conference.
- New church members
- Omar and Safi are growing in their faith and sharing it.
- \$9,297** has been donated for land purchase
- First monthly men's meeting
- healthy birth of new baby girl of a church member

Contact Information

- knickinburkina@gmail.com
- knickinburkinafaso.com

Field Address:

- Stephen Knickerbocker
- 10 BP 13671 Ouagadougou 10
- Burkina Faso
- Field Phone Number:
- (226) 67-40-36-19

Sending Church

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

Missions Agency

- WWNTBM
- P.O. Box 725
- Kings Mountain, NC 28086
- wwntbm.com

Birthdays

- Stephen 9/15
- Julie 9/26
- Alina 8/12
- Anniversary 8/7



Omar & Safi